

stay with us, that they might be brought under regular instruction; to this however the men have strong objections, and have frequently beaten their wives and children for coming to our "School." We have at present only *one* with us, a young girl about ten years of age who is both an orphan and a *widow*! She is very gentle in her manners, and of an affectionate and mild disposition, unusual characteristics, at least as far as I have had an opportunity of observing them. She is beginning to sew nicely and can almost read. May the Lord make her his own! During the first year or two they would visit us occasionally through the week, as also on the Sabbath; but of late they have almost abandoned us, and run from us as from an evil enemy. A very few still attend on Sabbath days, but alas they manifest little or no desire to receive the "glad tidings" which we bring them. Temporal advantages are all they now desire, and even expect them as payment for the favor conferred upon us by their attendance on the worship of God. How happy should I be, could I add that one female had been brought as a penitent to the Saviour's feet! This however, I cannot state, nor does it appear, that any have a feeling of their own depravity or need of a mediator. Oh! now much is needed, that Spirit which gives life and power to the word! It is not by might, nor by power, but by the Spirit of God, that our work is to be done. Paul may plant and Apolos water, but only God can give the increase. Cease not then dear friend to pray for the poor *Eromangans* that the Spirit of grace may operate upon their stony hearts, that they may be speedily brought to a sense of their guilt and danger, and led to flee for refuge to the only hope set before them in the Gospel. Pray also for us. We much need the prayers of God's people. When surrounded by trials and discouragements, it will often console us to know, that in a distant land, there are so many whose fervent prayers are offered up in our behalf, and on behalf of our brothers and sisters in the neighbouring isles.

Your assurance of this cheers us not a little. As to our future prospects, turn, dear friend, to 126th Psalm, and you have them in the concluding verses.

In relation to Missionary trials, you wish to know which we feel to be the greatest. I think we can say from

experience that there is no trial greater than that of being deprived of the advantages of Christian society and of the privileges of the Sanctuary. When we have a few christian friends to pray and worship with us this trial will be mitigated and changed into joy. To what Missionary trial can we be exposed which our blessed Saviour has not endured for us! If we are made instruments in bringing but one soul to Christ, it will more than compensate for a life of greater trials and sorrows.

And now dear friend, I must close, earnestly desiring that if we meet not in this valley below, we may at the end meet you all in the mansions above, where we will all be *one* united in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Mr. Gordon joins me in affectionate regards

Believe me,

Yours, very sincerely,

ELLEN C. GORDON.

[For the Home and Foreign Record.]

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM MRS. GEDDIE TO MR. AND MRS. WADDELL, DATED AUGUST, 26, 1861.

I feel that you and other friends of our Mission will be discouraged, as well as shocked and grieved, when you learn the dreadful tragedy at Eromanga. But I will say little about it here, as you will see a full account of the sad affair in our Missionary Record.

As you may imagine, we all feel this mysterious dispensation very much. We felt the loss of our dear brother Johnston very deeply, but this has been the greatest trial of all. The last season has been trying throughout, both to us, and to the cause; yet I trust we may be enabled to say—"He doeth all things well."

I cannot help feeling very sad when I think of the changes here since the beginning of the year. How many who were then alive and well, are now in their silent graves! How many on this island, whom I loved are gone! Boys and girls to whom I was fondly attached, and who we hoped would be spared many years to assist us in our work. It has been a season of trial to the poor natives too. Many have buried all their relatives—many are orphans—many are widows. May this trying dispensation be greatly blessed to many, and the breaches that have been made be