

of teachers, attended by from 80 to 90 teachers and their wives, and the more advanced young men and women, who live within 3 miles of the mission station. At certain seasons, those beyond that distance attend. The school is kept four months in the year—from January to May. The subjects taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English and singing. At Anelecauh there is a similar institution to be re-opened, we hope, this year. The books printed in the native language are the New Testament, Psalms, Genesis, Exodus, six chapters of Daniel, the Book of Jonah, a catechism, hymn book of 50 hymns, a geography, a Scripture history, abridgement of part first of Pilgrim's Progress, several primers and a yearly almanac. Last year missionaries were sent out as follows: 3 to Futuna, 2 to Aniwa, 5 to Kwamera, 4 to Port Resolution, 3 couples and one single man to Efate, and 3 single men to Erromanga. We generally supply a boat's crew of 5 or 6 men to the *Dayspring*. About 20 Aneityunese teachers and their wives have been assisting the missionaries on the neighbouring islands, for several years past and 5 or 6 unmarried men are out as assistants. Repeatedly parties of from 10 to 20 men have gone to Tanna and other islands for the purpose of erecting or repairing the houses of the missionaries.

#### MR. MCKENZIE'S STATIONS AND WORK.

As Mr. Murray is Dr. Geddie's successor, so our second missionary, Rev. J. W. McKenzie, may be said to be Mr. Morrison's successor, though Mr. Cosh occupied the ground, for a time between them. Mr. McKenzie is settled in the island of Efate, and has charge more especially of the villages of Pango and Erakor. The people of these villages are nominally Christians, and with few exceptions attend both Church and School. Two plastered Churches have been erected since Mr. McKenzie's settlement, and the fence around one of them is made of pieces of wood once venerated as gods. We can say little more respecting Mr. McKenzie's work than this, that he is gaining rapidly a knowledge of the language, that he is labouring faithfully in his work, as attested by the senior missionary, and liked by the natives. Population, 270; Church members, 77. Beyond these villages Heathenism prevails, dense and dark, and efforts to penetrate it must be conducted with great caution, as warnings have already shewed.

#### JUNIOR MISSIONARY.

Mr. Annand's settlement at Iririk, a small island in Efil Harbour, some four miles from Mr. McKenzie, is an event of the year. While Iririk is his place of residence, the people upon whom he hopes

to operate are the occupants of two other islands, Fila and Meli. In some respects the people are a superior race, but they have shewn no disposition to welcome the Gospel or to aid the Missionary. Both Messrs. McKenzie and Annand feel the difficulties of their position, and their own weakness in the presence of mountains of opposition and of difficulty. The position of the latter without the language and without the sympathy of a little praying band is peculiarly trying and disheartening, and he has therefore, of all the Missionaries on either field, the first and highest claims on the constant prayers of the Church at home. Unless, thus sustained heartily, what can we expect, but discouragement and defeat. The work, however, is the Lord's and not Mr. Annand's. He can thresh the mountains even by the worm—Jacob, yet for all this will he be inquired of by the house of Israel to do it for them.

#### OTHER MISSIONARIES.

We should like to notice in detail the position and work of the other Missionaries on the group: Of Mr. Robertson boldly holding up the banner of the cross on Erromanga, with a forlorn hope of 13 Church members and 70 adherents, about half of these from Cook's Bay, but united for mutual encouragement and defence: of Mr. Goodwill, battling bravely with difficulties of all kinds on Espiritu Santo: of Mr. McDonald, Dr. Geddie's son-in-law, holding Havannah Harbour on the same island, with our own two: of Mr. Neilson, also Dr. Geddie's son-in-law, at Port Resolution, and Mr. Watt at Kwamera, both faithful labourers, and able to speak and preach to the Tannese, who yet remain wedded to their heathenism; of Mr. Paton, in Aniwa, surrounded with 50 church members and the whole population attending church and school; of Mr. Milne, on the other hand, at Gnuna, constrained to say, who hath believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? But our limits forbid. We would simply add that the group has 12 missions extending over 16 islands, 43 preaching stations, 3000 church-going people, 726 communicants, 70 schools, 2000 scholars, 94 trained teachers, and 2 training institutions at which 80 or 90 attend.

These present, 1st missions successful in a high degree, 2ndly., missions a partial success, and 3rdly., missions presenting great discouragement to the men who for years have borne the burthen and heat of the day. But are these difficulties, and the opposition referred to, to paralyse the efforts of Christ's Church? Are these islands to be the strongholds of the wicked one? Because there are more power-