

on the island seem to be a fine intelligent looking race, though few of them are sent to school.

In view of such facts, our Missionary expresses his conviction that "our duty is to go forward and leaving results to God, to labor as diligently and suffer our trials as patiently as we can, and perhaps in seven or ten years, those who live so long may see the green blade or growing corn, perhaps in places the ripening harvest." Additional information on this point can be laid before the Synod, contained in a letter from Rev. Mr. Lambert. Meanwhile whatever may be the Synod's decision, respecting a second Missionary, a teacher at a small salary to assist with the school will require to be procured by the Board or by some of our Sabbath Schools, together with a supply of their Childrens Papers for the entertainment and instruction of the lively little Coolies.

NEW HEBRIDEAN MISSION.

The mention of this Mission awakens memories in the older members of this Synod, of a Missionary, who when Mr. Morton was a little boy, left our shores to carry the gospel to those who dwell afar off in isles of the sunny south;—it awakens in others memories of fellow students who followed, and there died in the service of Jesus; it awakens in us all thoughts of savage man, and degraded wretched women, living without God, and bound by satans heavy chains; of some, set free, *saved*—sitting with Christ in heavenly places, or on high singing the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb.

But we forbear all general remarks that we may at once meet the demands of this practical business assembly, by coming to facts which must constitute the staple of this report.

FATE.

I will begin with the island most recently occupied by us, and with its Missionary. That island is Fate, its Missionary Rev. D. Morrison. To connect our present notice with that of last year we may note that then the population of Erakor Village, Mr. Morrison's station, numbered 150. On Communion Roll 57. Marriages for year 4. Births for the year 6—deaths 5.

Now here we have a Missionary surrounded by a little Church gathered out of those who were recently heathen and savages. Do they share in the zeal of their Minister to spread the Gospel! Yes, the zeal of our converts on the island and their readiness to meet danger in telling the news that have made glad their own hearts are unquestionable. They have carried the glad tidings to Ertab, a neighbouring village, and have been repulsed once and

again, and repulsed with violence and loss of life. But they had *once more* made the effort, and this time in *response* to the invitation of Mermer, chief of Ertab, the old opponent of the Gospel. The result was stated in last report, in the treacherous cutting off of an evangelist named Timothy, just as he had ceased to speak of the love of Jesus.

WAR AND CONFUSION.

The sad event was a declaration of war between the two villages, and threw Erakor into confusion, which lasted for months. In the school for a time there were only women and children. For some Sabbaths there was scarcely a man in church, all being in arms or on the watch. More recently half the men attended forenoon service, while the other half kept guard. Finally only a few were sent out as sentinels. During this season of excitement, which lasted for months, all industrial pursuits were laid aside, and the men employed in making weapons of war. During these months, Mr. M. writes "we had many a day of anxiety with nights of broken rest, and for weeks the young men of the village by turns kept watch around the Mission premises."

On Sabbaths the men came to Church all armed and like Gods people in other lands and other times, some watched while others worshiped. Now here was a wonderful display of the restraining power of the gospel. The temptation was strong to attack the Ertab people, but the christian people at Erakor, the *outraged party* too, while prepared to act on the *defensive*, refrained from all retaliation and acts of assault, while they showed a tender regard for their Missionary, both by carefully guarding his life and property, and by giving of their own proper good, a ransom to appease the Efil men for the murder of whose kinsman Timothy, they declined making retaliation.

PEACE.

In the middle of April, the state of hostilities terminated, and how? The Ertab people, according to heathen custom, killed an innocent woman of their own village, and brought the body to Erakor, as an atonement for Timothy's murder, and sad as was the closing scene in the drama, we were thankful to God says Mr. M. for the restoration of peace.

DEPORTATION OF FATEANS.

Scene the second opens thus—Peace is restored and there is joy in the Mission house. The facilities for prosecuting the work will increase. Meanwhile the Missionary having lived for two years in a native built dwelling, prepares to carry out a project which the hostilities following the