

and confirm what missionaries have been stating all along.

I hope the traffic will soon cease. The Queensland Government have recently been sending agents in vessels and they report that the natives are unwilling to come, and that there is rather a hostile feeling in many islands on account of the removal of so many.

Again, Sydney, 27th:

Since I wrote you I have heard again from the islands. Sad tragedies are occurring very frequently. You will see the letter I published, which you may reproduce. (Not received.)

The captain, mate, and four seamen of the schooner *Jason*, have been arrested in Sydney on a charge of kidnapping, and sent to Brisbane. If committed, they will be tried at Brisbane. I think this will arouse the people of Queensland. Good will come out of it.

Captain Palmer's Book:—"Kidnapping in the South Seas," is exciting attention in England. His remarks on all our missionaries are very kind, and deserve to be extracted in the *Record*. He is fully convinced of the evil practices of the traders in labour in the New Hebrides."

The following notices of recent tragedies are from the *Pall Mall Gazette*, of November 3rd:—

The news brought from the South Sea Islands by the last mail is merely a sombre record of massacre. At the island of Sandwich the crew of the *Fanny*, a labour vessel, has been almost entirely cut off, the attack being of the most unprovoked and treacherous description. Two young men from Melbourne, who had settled on Tanna, were murdered for the sake of the goods which they brought with them. These islands are in the New Hebrides group. At the Line Islands, on the Equator, Captain Welsh, of the *Maria Douglas*, and Captain Robertson, of the *Marion Renny*, have both been killed. The latter is a most unfortunate vessel; twice before has the whole of her crew been butchered. In Fiji itself matters seem to be even worse. "Thakomban the First, king of Fiji," clearly sympathizes with the murderers of the two planters, Messrs. Spiers and McKintosh, who were killed while peaceably fishing on the Ba coast of Viti Levu. An expedition has at length been set on foot after much pressure, in order to punish the murderers, but it is upon so small a scale, and has received such doubtful orders from Thakomban, that its easy defeat is predicted by the white population. Should this occur it is believed that all the settlers on that coast will be massacred. The Fijians thereabouts are in direct league with the savage canni-

bal tribes of the mountain districts, and have ever been at feud with the new comers. In all this, be it observed, there is no mention whatever made of an English man-of-war, or of the English Consul whose powers, as Lord Enfield said last session, have been so enormously increased. Orders have been given that English war vessels should call frequently at Fiji: but, as we have before pointed out, they fail to do so. It is very clear that unless there is some interference a war of races of the most embittered kind will shortly commence between our countrymen and Fijians. That the labour traffic ought to be under control is obvious, and it is impossible to save the natives from being kidnapped or maltreated unless some protection be extended at the same time to men of our own race.

We offer two remarks—1st. The attack on the crew of the *Fanny* may have been unprovoked on their part, but what of their predecessors in the same traffic? The poor Fatese have no means of gaining redress of past grievances, and took their own way, the only way they knew of preventing a repetition of them; and secondly at neither consuls nor ships of war can extend protection to men of our own race, until these do justice to the natives, and regard their natural rights.

We may add that the two young men murdered on Tanna, Messrs. Ross and Bell, were of excellent character, and had secured the friendship of the natives where they lived and intended to conduct a lawful business, but they unwisely ventured, as we learn, into the interior, and were killed probably by a people hostile to those among whom they lived.

### TRINIDAD.

We have heard from both Missionaries by latest mail. We have no room for their letters, which, indeed were not intended for publication. Mr. Morton writes, that: "Thomas was doing well at Iere, so that the school was prosperous. Joseph Annagee at Palmyra, is also doing well, and both he and Benjamin Balaram are attending diligently to the means of grace and improvement. After considerable instruction and some delay which I thought in the circumstances wise, I, yesterday, Nov. 5th, admitted them to