

MISSIONS OF THE ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Missionaries of the English Presbyterian Church in the island of Formosa, gave encouraging intelligence of progress and success. They mention the arrival of our own missionary, Mr. McKay, whom they most cordially welcome. The prospects of the gospel amongst the Jekhran tribes in the northern parts of Formosa are most encouraging. These are not Chinese but belong to the original Malayan people who first possessed the island. We subjoin a few extracts.

THE CHURCH AT POAHBE.

This was the first station at which I remained for a few days. Our helper is truly an earnest and trustworthy man, and on the Sabbath a congregation of about ninety listened with great attention to his preaching. He asked me if it would not be well for him to visit Kutau and Tolokuh, many of the people having repeatedly expressed a desire to know something of the doctrine of Jesus. The former is nine and the latter nearly twenty miles from Poahbe, but this in no way prevents small companies of these people from paying an occasional visit to the chapel. Four or five of them were now present, and were anxious to know what answer would be made to their request. The consequence was that Tihia started with them immediately for Kutau, intending afterwards to go on to Tolokuh and return in time for his duties at Poahbe on the following Sabbath. A fortnight after this, at Kongana, one of the brethren told me the result of this visit. Our assistant preached to large and attentive audiences, and enjoyed frequent opportunities of speaking with many in private about the things that belong to their peace. He is quite convinced that a few at least are earnest seekers after truth, and that Tolokuh particularly would make another most desirable centre for carrying on our work.

VISITS TO KONGANA AND BAKSA

were equally interesting and profitable. The people at the latter place are engaged in the erection of their new chapel—a neat and substantial building. The same rule holds here as at home, where in every good work the ladies of our congregations are always found to occupy a leading place. I would testify to the self-denying zeal with which the women of Baksa have helped to carry on the present work. Their contributions to the new chapel consisted in the manufacture of nearly all the four thousand bricks for the building.

IN TAIWANFOO.

At our last Friday evening prayer-meeting I observed a stranger present—a very gentlemanly and intelligent-looking Chinaman. There was a thoughtfulness and a refinement about the man which one fails to meet with in many of the Chinese of the better sort, and I could not but be interested in the earnest, respectful attention with which he listened to Bun's expository remarks.

At our Sabbath services the same person might have been seen, not standing amongst the passing strangers in the outer division of the chapel, but sitting forward on one of the seats usually occupied by the members and candidates for baptism. There was the same sad, serious expression of face, and if possible even greater earnestness in listening to the preacher's words. Through Lengkanhia, my teacher, I came to know something of the man on Monday, although we are yet in ignorance of the means by which he was induced to come amongst us. He is a member of the Chinese literati body, and holds his diploma of having passed the first degree. He relinquished