

does not, we believe, exist on the face of the earth. We give the following Extracts respecting it from the Journals of Mr. Watkin. Our friends will notice with peculiar thankfulness the details which occur respecting the character, talents, and labours of the Native Preachers and Helpers, as well as the statement that, in six months the number of Members has increased from five hundred to nearly fifteen hundred. "What hath God wrought!"

*Extract from the Journal of Mr. Watkin, dated Lifuka, Haabai Groupe, 1832.*

APRIL 29th, 1832.—Yesterday morning I endeavoured to discourse from our Lord's last words, (Mark xvi. 15, 16,) stating the nature of baptism, and the obligation of such as receive it to keep the commandments; after which about one hundred adult females were baptized, making the number of the baptized adults in this place five hundred and thirty. May they walk worthy of the Christian name! I believe that all strive to do this, and that many attain unto it. I have been much pleased to-day, in meeting one of Bita (Peter's) classes, he having accompanied the Chief to Vavou; the earnestness and simplicity of many of them is specially gratifying.

April 30.—We have just experienced the trembling sensations inspired by an earthquake, of which we have had two distinct shocks, which lasted about a minute. Our house vibrated very sensibly, and I was afraid the rude structure would fall; but after rocking like a cradle for several seconds, it became once more quiescent, and we finished our dinner under its roof of thatch. Immediately after the first shock, I heard the commencement of the usual cry; but it was forthwith checked, perhaps, by the people's recollection that they had cast away the fables they once believed, or by some one who believes that "the Lord reigneth," and that all things are under his controul. You are probably aware that it was their practice to raise

a general cry upon the occurrence of an earthquake, to rouse the sleepy attention of Mane, the god to whom the drudgery of Atlas is (or was) assigned in this part of the world. Upon the occurrence of earthquakes, they imagined he was nodding; and to prevent their being precipitated into the sea, they raised a cry, strong enough to rend the welkin; at the same time belabouring the earth with blows which nothing but an inanimate object could bear. Most of them now know better; and many of them put their trust in Him, "who holds the world and all things up."

May 5.—The week past has been of a similar character with many preceding weeks, with the agreeable exception of one day, spent in visiting a neighbouring island, for the purpose of publicly admitting into the church of Christ more than fifty individuals, who had complied with the conditions we insist on in order to admission. It was the first incident of the kind in the island, and excited great interest. About thirty couples were married, after which brother Thomas delivered his sermon. I then proposed the questions to the candidates for baptism, and it was highly pleasing to see and hear them. Many of them had grown old before they heard the name of "Christ the Lord;" and to me their appearance was highly interesting. Time had furrowed their faces, and blanched their heads; and, bending with age, they stood in the