

language, and are of opinion that if they could only tell the Fotunese the wonderful works of God in their own tongue in an intelligible manner, a great work might be done on that island. A book has lately been printed at the Mission Press on this island in the Fotuna language. It was compiled by Mr Inglis and myself, with the assistance of some Fotuna natives. This I hope will be useful to our teachers, as well as to the natives. The island of Fotuna is divided into seven districts, under as many principal chiefs. Two of these chiefs have given up heathenism and receive christian instruction from the teachers, three others are very anxious to have teachers settled in their lands, and the remaining two are opposed to christianity. We cannot but regard the accounts from Fotuna as encouraging on the whole. The boat's crew, according to instruction, made the circuit of the island to ascertain if a suitable site could be found on it for a Mission Station. They succeeded better than our previous knowledge of the island had led us to expect. The island consists of a mountain rising out of the sea, with a ridge of table land around its base, at a considerable height above the level of the sea. The ascent to this table land is very precipitous, and not without danger. The place selected is a spot where the ridge of table land gradually inclines to the sea, until it terminates in a sandy point. There is on the place a feeble spring of water, which greatly enhances its value, for water is very scarce on the island, and the natives use rain and cocoa nuts as substitutes for it. Coral also for building purposes is easily obtained.

VISIT TO TANA.

After spending four days on Fotuna the party sailed for Tana, and a run of twelve hours before a good wind brought them to Port Resolution. Their voyage was made during the night, but the fires of the volcano in the vicinity of Port Resolution served to guide them to their destination. The people of this place gave them a good reception, and treated them kindly during their stay. They met with the chiefs and consulted with them about receiving teachers from this island. They said it was their wish to give up heathenism and embrace christianity, but they were afraid of the disease makers. They agreed, however, to receive any teachers whom we might send from this island, and one chief, who

is very anxious to know the Word of God, begged that they might live with him. The son of this man spent some months on this island, and since his return to Tana he observes many of the customs which he saw on Aneiteum, even to the cooking of his Sunday food the day before. The people of Port Resolution suggest that a number of teachers be sent to Tana, and not one or two only; that heathenism may be attacked at different points, and thus ensure its speedy downfall.

The party, after leaving Port Resolution, sailed for the south side of the island, where our teachers Yaugati and Talip are settled. There is no landing for a boat at the place where the teachers live, so they went on about three miles further and found a good boat harbour. The natives assembled in great numbers, and were glad to see them. As soon as they approached the shore, knowing that it was the missionary boat, they rushed into the water, seized and carried it, and every thing in it, except the crew, some distance inland. Orders were then given that no injury was to be done to the boat, and nothing to be stolen from it, as it was sacred. Our natives found the teachers and their wives well. They have been most kindly treated by the natives. They were in good spirits, and liked the land very much. Their acquaintance with the language is very limited, and they can do but little to instruct the people. They are much respected by the Tanese for their work's sake. On one occasion, when a fight was going to take place between two neighbouring tribes, the natives would not let the teachers leave their house, lest any harm should befall them: and it was also agreed that the fighting ground should be at a distance from the house erected for the worship of God. The teachers informed our natives that many of the people persist in taking food intended for the sick to the house of worship, and they affirm that, when it is eaten, the sick recover. They have heard of the good effects of medicine on this island, which, being administered by missionaries, they identify with christianity. They now regard the christian religion as a sovereign remedy for temporal as well as spiritual maladies. May the time to favour this dark minded people soon arrive. We feel thankful that the commencement made on this part of Tana, where the foot of white man never trode,