

under daily instruction. The latest communication from Mr. Jones, dated October last, contains the following interesting and encouraging statement:—

"Since my last communication, we have held our May meeting, and for the first time made a collection, which amounted to £5 in cash. The sum is little, and it is great, too, when considered in connection with the circumstances of the people. I trust however, that their humble efforts will have a salutary effect upon their own minds, in teaching them the duty of the Church of Christ, and not less so upon the the wealthy Christians of civilized lands.

"There was a circumstance of great interest connected with our meeting. One of our Mare teachers, a few weeks before, had arrived from the Island of Were, with a company of natives, bringing with them their cast away gods, which were exhibited at the meeting. Speeches, too, were made by natives of Were, and interpreted by the teacher. A great number of naked, painted heathen of this Island were there, listening to and witnessing all the proceedings; and they were appealed to by the teacher to refuse the gospel no longer, but, like the people of Were, to cast away their foolish and wicked practices."

*Erumanga*, as the death scene of the martyred Williams, can never cease to be deeply interesting to the members of that Society in whose service his indefatigable life was spent. The Rev G. N. Gordon, from the Nova Scotia Missionary Society, and his devoted wife, with humble but heroic trust in God, settled on this island in June, 1857, and the following communication, written last December, must awaken affectionate solicitude and earnest prayer on their behalf:

"I have of late," writes Mr Gordon, "visited round the east side, which contains a very large population, and have found the natives in general quite accessible. I have no fear to go among the most desperate savages of this Island, who are wretched cannibals, because I can now speak to them the subduing gospel of the grace of God's dear Son. Without a knowledge of their language, it is not very safe to venture among them, because of their enormous desire for human flesh.—Several of late have been killed, an

eaten, and bodies have been exhumed for food. In one harbor we visited, the natives of Dillon's bay who were with me were so terrified lest this would be their fate if they went on shore, that I had to anchor my boat near to the beach, from which I taught the multitude, like my blessed master on the lake of Geneserat.

"I have asked the natives here implicated in the death of Williams and Harris—since I have obtained some correct knowledge of their language—to state to me the facts of the case. They are these:—it was a feast day when the first mission ship arrived. Other foreigners, they state, had on such occasions seized their food and killed some of them; five were killed on one occasion, the names of which they have given me. It was not until Mr Williams attempted to walk up the river towards the place where the feast was holden that they resolved to kill him and his companions, and several of them made signs to them to return to their vessel and not to go up the river. Oviladon is the name of the man who killed them, and he is now with his wife attending to religious instruction. They beheld the deep distress of Captain Morgan in the boat, as he lamented over the fallen of the Lord, and spake much about it. They have shown me the places where each of the bodies were carried. The head of Williams was carried, with some of his clothes, two miles off from the river where I found the sealing-wax which was in his pocket. I can hardly describe to you my feelings as I returned from these scenes, having had before me the men who perpetrated these horrid scenes."

The progress of the gospel in *Widdow's Polynesia*, as compared with the early efforts for its extension in the island previously enumerated, has been rapid. This may be ascribed, instrumental to various causes which will, happily, continue to operate with increasing force in coming years, on other islands yet unblessed. The striking improvement in civilization and social happiness produced by Christianity among the people who have embraced it, has become known to the wretched savages of the west, and the fact has abated their enmity against its teachers. The exemplification, too, of this blessed system in the lives and teachings of