

seemed to think that their hospitality was rather too much taxed. We gave each chief a small present of something—a fathom of calico, a pair of scissors, a butcher knife, a small looking glass, &c., and on each occasion tried to find lodgement for the word of life in their hearts. Among other illustrious ones came Marik Tikaikon, the notorious cannibal. In the end of May he sent a party, headed by a chief, with the blade of an old butcher knife, requesting that I should put on a new handle, and when finished, that I should send one to tell the great man who intended to come for it in person. Accordingly, on Monday, 23rd July, he came with seven of his wives and a few men. His poor lank frame does not seem to thrive well on human flesh.—We made him a present of some things, including a couple of turkeys, which he much desired to possess. He held out to us the hope of receiving teachers into his land some time soon.

In July, Amos and his wife, teachers in Esem, came home to visit us. After a few weeks, through the kindness of Capt. Daley, we got them sent back.

On August 22nd, the *Dayspring* returned from Sydney. She had on board Rev. Messrs. Paton, Copeland, Cosh and McNair, with Mrs. Cosh. Our hearts were much rejoiced and encouraged by such a reinforcement of tried veterans and new recruits. We visited Havannah harbour, and called at Esem, Eutaon and Emugaliu, the latter two of which places we had to leave unoccupied for want of teachers.

MASSACRE OF WHITE MEN.

I have now to record a sad event which lately transpired. About the middle of the month a small craft called at Emel, in our vicinity, for natives to go to work to New Caledonia. The Emel men had been often in ships; so the chief agreed with some ten of his young men that they should go, ostensibly as laborers to New Caledonia, and at sea that they should kill the white men—three in number—and bring the vessel back. This they did, and on Wednesday 21st returned with their prey. They dropped anchor at their own island, and plundered the vessel, stripped her of her sails and ropes, took down her masts, &c. On the following Monday another vessel from New Caledonia came to Efel, and procured the hulk of the plundered schooner, which they managed to take away in a couple of days.

CONCLUSION.

In closing, I am happy to report some progress by the blessing of God. Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Cosh are now near us in Ebang. We have there a church consisting of ten adults and four children.

The Gospel is preached in Ertab every Sabbath, by some of our people, the two chiefs of their village being favorable to it.

We have the gospel of Mark in Efatese in the hands of our people. They are diligently learning to read it every morning, Sabbath and Saturday excepted. Some can read it fluently.

The gospel of Matthew is translated. There were 625 copies of Mark's Gospel printed, at a cost of £24 1s. 9d., or about 9½d. per copy.

Our communion Roll numbers 57. Within the last year we have had in the village six births, four marriages and five deaths.

LETTER FROM MRS. GEDDIE.

Many of our readers, we are sure, will read with interest the following extract from a letter of Mrs. Geddies in the Home and Foreign Record of our sister church.