

lar—the new teaching interferes with the time-honoured traditions of the old. I may say that woman is here shut out of the camp *sua dies* every month, and cannot be received in again till after her purification; and other such traditions are extant. It is, above all things, hateful to them that salvation by Jesus embraces woman—bated, despised woman—as it does the lords of the earth.

It is exceedingly painful to see a people fading away in unbelief upon whom you have set your heart to bring to a knowledge of the truth. When we lie down at night and rise in the morning, we hear the long, loud, and bitter cry of these who mourn without hope. None died of the measles on our premises, and but two of those who came properly under our treatment. In this the hand of God was manifest. Cases of phrenitis and meningitis were very troublesome, as they were ascribed to the influence of evil spirits. I found our most powerful astringents useless in cases of chronic diarrhoea, which generally ensued. The man who was regarded as the murderer of Mr. Harris is dead—I cannot say “in the Lord;” and the chief, who is the only surviving murderer of Mr. Williams, is in a very humble state; and having oppressed some widows and orphans, by robbing them, has lost some of his teeth in a singular manner—they become soft, like sponge, and fell out. He says that Jehovah has taken them out—a very unusual confession here. We had a hurricane in January, which must have been about one hundred miles an hour. It left the island in a state of desolation and famine, which greatly aggravated the measles: everything was blasted. The measles have run over at least eight islands here. We had a catechumen who died five months ago—we believe in the Lord—the first and only one whom we have reason to think was a Christian. He was delirious for a few days, and could not recognise his friends; but when asked, “Do you then know who is Jesus?” he could answer, “Oh, yes! He is our dear Saviour!” That name which is above every name is a Divine charm to the soul whose eyes are opened. I have just translated the Gospel of Luke, and Dr. Campbell’s Catechism, “Principles of Saving Knowledge,” omitting the scriptural names, and some of the hymns in the first edition. The capacity of this people to receive scriptural knowledge is not greater than that of European children of five years old; and I therefore doubt the propriety of translating the Scriptures in full (an error into which I was nearly falling) till this great work can be done with something like thorough accuracy. I have just published another tract of twenty-four pages, on the Old Testament, which contains the history of Joseph, of the ten plagues of Egypt, and of the glorious Exodus. A synopsis of the Four Gospels will follow (God willing), containing some of our Lord’s most striking parables and sayings, such as children can readily comprehend as most suitable for all.

While writing the above, a young man has called from the south of the island, to inquire for the Word of God. He says that the Bishop of New Zealand, whom he calls his father, took him to New Zealand several years ago, and taught him about Jehovah, but that, on his return, he followed his old ways, and thought little of the Word of God, till he became sick with the measles. Thus is this noble missionary found to be doing good when and where I did not expect to find it.

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#### LATEST FROM THE NEW HEBRIDES.

We have just learned that two long and interesting communications, of date August 20th and 26th, have been received by the Secretary of the Board of Missions, by last mail, from Rev. Mr. Geddie. We will probably be able to lay these before our readers in our next number, and have only space at present to state that notwithstanding great perils at Tanna, Messrs. Paton and Matheson are well and the excitement for the present has greatly diminished. The friends of the Mission on Erromanga, to the number of seventeen, have taken refuge on Aniiteum. Mr. Geddie has not yet visited Erromanga, and considers that missionary effort cannot be resumed there for a time. It appears now unquestionable that the Erromangans were excited to the crime which they committed by base and cruel men, and espe-