

MISSIONS OF UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The January number of the *United Presbyterian Record* has interesting letters from Rev. John Smith of the Grand Cayman, and from Rev. Dr. Robb and Rev. W. Anderson, of Old Calabar. The first mentioned, in writing from his secluded island home, laments the low moral and spiritual state of the people, but is led to hope that He who has the hearts of all men in His hand will speedily turn the hearts of our inhabitants truly to Himself, and as a reward of grace bestow on them the "blessing which maketh rich." He earnestly seeks the prayers of the Church at home.

In Old Calabar the inhumanity of the idolaters still makes itself known in many ways. Mutual wrongs, springing out of inveterate jealousy, envy, hatred, covetousness and other evil passions are of frequent occurrence. Mr. Thomson, at Duketown, has formed a society among the natives for Christian work. At the first meeting, ten members joined the association. They are to undertake the regular visitation of the town and surrounding settlements. These efforts will do good both to the workers and those among whom they labor.

MISSION TO JAPAN.—The *Record* contains a plea for a new mission to Japan. The remarks which follow are worthy of careful consideration by those who look on Home and Foreign Mission work as at variance :

"It has been at no time the policy of our Church to contemplate home and foreign enterprises as hostile to each other. Nothing could have been more fatal to success. As a rule, the largest givers to the one have been the most generous contributors to the other; and in point of fact, the practice introduced among our people of contributing to objects external to themselves, such as foreign missions, created the habit of regarding with ever augmenting favor, the home enterprises of the Church; so that our foreign missions, instead of abstracting what would otherwise have gone to objects locally nearer ourselves, have done ten times more than any other influence, to aid our weaker churches in the liquidation of their debts, in improving their places of worship, in building manses for their ministers, and in augmenting their incomes up to that degree already attained. It were therefore to read our own history with a heedless and ungrateful perversity, to imagine that, by withholding from Japan the boon now sought, we shall benefit any true interest of our Church at home or abroad."

MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES.

The Rev. N. McKay has recently visited the field of the Acadia Mission of this Church. He found there much to encourage him, and says, "I next visited the good woman at whose house the priest burned the Bible in September. She is a fine, matronly, intelligent-looking Frenchwoman, one with whose convictions no sensible man would trifle. Though not able to read much, she is well able to think, and that to good purpose. She has six children at home, nearly all grown up. Her husband is still a Roman Catholic, but he is kind and tolerant. The young folks all sympathize with their mother. In this interesting family French and English are spoken, but English only is read by the younger children. The good lady told me the story of the burnt Bible with quivering lips and eyes in which still lingered the fire of unextinguished indignation. She declared herself so