

men, women, and children were all employed. The men cut the wood for the roof, the women and children collected stones for the walls; during the erection the village was like a bee-hive—all ranks, all ages, both sexes, were employed, and in about three months the building was finished. It has a double roof, is seated with benches, and will hold about 800 people. It is well filled every Sabbath day. It presents a striking contrast to their own houses, and the chapel is always an object of interest to parties from the heathen districts. They wonder at its size, and it is with difficulty they can be induced to enter into the '*sacred house*,' lest some evil should befall them for having dared to trespass on what they consider sacred ground. I have observed some of the heathen, who had been induced by persuasion to attend a service, tremble exceedingly, and appeared only to breathe freely when they got outside of the chapel.

"Small parties from the various heathen tribes are continually visiting this station; we have thus an opportunity of speaking to them about christianity.—They all acknowledge what we say is very good, and that our religion is a very good one, because it teaches people to be kind; but that the various tribes are so jealous of each other, that if they wish to receive the gospel, or *word* as they call it, some stronger tribe would fall upon them and kill them. They say to us, 'Try to get over the *word* to the strong tribes, then the weaker ones will follow.' There is truth in what they say, and we keep this in view in our plans of operation. Some of the Si Guama people go occasionally and speak to the principal tribes which still keep aloof; they have always been well received, but they still put off to a more convenient season the reception of the gospel.

"The people at this station are exceedingly attentive to the preaching of the truth, and most anxious to obtain the word of God. We hope we shall soon be able to put into their hands a complete book; at present they have only a few chapters of the gospel by John, which many of them have got by heart. We are printing the gospel by Mark, and hope in about a month to have it ready to put into the hands of the people. We get on slowly, because we can only print four pages at a time.—Brother Creagh composes the pages, and the native teachers print off the forms.

We are glad, however, that we can print the book; though it takes so much time, it will be a great prize for the people when it is completed.

"We had the pleasure of forming a church at this station last month. On the 15th of July we had the ordinance of the Lord's Supper. It was a deeply solemn and interesting occasion. When we thought what these people were but a few years ago, and think what some of them profess to be now, it was indeed an interesting scene—one on which angels no doubt looked with astonishment; and which furnished another proof of the wonders of redeeming love, the power of Divine grace, to cleanse and purify the heart of the vilest of the sons of men.—The infant church is composed of fifteen members—thirteen males and two females. There are many more who will shortly be admitted to the church. Brother Creagh and I took the services between us. Brother Jones has also formed a church at Si Waeko. May the blessings of the great Head of the church rest upon the infant churches on Nengone."

In a later letter, dated 9th October and written after his arrival in Sydney, Mr Sunderland gives some further and very interesting particulars concerning the Nengone Mission, and also notices the signal providence by which he and Mrs Sunderland had been preserved amidst the perils of a storm at sea.

"I embrace an early opportunity of informing you of our arrival in the colony. The term of our appointment to the West having expired, and the object of our Mission there accomplished, after consultation with brother Creagh, we engaged a passage in a brig bound for Sydney. Our ten months' residence on the island of Mare (Nengone) had been long enough to cause us pain at parting. We felt attached to many of the people, and the falling tear and the warm expression of their feelings at parting showed that the feeling was mutual.

"The work in Mare is in an encouraging state. Our brethren have full scope for all their talents, both physical and mental. There are upwards of 2000 people looking up to them for instruction. There are about 300 candidates at both stations, seeking for baptism and the ordinance of the Lord's Supper.—There are a number of very interesting young men in the course of training, whom we hope will be useful hereafter as native teachers. They very soon ac-