

FREE CHURCH MISSIONS.

The Free Church *Record* of last month contains extracts of letters from Mr. Moody, of Prague, speaking of a delightful and refreshing week of prayer, and of a Jewish boy whom he has sent to a training institution in Silesia for education ; also an interesting account by the Rev. P. K. Chatterjea of a preaching tour on the river Hugli in Bengal, and notices of Dr. Templeton's preparation for work among the Santals, in the neighbourhood of Pachamba : together with the details of the Jubilee of the old Glasgow Missionary Society, held at Burnishill, Cafraria, at which two thousand professing Christian natives (more than had collected to hear the proclamation of peace at the close of the last Caffre war), were present. To these must be added a sketch of the Church's work in Malta, and the following extract from a letter referring to the lamented death of Dr. Lewis, of Rome :—

"The announcement of the death of the Rev. Dr. Lewis at Rome will be heard with general regret in Scotland ; but to those who knew him in Rome, the tidings must have occasioned the sincerest sorrow. In him Protestantism has lost in Rome its ablest and best defender, and it will be long before Presbyterianism will be again so admirably represented there. From Dr. Lewis' varied information, fine taste, and highly cultivated mind, united to the sincerest piety, the whole service in his church was conducted in so superior a manner, that the most careless can scarcely have failed to remark it. To Dr. Lewis remains the honour of building the first Protestant church in Rome. It was almost completed before the Pope was dethroned, and considering the tyrannies of Romanism, and the difficulties of business dealings between people of different nations, it will ever remain as a monument of Dr. Lewis' great courage, tact, and temper ; and that it was reared in peace at all, we are inclined to think must have been owing to knowledge in high quarters of Dr. Lewis' excellence of character."

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS.

The Jamaica Synod of the United Presbyterian Church has established a Mission to the Cuban refugees in Kingston, under the Rev. Ramon Monsalvatge, which may yet find its way to the unhappy Island itself. The Rev. George Brodie, United Presbyterian Minister at Port of Spain, Trinidad, paid a visit some time ago to Venezuelan Guiana, where he found much encouragement for missionary exertion, which will doubtless before long be put forth in that direction. We regret that our space and objects do not permit us to insert an exceedingly interesting account of the inland tribes and regions beyond Old Calabar, written by Dr. Robb. The following extract is at least suggestive in connection with other *Efik* antiquities :

"Of religious seasons, the most noticeable is the *Ibibio usörö Abasi*, or feast in honour of God, which falls in the month of July, and is observed by all that are called *Ibibio*. With a few mats and sticks they make a miniature house, and persons of a particular name place a few eggs there, along with prayer. This is a custom of great antiquity ; but in the entire absence of records, it is useless to seek for its origin historically. From want of a native etymology, the resemblance of this word to the Hebrew *atsara* has been noticed. This was some kind of festival, held on the seventh day of the Passover, and on the eighth of the Feast of Tabernacles."