

not in the way of an extraordinary effusion of the Holy Ghost, as on the day of Pentecost, but in the use of that instrumentality, set before her in the Providence of God, for imparting and augmenting these qualities in the Sons of the Prophets.

The Committee solicit from the members of the Church the use of these means. They solicit their prayers. Brethren pray

for the Seminary, that there, may be trained the Sons of Thunder and the Sons of Consolation. They solicit also your pecuniary aid, that they may not only carry on what has been begun, but that they may increase the efficiency of the Institution. Come then, Brethren, to our help and future generations will rise up and call you blessed.

Foreign Missions.

THE INHABITANTS OF ANEITEUM.

BY REV. JOHN GEDDIE.

Concluded.

SACRED ANIMALS.

The third class of objects of worship are living creatures. Divine honors are paid to a creature something between our eel and a serpent, of white and black spotted skin. It lurks about the crevices of rocks, and may be seen at times when the water is low. On a certain excursion as I was walking along the sea-shore in company with a number of natives, I saw one of these creatures, measuring in length about four feet. Ignorant of its sacred character, I took a long stick and was proceeding cautiously to examine it. As soon as my object was perceived, consternation was depicted on every countenance, and they cried out, "Don't touch it, it is sacred." I have since learned that it is one of the deities of the sea.

So much for the gods of Aneiteum.— Truly these dark islands have multiplied unto themselves "Lords many and gods many." May God in mercy to the heathen hasten the fulfillment of that prophecy, "The Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, 'surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.'"

THEIR WORSHIP.

The worship presented to the gods of this island consist of prayers and offerings of pigs, fish, and vegetable food of different sorts. I am not aware that human sacrifices, so common on other islands, have ever existed here. Some idea of their worship may be formed from the following specimens. The man who wishes his pigs to thrive, takes an offering to the Natmass of kaver, and says, "Natmass, this is your kaver to drink, look thou on

my pigs, cause them to grow great and good." The man who wishes an abundant crop of taro, takes an offering of fish and says, "Natmass this is your fish to eat, look thou upon my taro, cause it to be great and good." The man who wishes to inflict disease on those around him, takes an offering of kaver and says, — "Natmass this is your kaver to drink, do thou make men sick with the disease of the land." The man who desires plenty of sugar cane, takes an offering of banana and says, "Natmass this is your banana to eat, look thou on my sugar cane, cause it to be great and good." If a party go out to fish, their expedition is prefaced with an offering, and they say to the Natmass, "we are going to the sea, look thou upon us and give us plenty of fish."

THEIR DEVOTEDNESS.

Such is the mode of worship pursued among these islanders. The devotion which they sometimes manifest in the service of their objects of worship, cannot fail to excite surprise. For instance when a feast is in contemplation, the sacred men will leave their homes and remain for weeks at a time in some sacred place, supplicating the Natmasses, in order that they may have plenty of food. These poor heathen who spend so much of their time and substance in the service of their imaginary deities, will rise up and condemn their more favored fellow men, who withhold from Jehovah that tribute of homage which is his due.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

The places usually selected for worship are groves and not temples. These in all ages have been favorite spots for the worship of idols or spirits. We read in the old Testament that "Manassah reared up altars and made a grove." The practice of these islanders reminds me of that which was followed by the idolaters in the