

Missionary Intelligence.

RED RIVER.

We are in receipt of a letter from the Rev. A. Matheson, of date 23rd December, 1857. Mr. Matheson states that his health is much improved, and that he is now able to preach again twice every Sabbath. Mr. Matheson found it necessary to leave the residence provided by the people at Little Britain, and rent a house elsewhere. We are sincerely glad to hear of the improved health of Mr. Matheson, and trust it will continue.

MISSIONS OF FREE CHURCH.

INDIA.—The Rev. Dr. J. Murray Mitchell has sailed for India. His congregation and the Presbytery were reluctant to part with him, but agreed, in the circumstances, to do so. Many prayers will follow Dr. Mitchell to India, where his labours were, in former years, productive of so much good.

Mr. Fyfe, one of the missionaries at Calcutta, reports that very considerable damage had been done to mission premises by the cyclone, which lately swept over India. He says :—

“Before this reaches Edinburgh you will have received intelligence of the awful catastrophe that has happened to Calcutta and the surrounding districts. A dreadful cyclone, resembling in fury that of the 5th October 1864, swept over us on the night of Friday and the morning of Saturday last.

“I have not received anything like exact estimates of the losses sustained at our various mission stations, but I am sorry to say that considerable damage has been done to all. The new brick buildings at Mahanad have not suffered much, but the Kutchia out-offices have all been much damaged, and some of them altogether destroyed.

“The houses of the rural station at Inchurah have all been levelled with the ground, and William Das and his family have been obliged to take shelter at Mahanad.

“The new school building at Shonatigri is reported to be much damaged.

“Chinsurah and Bansberia have also sustained considerable damage.

“The premises in Cornwallis Square have suffered much more than they did in the cyclone of 1864. We were in great fear of the west side of our house coming down altogether. It was dreadfully shaken; and an engineer, who inspected it yesterday, said that a part of it must be taken down and rebuilt. All the masonry of our Institution stood the storm well, except the little observatory on the roof, which is so much damaged it must be taken down altogether. We will not think of rebuilding it. Some of the doors were smashed to pieces, and many of the windows destroyed.

“There has so much damage been done in Calcutta that all prices for repairs have risen; and we mean to content ourselves without doors and windows, until etc., the push is over and prices may fall.”

At Chindwara, a young Telugu had been admitted to the church by baptism.

SOUTH AFRICA—TRANSKEI MISSION.—The Rev. J. G. Robertson, preacher of the gospel, has been appointed to proceed to South Africa, with a view of occupying the Transkei territory. The missionaries of the Free Church and of the United Presbyterian Church have both stations in that territory, and carry on missionary operations in great harmony. The Seminary, at Lovedale, is still accomplishing good service. The Rev. Mr.