

of God, and I assure you it is very pleasing to see such a thing. They don't care about appearances, although one would think it a rather amusing contrast, to see a great big man of nearly six feet, standing beside a child of three feet, calling over the A B C, or blundering through the spelling of a big word in the "Primer."

"All this, though, is encouragement, and I am very glad that many of the old people are trying to learn to read, instead of neglecting their opportunities. It is a very good sign, also, to see many women learning to read. I am sure you would be delighted to see half-a-dozen women sitting on the floor, and Mrs. Waddell teaching them. May God perfect the work begun in their hearts, and cause many others to follow their example."

---

#### DUKE TOWN.

We have received a detailed account of a quarrel which arose between a ship captain and a native gentleman, which, in its progress, involved all the people of Duke Town on the one side, and all the traders on the other, which assumed a very alarming aspect, which brought a visit of the consul and a man-of-war, and which, after a trial of several days, issued in a decision, fining the native, a poor lame man, twenty puncheons of oil, or about £300, besides causing him to be deprived of all his Egbo privileges, and the ship captain four puncheons, or a fifth part, and binding him over to keep the peace under a penalty of £100.

The following extracts from a letter of the Rev. Mr. Anderson, are very gratifying:—

"On Friday the 12th September, two adults were added to the Church here by baptism. One is an Emancipado from Sierra Leone, a native of *Anang*, Thomas Paul by name. The other is a young woman named Fanny Egbo, wife of the Egbo Basseyy whose baptism I reported to you in December last. She was one of our house girls a year or two before her marriage, and always conducted herself with much propriety.

"The attendance at school has been very satisfactory for some time. We have from seventy to eighty daily. Mr. Baillie takes the burden of the afternoon's work. I go over in the morning. Miss Barty and Mr. Haddison assist both forenoon and afternoon. Miss Barty is becoming quite a proficient in the Efik language, and pays frequent—I think nearly daily—visits to the town, loaded with the message of salvation.

"The native gentlemen are most friendly with the missionaries just now."

---

#### DUKE TOWN—BETTER FEELING AMONG THE CHIEF MEN.

The following extracts from a letter of the Rev. W. Anderson, dated 24th July, show that the important transactions which took place in the month of June, regarding the three refugees at the mission, have produced a favourable impression on the natives, and given a blow to the deadly custom of the poison-suit.

"You will be glad," says Mr. Anderson, "to learn that no bad feeling appears to be cherished among the natives on account of the 'Man-of-war palaver,' which I reported last month. The Duke never seemed so cordial to the missionaries as at present. He was telling Mr. Baillie and me, the other evening, that he is brother for all good men now, and cannot make any more palaver with them. About three weeks ago, a fellow, who appeared to have been somewhat deranged, took it into his head to stab two of his neighbours with a knife. When brought to the Duke for judgment, the first step taken was to ascertain from the missionaries what God's law, or English law, would say about the matter. Neither of the parties being then dead, I sent word to the Duke that the man ought to be kept in confinement till the result of the wounds should make it appear whether he was a murderer or not. The poor wretch had, however, stabbed himself also (in the abdomen), and fearing lest he should escape punishment by dying, my objections to his execution were over-ruled. One of his victims died the day after: so that I was obliged to admit to the Duke Town gentlemen that, in this case, 'Calabar had not killed a man for nothing.'

"I was convinced in my own mind, and I expressed the conviction to Mr. Consul Hutchinson, when he was here, that the course he had taken in reference to the