

very slave-traders habitually carried with them chaplains, presumably to pray for divine blessing upon their work. But in what respect are we superior to these praying freebooters when in the full light of to-day from a Christian country sails a ship for Africa, with missionaries in her cabin and rum in her hold!

"Ye thought evil unto me, but God meant it unto good." In 1751 a clergyman of the Church of England, having worked in America under the direction of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, obtained permission from the directors of that society to proceed to the Gold Coast in order to "make a trial with the natives, and

tian lives, and formed themselves into a "Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge."

They had their share of persecution, being accused of dangerous political designs, and one of their number, William de Graft—afterwards one of the chief native assistants in mission work—was imprisoned, the others fined. In their distress they sent the Governor of Cape Coast a Bible, given by himself to one of them, courteously asking him to point out in his own gift his authority for inflicting punishment and fine for reading the book! On further inquiry they were released and secured the influence and friendship of the Gov-



NATIVE HUTS, CENTRAL AFRICA.

see what hopes there would be of introducing among them the Christian religion." He went out as one of these very chaplains, and his official position gave him opportunities for carrying on the work. After four years of toil he was obliged by failing health to leave Africa, and a young native, educated in England, occupied the post of chaplain for over fifty years. "To all appearance the work of three-quarters of a century was unproductive, but the faithful labourers had sown the seed of which the harvest is being reaped to-day."

In the government school at Cape Coast the boys had learned to read the Bible, determined to live Chris-

ernor. As years passed they became scattered and ran short of Bibles, when, through one Captain Potter, they sent a request to England for more copies of God's Word. Captain Potter was a Wesleyan Methodist, and offered to ask for a missionary as well as Bibles. So the old Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us," re-echoed from Africa to England! The result was that Rev. Joseph Dunwell sailed with Captain Potter in 1834. Some of the natives at points along the coast touched at spread the news of the coming of this first missionary, "The God-man come to talk great palaver."

The greatest enemies to the spread of the Gospel were the Fetishmen,