

in the colonies, believing that they would be willing to afford aid. From America a vessel sailed in the cause of Christ, and the missionaries came to the conclusion that the Sabbath school children of these colonies were able, like the children of America and England, to send forth a vessel on the same glorious errand. They now, therefore, appeal for such aid, not on their own personal behalf, though it filled their heart with gladness to be engaged in carrying the glorious news of salvation to these miserable creatures who were perishing in idolatrous ignorance. They proposed to place native teachers on various islands of the group. The last attempt they made was to locate two native teachers on the side of Tana, opposite to his station. The vessel was taken round the island. There had been many quarrels between the natives and the traders, and when the vessel appeared the natives fled to the bush. Having no boat, the vessel was kept waiting for men to come off; but although they were called, none of them could be tempted on board. The missionaries felt grieved, and when in the evening they retired without success, they poured out their hearts to God that the heathen might be brought from the bush. Next morning they thought they had gained their object when a single canoe came in sight, but it quickly disappeared. Ultimately, however, a canoe appeared, and the man was told not to be afraid, that he was not going to be killed, but that the missionaries had come to tell him about Jehovah. At length the canoe came near, and a string of beads was thrown out and picked up. They then threw a looking-glass, afterwards a piece of cloth. Gradually the canoe came up to the vessel, and the man came on board trembling with terror so as to be almost unable to speak. He was told that they were missionaries, and that there must be no more fighting or eating of men. He said missionary "live here." Having made such statements in English, he (Mr. Paton) said in the native language, that he wished to go on shore, and open up the way for the establishment of two teachers to come and talk with his people. He said his people would kill them. The missionaries told him they loved his people, and said why kill them. They then stepped into the canoe, went on shore, and were met by multitudes of savages, who yelled, raised their clubs, and poised their spears in threatening attitudes. However, when they were somewhat appeased, the native teachers were left among them with a promise that the vessel should return in three weeks. On their return at the appointed time, seven or eight canoes came alongside the vessel, and returning after examining it. The chief gave up his house to the teachers, who remained for twelve months and instructed the people in many things pertaining to the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

On another island, by God's blessing on the labours of three teachers, at the last visit

of the *John Williams* there were twelve of the natives baptized, who sat down with the missionaries at the communion table. There were multitudes of heathens standing round in sad silence, asking themselves, no doubt, what these things meant. It was our intention to place native teachers on all those islands, and have the means of visiting them; for upon all occasions when it was found necessary to send the *John Williams* home to England, the heathen would think and say that the friends of the native teachers had gone home and had deserted them, and the native teachers would be hardly dealt with. Whereas, if we could shew that we cared for them, and often visited them, they would be treated with kindness, and their instructions would be better received by the heathen. We had at present eight native teachers laboring in those islands. We had visited them at their work, and had seen the heathens gathered round them, and listening attentively to the reading of God's word. He might have given them an interesting statement regarding a Karatongan teacher, who was placed last year on the island of Potuna. A severe hurricane visited that island, and the natives were reduced to great extremities for want of food; and on afterwards visiting the island, he asked the native teacher what he had done under the circumstances for support. His reply was, that he loved God, and that God loved him and had provided for him; and on being asked how God had provided for him, he stated that when all his food was gone, and he was very hungry, he sat down and prayed to God, and asked him if he was to die of hunger? Having prayed, he observed some pigs passing by, and following them to the bush, saw them tearing up the native roots, when it occurred to him, that if the pigs could be nourished by the roots, he and his wife could be nourished by them too; he accordingly did collect them and fed upon them. Were not the men who would submit to such hardships in the cause of the Saviour, worthy of our support and of our confidence as Christians? And were not such men calculated, in the providence of God, to do good to those heathens amongst whom they have been placed? Yes. These men were grateful to the missionaries for all they had taught them; and already there was scarcely an island in those parts, upon which some of those missionaries had not sealed their testimony with their blood and had fallen martyrs to the cause in which they were embarked. We wanted, then, to take the native teachers to all these islands; and from the kind encouragement we had met with, and from the friendly Christian feeling that had been manifested in this large city, by all the children of God with whom we had come into contact, we had grounds for confidence that our appeal would not be unanswered. He hoped that he would not be sent back to those dark heathens to tell them that he had made an appeal to the