

merous for them, and they were obliged to retreat. Of course the woman met her sad fate. There has been no war on the island since we came, but a very bad state of feeling is still kept up, and at present little or no intercourse is maintained between the two parties. It is the custom in war to eat the bodies of their enemies.

COMFORTS AND TRIALS.

Since we came to Aneiteum, we have enjoyed many comforts, and we have been called to endure but few trials in commencing a new mission. The natives are all very civil; and, though they are thievish, we have suffered but little from them in this way. Our trials have been of a different kind. Our little daughter Mary has been taken from us. About a fortnight before her death she began to be troubled with diarrhœa. This caused us but little alarm. After she had been complaining about a week, Mrs A. took her round to Mr Geddie's, that she might obtain medical attendance; but all was of no avail. Symptoms of water in the head at length presented themselves, and she died in a few hours afterwards. This has been a bitter trial to us; but our sorrows are alleviated by the hope, that she has exchanged a world of sin and sorrow for one of perfect happiness.

Should any one still wish to address me, they can address to the care of Mr Geddie, Aneiteum.

I remain, with sincere affection,

Yours respectfully,

ISAAC ARCHIBALD.

LETTER FROM MR. ARCHIBALD TO REV. J. WADDELL.

Aneiteum, Jan. 2nd, 1850.

REV. & DEAR SIR,

I have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your very kind and interesting letter of March, 1849, for which I return you my sincere thanks. I presume that the Communication which I sent to the Board will have reached you before the receipt of this. And I need but briefly refer to anything which it contains.

WITHDRAWAL OF RESIGNATION.

Written as it was under a depressed state both of body and mind, brought on by the natural tendency of the disease under which I suffered, it scarcely contains my more calm and deliberate views. I think I erred in supposing that it was my duty to dissolve my connection with the Mission. I have now resolved to remain

as long as it is the pleasure of the Board to retain me, or at least until as many ordained, labourers can be obtained as will absorb the funds of the Mission.

REMOVAL TO MR. GEDDIE'S STATION AND EMPLOYMENT THERE.

Soon after the departure of the John Williams, I came to the Main Harbour where Mr. Geddie resides, and we now occupy the teachers' house, left vacant by Mr. Powell's return to Samoa. A Samoan teacher has now the charge of the mission premises which we have left. We find here so much requiring to be done, and so many spheres of usefulness opening up before us, that we are encouraged to remain. I expect soon to take charge of the printing department. This will relieve Mr. G. from an important department, which otherwise must draw heavily on his time and attention. School teaching necessarily absorbs a portion of my time every day, though we have but six boys in attendance.

CALL FOR A BOAT.

It is also considered very desirable, that frequent visits be made to the other side of the Island to hold meetings with the people, to superintend the schools and to strive to increase the numbers. For this purpose a boat is almost indispensable. There are two paths leading to the other side. One follows the sea beach and those who travel it are obliged to swim some rods through a heavy surf. The other leads over the mountains along the side of dangerous precipices and over rugged steeps, so that it is not preferred to the former way. A boat is the only safe and easy way of getting along, and the only way by which luggage can be carried from place to place. The boat which Mr. G. got in Samoa has been of essential service to the mission. We have built a boat shed to protect it from the weather, but with all possible care boats do not last long in this country. I am sorry to say that two stations are at present vacant on account of the sickness of the two Rarotongan teachers, who were left here by the last visit of the "John Williams."

ELEMENTARY BOOKS IN NATIVE LANGUAGE.

We have lately issued a small elementary book in the native language. Besides a number of easy lessons it contains the Hymns and also a translation of the Lord's Prayer. For the hymns we are indebted to Mr. Powell but the rest of the book has been prepared since he left. Mr. G. is preparing a second small book which will