

himself and all the Sahib log (English people). Then came another distribution no less grateful to the boys, which we owe to the kindness of Dr. Small. A huge tray of native sweetmeats made its appearance; and divided among ninety, these conglomerates of sugar, flour, and ghee disappeared like summer snow, and the examination was over. A fortnight's holidays were granted. We do not think it advisable to grant more at once, as it is difficult in that case to get the boys all collected again, and a fortnight will, we trust, see the greatest heats nearly over.

"We have great cause for thankfulness to God, that during these last eight months we have been enabled to do so much in the school. It may now be considered thoroughly established. We have, so far, lived down native opposition, and all the wealthier men of the city have, by their presence, set on it the seal of their approbation. We have lived down, too, the coldness of official caution; for every officer at the station was present and approved.

"Grateful for the past, we take encouragement for the future, and, by the blessing of God, expect a time when these young minds shall not only know the truth, but when their hearts shall feel its power, and when it will make them free with the liberty of sons of God."—*U. P. Missionary Record*.

TANNA.—ILLNESS AND DEATH OF MR. JOHNSTON.

The following deeply affecting letter, from the Rev. Mr. Paton, will be read with intense and melancholy interest throughout the whole church:—

NEW HEBRIDES, PORT RESOLUTION, TANNA, 15th Feb., 1861.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—I am sorry to inform you that death has again entered our infant Mission on Tanna. On the first of January, when as usual Mr. and Mrs. Johnston were retiring from family worship in my room, he turned back to say that two Tanna men were at the window with huge clubs, &c. I went and asked what they wanted, when one answered, medicine for a boy; so with much difficulty I got them urged to come into the house, when I saw from their agitated appearance, that they did not want medicine, but were about some ill. As Mr. Johnston was leaving, I said they must all leave as I was going to sleep, and if they came in daylight, I would give them all the medicine they wanted. Outside, Mr. Johnston bent down to lift a kitten that had got out, when one of the savages got behind him and aimed a blow with his huge club, which however Mr. J. evaded, and the ground received. He drew a second blow, but my two dogs observing, sprang between them, and so saved Mr. J.'s life. On hearing Mr. J. call out, I ran out of the house and called the two men to me, not knowing what they had done. Again they turned and both ran at me with their ponderous clubs, but when about to inflict the deadly blows, again my two dogs sprang between us, so one dog was struck with a club and the other club struck the ground, and I was saved, for now the dogs had them running from us as fast as possible. As they fled down the path, I reprove their sinful conduct, and entreated them to give up hating Jehovah, his worship and his people. Though a large body of armed men were hiding in the path, and all ready to give assistance at a moment's warning, and though they had come some eight or ten miles to take our lives, yet they all fled. Truly "the wicked flee when no man pursueth." "The Lord is our refuge."

Having now become accustomed to such attacks and such scenes, I went to bed and slept as usual; but Mr. Johnston could not sleep. He was pale next day, and after that I never observed him smile. At the moment he said to himself, "Already on the verge of eternity—How have I spent my time on the mission field? What good have I done? What zeal have I manifested?" From that night Mr. Johnston was troubled with his stomach and head till he was taken ill.

Next day in company we visited a village to administer advice and medicine, and to conduct worship with the people, and on returning home Mr. J. was sick and vomiting. The following day was spent as a thanksgiving day, in which anew and unitedly we dedicated ourselves to God and to his service among the heathen on Tanna, so long as he is pleased to spare us.