

OLD CALABAR.

OPENING OF THE CHURCH AT CREEK TOWN.

The Rev. H. M. Waddell gives, in a letter, dated 20th September, the following brief notice regarding the opening of the church at Creek Town. This house, which is composed of galvanized iron, was sent out from this country several years ago, but, owing to the difficulty which was felt in procuring boards for the flooring, and other requisite things, it has not till lately been finished. The meetings for public worship on Sabbath have hitherto been held in King Eyo's yard. Now, the missionary has a comfortable place in which he can proclaim the glad tidings of salvation, through faith in Christ, to the perishing children of Africa. Our readers will be gratified to know, that the first house erected there for the public worship of the true God, is attended each Lord's day by an audience of from 250 to 300 persons; and they will unite with us in the prayer, that this place may prove a Bethel, a house of God, of which it may be said, that multitudes were "born there."

Mr. Waddell thus writes:—"At length I have the happiness of reporting to you the completion and the opening of our church in this town, after its being so long on hand. The principal hindrances and difficulties which have delayed it, I have detailed in previous communications. However, we have got it all done at last, neatly, and comfortably, and substantially, to the satisfaction of all, and the admiration of many. It stands on a gentle rising, at the head of the principal street, in the centre of the town, and almost in a line from the landing at the beach to the mission house, which appears above it. It was opened for the public worship of God on the second Sabbath of September; and I had the presence and the aid of the Rev. Messrs. Goldie and Edgerley on the occasion. Mr. Goldie and I conducted the forenoon service, from half-past nine to eleven o'clock. The congregation was larger than I expected, and filled not only the house within, but the verandah outside. Between 360 and 400 persons were, doubtless, there in the forenoon. In the afternoon not so many; yet the inside was well filled—with, at least, I may say, 250—which I consider to be as many as we will have regularly for a while. Besides the regular Sabbath school, from three to half-past four, we have begun reading and catechising classes for a short time both before and after forenoon service, so as to gather in and occupy the stragglers and idlers. Last Sabbath also, the house was more than filled forenoon, and well filled afternoon. King Eyo and most of the other chief men were present forenoon of both days, and they say that they will always come. At the close of our first service in the church, King Eyo spoke a few proper words to the assembly about keeping Sabbath and coming to church regularly. He spoke of his own accord. Oh, that the day and the house of God may be blessed to himself and to them all, to lead them in the ways of life. I bless God that I have seen the work of the Lord so far advanced. It is more than I expected when I came first here. The sight of that house and congregation, and the belief that there was a people of God among them, though yet few and weak, was cheering, yea, overcoming; for the little one shall become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation. Brethren, pray that the Lord may hasten it in His time."

CALABAR.—PROPOSED NEW MISSION STATION.

The Committee on Foreign Missions being anxious to employ the fund that was some time ago so generously contributed for extending the mission, as soon as fit agents could be had for doing so, instructed the Rev. Mr. Goldie, when he left this country last summer, to endeavour, should he, on his arrival, find all the brethren in health, to open a station up the Cross River. To facilitate his doing so, they provided and sent out with him a wooden mission house. Mr. Goldie, as the following extracts from a letter, dated 25th September, show, is taking measures for carrying this proposal into effect.

"I laid your design for the extension of the mission before the brethren, who are anxious that it should be carried out as soon as possible. Mr. Waddell and I also spoke of the matter to King Eyo, who did not express any opinion, but promised to speak of it to the head man of Ikumetu, to ascertain whether he would be favourable to commencing a station in his village. This Ikumetu is an Ekrikok village, about twenty-four miles from Creek Town, and is not mentioned by Mr. Waddell in