

man's young men, and he and Karewick went and forced the chief either to bring them out and kill them for a feast, or they would kill and feast on him, and so the chief instantly clubbed them both; and yet Miaki says that chief must be killed also, for shewing them any kindness. It is reported to day that Manuman's people are so reduced by famine, that they are now killing and eating their own wives and children. They are on a hill top, surrounded by the enemy, and cannot get food.

Had most interesting and encouraging conversations with Taura, Kapuka, Viavia, on spiritual things, and nine persons were at school. Abraham and our Aneiteumese heard a good deal of threatening talk, and that nearly all the natives had agreed to take our lives, and that the friendly chiefs were only deceiving us.

*Monday 27th.*—Yesterday thirty persons came to church, and afterwards Mr. Matheson and I went and conducted worship at our village with fourteen persons, at a second with thirty persons, at a third with twelve persons, and on our way, with four different groups of men, women, and children, about thirty persons in all. Thus, in the midst of our trials we were privileged to preach the gospel to about 116 persons; and, oh, that God may grant his blessing on the seed thus sown, so that much fruit may be produced to his glory!

On leaving the village at which we met with thirty persons, a boy took my hand, and accompanied us on the path; and a man followed us with a huge club, smiling and talking in a friendly manner. As I was foremost, the boy tried three times to lead me into by-paths, which Mr. M. prevented, and got the savage with his ponderous club before him, so as to watch all their movements: and thus God prevented them from doing us injury, till we got to the next village, when they returned to their own. As Mr. M. was collecting the women and children, the boy with a handful of arrows, and the man with the large club, were brought to the public-ground, and a loaded musket was also examined, and many strange questions were asked sneeringly at me, regarding rains, winds, disease, death, and the death of Mr. Matheson's child, which took place without a moment's warning, about ten days before; and much scoffing went on among a group of unfriendly men. At other places I also saw strong evidences of a very unfriendly feeling existing among the natives toward us and our worship. Our Aneiteumese were in another direction, were severely threatened, and informed that our houses were all to be burned, and our lives taken; and that even Taura was deceiving us, and had speared his own wife on Saturday, so that she was confined with the wound, which, on inquiry, we found to be a fact. On Saturday, the brother of a friendly chief who attends worship, came to our house, and kept hiding about all day with his loaded musket, appearing as if he would like to shoot some of us, and attempted to shoot our Aneiteumese, and said to Abraham, they had agreed to shoot us all, which our friends admitted to be "the universal talk of all Tanna." A vessel has been at the harbour, supplying the natives with the munitions of war for my stolen property.

*Tuesday 28th.*—This morning at daylight we observed a vessel out at sea, and, though we put up a flag to try and induce her to come to us, he headed about, and went off for Aneiteum. We could only say, the will of the Lord be done.

*Wednesday 29th.*—A young chief, Kapuka, came at daylight, and gave Mr. Matheson his father's war gods, consisting of a basket of small stones, well worn with his hands. Thus, when many are hating the worship, and desiring to kill us, a few are renouncing their idols, and professing to seek and serve Jesus, and weeping at our abuse and its consequences.

*Friday 31st.*—The feeling against us is evidently increasing. Our Aneiteumese are constantly threatened, and all our lives are in great danger. A large party of Miaki's friends are here to-day, influencing the natives against us and the worship. Manuman, Nuarau, and their people are still hunted and shot down daily.

As Firmingo had come from the harbour to-day, he came to see me. He says eleven chiefs and some of their people met at our house on Sabbath for worship: they united in praise and prayer, and tried to encourage each other in seeking and serving God, and lamented our absence. This was comforting news. He said Nauka, Miaki, and Karewick were still resolved to kill me and my Aneiteumese, and also all the natives who had attended worship. Mr. M. and I went to visit