

and myself, composed of young men and women of promise from different parts of my district. The number who attend is about sixty, some of them married persons. The branches taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, and we are now about to add geography. This latter branch will open up a new region of thought to the natives. In the days of darkness they knew of the existence of Tana, Futuna and Nina, and they had heard of Erromanga, and these islands they thought comprised the whole earth. I design to begin by teaching the geography of the island, next the geography of the group, afterwards the geography of the Pacific Islands, and gradually rise to the geography of the world. The natives are the merest children and their views must be expanded by degrees.—Some maps which Mr J. Dawson of Pictou sent, and also the "Illustrated Atlas," the donation of an unknown friend, will be invaluable aids in this department of teaching. The cause of education also advances in Mr Inglis' district. His plans do not differ much from my own, or rather I endeavour to follow him, for his qualifications to teach in the educational department of the missionary work I do not dispute.

PRINTING THE SCRIPTURES.

Our printing press you will be glad to hear is in successful operation. The types ordered by Mr Inglis last year came to hand four months ago, and are I believe a donation from Mr Nelson of Edinburgh. You will see from the specimens which I enclose that the type is a large and elegant one. The gospel by Matthew is now in the press, and will I trust be completed ere long. This will be followed by John and the Acts of the Apostles, which I have likewise translated. The gospel by Luke was translated last year by Mr Inglis and sent to Scotland to be printed, in order to save labour here, and also in the hope that it might increase the interest of friends in that quarter in the Mission. Other portions of Scripture are in course of translation by Mr Inglis and myself, and will I doubt not be ready for the press before we have time and paper to print them. As our new type is large and consumes much paper, the grant of fifty reams from the British and Foreign Bible Society which we received last year will do little more than print Matthew and John, so we have applied for ano-

ther grant of fifty reams more, which we hope will meet with a favourable response.

OTHER ISLANDS—DEPUTATION TO TANA.

I shall now allude as briefly as possible to the missionary work on the islands of Tana and Futuna. I shall begin with the island of Tana. In May last we sent a deputation, consisting of Nohoat and Napollos, both chiefs and church members, to visit that island. The former lived on Tana for some years, speaks the language fluently and is well known. We procured a passage for them in a vessel bound northward and the Captain landed them at Port Resolution. On landing they found our teachers Nimitwan and Araham and their wives well. They have built a comfortable plaistered house which will afford good accommodation to a missionary, until he can build a house for himself. Our teachers at Port Resolution though they cannot report remarkable success, yet labour with encouragement. They itinerate on the Sabbath day and conduct religious worship whenever they can get a few natives to listen to them. About 30 persons have abandoned heathenism and many more are favourably disposed to christianity. The principal chief *Maiaki* is still a heathen, but he is friendly to the teachers. His objection to christianity is the fear of sickness and death. When Nohoat gave him a garment which I sent to him he was afraid to put it on, lest some calamity should befall him, but our chief succeeded in reasoning him out of his fears. He was almost persuaded to be a christian, and to give up fighting, cannibalism and other dark customs, and in evidence that he was not altogether insincere, he broke two of his muskets in Nohoat's presence, but he had others beside. I sent an invitation to him to visit this island, but he declined to come for the present, being engaged in some heathenish customs connected with the circumcision of his son. He promised however to come another day. Two inferior chiefs Quanwan and Nauwar who live in *Maiakis'* district profess to be christians. The former gave up heathenism when Messrs Turner and Nisbet lived on Tana and the latter received his first favourable impressions on this island, the language of which he knows. I am intimately acquainted with both these men and can scarcely doubt their sincerity. They have certainly given