

into heads. In the hands of a master this may be dispensed with, in yours a sermon which rejects these helps to perspicuity, will turn out a bewildered rhapsody without aim or effect, order or conclusion."

Missionary Intelligence.

OLD CALABAR.

(*U. P. Missionary Record.*)

The Rev. Mr. Waddell says,—*Sabbath 14th December.* To-day I had the high satisfaction of receiving into the church by baptism two women, domestics of King Eyo, named *Ebok Ekpenyong* and *Aqua Ibitam*: the former, an elderly woman of his outer yard, a considerable woman in her position; the other, a young woman of his inner yard. The relation in which the latter especially stood to him is now necessarily changed. It has been changed, indeed, for a past year, since they both joined the class of catechumens, and professed their desire to follow the Lord. They have been impressed, by the word preached, for three years. For more than two years they have been more particularly known to Mrs. Waddell, from attending her women's class; and for a year past, as already stated, have been in the class of catechumens, and been frequently instructed and examined by Mr. and Mrs. Goldie, Mrs. Waddell, and myself; and we have all been impressed with convictions of their sincerity, as well as of their intelligence and growing knowledge.

Without being able to attend school they have both worked away at their books till they can now read our Efik books, and, therefore, the word of God in their own language, pretty freely, and with a very obvious desire to understand what they read, and to profit thereby. May the Lord give his Holy Spirit to teach them.

I need not repeat here former events which took place in the king's yard, when they made known their desire to follow the Lord. They are past, and, I trust, will not return. But I may mention, that for their sakes, I deemed it proper to call on the king on Saturday, and make known what they and I had in view, that I might be able to converse with him on some matters connected therewith, which concerned both him and them. The Lord granted me a favourable opportunity for a private conversation in an easy way, and inclined his heart to give me good answers on the several matters which I had to talk about, matters that need not here be detailed. The interview was quite satisfactory.

Furthermore, I was particularly gratified to-day to learn from themselves, that when they went, yesterday afternoon, to tell him that they would be baptized to-day, he answered them in a really fatherly and kindly, and I might say, Christian manner, so as to give them, *pror things*, great comfort and encouragement. He showed no displeasure, but commended their design; was glad, he said, that they were determined to be God people, and hoped that they would never go back into any bad ways, to disgrace themselves, and make other women laugh at them. What shall we say to all this? Surely Divine interposition appears in answer to the prayers of his people, yours and ours. Let us pray more and more earnestly for him and them, and for all others, that many more trophies of Divine grace may be seen in this dark land of Calabar; that many more women may escape from the bondage of corruption in which they are held; that we may have many Mary Magdalenes and other Marys' to follow the Lord, if it be to his cross, and to watch at his tomb.

The Rev. W. Anderson says,—The baptism of a young man, named Effiong, took place on the 11th of November. Effiong has been a sort of retainer of the mission for six or seven years—was one of our sawyers at one time; has had, time after time, severe illness, which, I believe, has been blessed to him; is now unable for much work; has had faithful warning that his ailment and his life may both terminate together suddenly some day ere long: and he appears, on the whole, to be looking forward to, and preparing for his change.

DUKE T. WN.

The following is a letter from the Rev. Z. Baillie, dated 24th December:—

I am just recovering from the first illness which I have had in Old Calabar. It