

live among them as two Christian natives did, to understand it thoroughly, and then your hearts would sicken at the sights and sounds around you.

The teachers were natives of Samoa and Rarotongao. For two years they lived in Mare, patiently continuing in well-doing, learning the language, which was quite different from their own. The people of Mare were cannibals of the worst kind; for they not only ate the bodies of prisoners taken in war, but on occasions of strife and jealousy, a father would kill and eat his own son—a son his father—a brother his brother. "Alas, alas!" wrote one of the teachers, "they are more like wild beasts than men."

When the teachers had been in Mare for two years, they were cheered by a visit from the Rev. A. Murray in the missionary ship.

Up to that time all had been going on well, and some of the people seemed disposed to favour the new religion. But when a fatal disease broke out in the Island, and great numbers died it was said that the teachers were the cause of the disease and they must die. The two Christians saw it was in vain to argue the matter with the superstitious people; they committed their spirit into the hands of their Saviour, and prepared to die. But it was not the will of God that they should suffer; Nasilini and his brother, the sons of the old chief Jeieue succeeded in saving their lives. These two young men esteemed the teachers as their best friends, and soon they openly revealed themselves to be Christians.

Their father Jeieue did all he could to annoy the teachers and drive them from the island. There is no doubt he would have murdered them, if it had not been for his sons. He consulted with the priests, who told him they could easily *charm away* the life of the strangers. So a number of them came one evening and surrounded the teacher's house. They ran in and out, flourished their clubs over their heads, then struck them furiously on the ground, yelling and howling all the time, and uttering fearful curses against the two Christians.

At length they grew tired and went away, for the objects of their hatred looked as well and happy as ever, in spite of all they could do; they had neither made them sick nor frightened, nor even angry.

The teachers were in much greater danger on another occasion, when almost every one on the island was ill with fever and ague. The chief's two sons were ill, and he vowed