

tomed to sit on the ground. The floor will be laid with white coral, and covered with plaited cocoa-nut leaf. The windows will be done with split bamboo, and had we only twelve or fourteen windows for it such as we brought for our houses, it would be more comfortable, and a good large bell would add greatly to its importance in the sight of the natives. The wood was brought here by the *John Williams*, and purchased on Aneiteum with about 130 yards of cloth, and fifty pairs of trousers, the gift of my late Bible class in Calton, Glasgow. The Tanese were exceedingly opposed to its erection, being determined that Jehovah should not have a house among them, and therefore they gave no assistance, but all the opposition in their power. They call it 'the house of Ibova.' Crowds of natives come daily to see it, it appears so very large compared with their little houses. It was opened for public worship last Sabbath morning, but, alas! the opening of a church excites very little interest here. Owing to the sickness of a chief, at whose village many of our people were assembled awaiting his death, we had only five Tanese men, three women, and three children present, with the Aneiteum teachers and their wives. The house is free of debt. After the service was over we visited and conducted worship at ten villages; but the people were all unkind, supposing us to be the cause of much fever and sickness that at present exist among them, and supposing the chief to be dying from witchcraft exercised by a neighbouring tribe with whom they wish again to go to war. But we spoke kindly to them and opposed their false notions, and hope they will be friendly next Sabbath."

"The following later news shows, however, that light begins to dawn in the midst of this gross darkness. Mr. Paton had just visited Aneiteum:—

"On my return, I found things in a much better state than I expected, and I am glad to inform you that there are indications of important changes taking place among this people. Of late, I am sent for to attend the most of their war-councils and public meetings, and, through the Divine blessing, my advice is generally followed.

"Yesterday, at a great meeting, where the chiefs and many of the people for eight miles round were present, a party of chiefs were sent for me, and after I went, fourteen chiefs addressed the meeting. They all declared that they had done with fighting; that no more were to be killed for witchcraft, as it is a system of lies; that they could not make rain, and wind, and food, as they professed, but that God made everything; that the tale of Tana was done or dead; and that this meeting had adopted the 'mouth of Missi and the Aneiteumese;' and that if all the banished tribes (the chiefs of which were present) would return, they would all become worshippers of God, and live in peace for the future. At this meeting there was not one to oppose these resolutions, but it will take time to prove if they are in earnest. However, it gave me great pleasure to hear their addresses, and to see the kindly feeling that was displayed by all.—*News of the Churches.*

Ecclesiastical Notices.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION.

The Committee on Theological Education beg respectfully to present the following Report:

The opening of the Session of the Divinity Hall took place on Tuesday, 16th October,—the Rev. the Moderator of Synod in the chair. With the chairman there were present of the Committee,—Rev. Dr. Thornton, Messrs. Dick, Torrance, King, and Dr. Taylor. After singing and reading the Scriptures, prayer was offered up by Mr. Dick, Dr. Taylor read an introductory lecture, and an address was given from the chair. Mr. Torrance then led in prayer, and the meeting was closed with singing and the benediction.