

Rev. O. W. Darling, of the church of England, read the Scriptures, and Rev. William Gamble, Baptist, led in prayer. At the grave Rev. A. Ramsay, of the Free Church, read the Word, and Rev. Wm. Aitken prayed. Besides these there were present one Church of England minister, and all the Presbyterian ministers in the island, besides a large number of other gentlemen. * * *

Yours, with sympathy,
JOHN MORTON.

LETTER FROM MRS. MORTON.

TUNAPUNA, TRINIDAD,
March 29th, 1886.

My dear Friends:—

As I have nothing very special to tell you, about our work it occurred to me to give you some extracts from a missionary address delivered in Port of Spain about a fortnight ago in Greyfriar's Church by Sir John Gorrie, Kt. Chief Justice of Trinidad, on the occasion of the annual missionary meeting of that congregation. I had the pleasure of being present, and enjoyed the address so much that I regret you cannot have it in full. As an eye witness of the things of which he speaks his testimony is certainly valuable. Sir John is a Presbyterian, and the son of a minister. Greyfriar's congregation is as most of you know in connection with the U. P. Church of Scotland; the present pastor is Rev. William Aitken, successor to our friend Mr. Falconer.

After a suitable introduction Sir John said, it has struck me that there is one point, upon which, perhaps, I might be able to throw some light—a point of great importance with regard to our special object of meeting to-night, and that is, whether it is possible, by the efforts which the Christian Churches put forth, ever to convert a race of heathens to Christianity. Now, there is a large number of men, who doubt that, and I do not wonder at it. It is a very tough job, take it how you will, Now it so happens that I am able to tell you something of the results of the efforts of the Wesleyan Church in Fiji, and I think if I tell you just a little about that, it may have for result, to quicken your faith in missionary efforts, and to encourage you to proceed in the way in which you have been going. As Judicial Commissioner of the Western Pacific, all of the British subjects who were to be

found in Samoa and Tonga, were in my jurisdiction, all in Erronanga where Williams, as you recollect, met his death; all in New Hebrides and the Solomon Group, the Santa Cruz Islands, where Bishop Patterson and *Commodore Goodenough* were killed; New Britain which has now become a colony of Germany under the name of the Bismark Archipelago, and New Guinea, which we have annexed, and we do not know very well what to do with it since we have annexed it.

I will confine myself to the colony of Fiji and to the work, the Christian work, that was carried on there. That is not a single insignificant island, as most people are apt to imagine, but it is a vast archipelago of islands, larger than all the British West Indies put together. There are eighty inhabited islands, and the island of Viti Leon, upon which we have placed our capital of Suva, is larger;—I hope you will excuse me for saying it—than this Trinidad—Now it may enlighten you as to the amount of labor that can be done in one generation of men when I tell you that I have seen the first Christian minister who ever preached the Word in Fiji—It was Jocli, a Tongan, sent over by the Wesleyan ministers in Samoa." The speaker then described with great force and eloquence the condition of the islands when Jocli went to labor there. Murder, cannibalism, the strangling of widows, and burying alive, were the order of the day, one anecdote in illustration must not be omitted. He said:

"Even after we went there a superintendent of police stopped a funeral party and asked them of what the person had died. To his horror he saw the corpse put its head out of the mat, in which they were carrying it and begin to ask why the funeral was delayed. The Superintendent ejaculated in horror. "Why," he said "the woman"—for it was an old woman—"the woman is alive." "Oh, we know that," said the bearers. "But how are you burying her if she is not dead?" "Oh well, they said," she wants it, and we want it; she told us that she could only eat yams, and was not able to plant any, and that she would have no objection whatever if they should put her in her grave; and they said, "we thought so too."

Every imaginable cruelty was practised because they seemed to take a demoniacal delight in blood. You can imagine therefore what it was when the white mission-