

are as nearly as possible in the "State of Nature" (poor, miserable, sinful nature!) so often admired (theoretically) by sceptics and worldlings; and though neither wishing, nor perhaps willing to admit the Gospel, appeal, by their very degradation, to the Christian instincts of those who are themselves enlightened. Two experienced Missionary brethren, with eight native teachers and their wives, sailed from Lifu on 30th May, arriving in the vicinity of New Guinea late in June. They take evangelical possession of some small islands very near the mainland—Darnley, Brampton, Tauan and Saiwai Islands, appointing one or two teachers to each. They hope thus to secure before long an entrance among the inhabitants of the mainland, as there is continual passing to and fro between the islands. Two of the teachers consider themselves specially appointed to the great Island itself. Let us hope that the morning star has thus this past year risen upon Papua.

LOYALTY ISLANDS—MARÉ.—The Island of Maré or Nengone is the most southerly of the Loyalty Group, at the western extremity of Polynesia. It is a mass of uplifted coral, about seventy miles in circumference.

Rev. S. M. Creagh, who has left to supply the place of another gone to New Guinea, says: "On our arrival at Maré in October, 1854, we found a good number had been Christianized by the efforts of the Rarotongan and Samoan teachers, who had been living there since 1841. Two chapels had been built, and two congregations gathered, at the districts where the teachers resided. But in other parts of the island all the evils of heathenism prevailed. It is a long and tedious process to change the habits of a people and civilize a nation. But a great change has been effected, even in the external appearance of the natives, as we, who have lived among them, can well understand. Their habits are undergoing a thorough change. The younger men and women are not satisfied with the ways of their fathers; they are striving after a better mode of life."

Maré has also evangelized other islands, and now sends a Missionary, Rev. S. Macfarlane, and four native teachers to New Guinea. Mr. Creagh says, "At the present time there are no heathen on Maré; there may be one here and another there who refuse to give up some of their former ways; but heathenism as a system is destroyed. The struggle has been a long and a hard one, and we have sometimes lacked faith, but the Gospel has triumphed in the case of another island. Maré is at last won for Christ, and to Him be all the glory."

Correspondence.

WHICH FOREIGN MISSION?

MY DEAR BROTHER,—According to the suggestion made by the Secretary of our Congregational Union, when advising me of my appointment as Local Secretary to attend to the interests of the London Missionary Society for this Province, I gave the names and addresses of ten of the pastors of our churches to the home Secretary of that Society, as parties to whom it might be desirable to forward a copy of its *Monthly Chronicle*, and which has led, I believe, that number of the brethren to be supplied with a copy monthly from

England. Since then the parcel containing copies of the Society's reports, abstracts of the same, and specimen copies of its monthly periodicals, has come duly to hand by express, and through the mail have been put in circulation among our churches. I wrote a letter to each pastor, advising him of the forwarding of a packet to his address, and where copies of the periodicals could be obtained by mail from Montreal; and at the same time suggesting and urging the desirableness of asking for voluntary contributions for the Society at each monthly missionary concert for prayer, or an annual collection after ap-