

altogether from their more or less civilized neighbours, and for whose spiritual welfare little or no effort has been made. Dr. Murray Mitchell is inaugurating this Mission. He speaks highly of the character of the Kol and Santal races, which number four millions of people between them, and says that, "although not intellectually so high as the Hindus, they are morally higher, being, as compared with their neighbours, simple, frank, manly and truthful."

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS.

Africa seems to be the favourite field of Missionary enterprise in this parent Church. In the last number of the *U. P. Missionary Record* is an interesting article, made up of extracts from the diary of Dr. Robb, one of the Missionaries in Old Calabar. The principal difficulty which he seems to find in his labours is that of making the simple and very credulous Africans understand the refinements of European thought. He says: "To preach the Gospel to such a people in such a language is a most difficult thing. True, it is not difficult to pour out volubly a lot of sentences—our own European thinkings clothed in negro words—but it may be to a great extent an unknown speech. Mr. Spurgeon, or Richard Weaver, after an outgush of fervour and tenderness, which would have gone to the hearts of hundreds in Surrey Theatre, would be baffled if he saw the negro listeners here turning to some of his Efik assistants and asking, *sotto voce*, "Ete didie?" "What is he saying?" Mr. Robb speaks encouragingly, however, of Missionary prospects in the surrounding country, and looks forward to a speedy extension of the Church operations there.

In Caffraria three new Churches have been opened recently. Each of these is the work of the natives, very many of whom are not Christians, but, like the chief Jobie, wish to learn more of God, and are very friendly to the Missionaries. Jobie, who is a heathen, clinging to all the customs of his fathers, and finding his chief enjoyment in them, rose on the occasion of one of these church openings, after the Missionaries had spoken, and in an impressive speech said that there was a God over all. Yes! he believed that, and would be a fool if he did not. He had, therefore, erected this house for the worship of God, and he wished his people to assemble in it every Sabbath that they might learn more about Him. Nothing can be more encouraging than to find the heathen putting themselves in the way of receiving the truth.

ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

We have little that is new from the Chinese Mission of this Church. The climate seems to be telling severely upon the health of the Missionaries at Swatow and elsewhere. This shows the necessity for a system of education in China that will prepare a staff of native Ministers and Missionaries for the evangelization of their own country and the oversight and instruction of their Christian fellow countrymen. An interesting article appeared lately in the *Free Church Record*, showing the results of the work of this Mission in the continued religious zeal and Christian character evidenced by some of its converts, who had emigrated to Honduras, and who are now under the care of Mr. Arthur, Minister at Belize.