

they should, they have had far more advantages.

#### ATTENDANCE AT CLASS.

We had a capital school for young men and women at Potnareven from 6th Dec. to the 12th Feb'y. There were 45 on the roll, and we seldom had fewer than 30 men and 5 women in regular attendance. This was the best class we have yet had. They attended regularly and tried to learn and hence they *did* learn something. Mrs. Robertson had a class of young boys, women, and girls, of over 40 in number. She conducted her class in the afternoons as we had only one school house. On our return to Dillon's Bay on the 14th Feb'y I began the class again for young men and women and continued it until the 8th of April, when press of work compelled me to give it up for a time. A month ago I again visited the East side to settle two teachers and marry three couples.

#### COUPLES MADE HAPPY.

I have married over twenty happy (?) couples since our return a year ago, but then we were a long time off the island.

#### DEATH OF ATNELLO.

There were twelve births in Dillon's Bay during our absence and only four deaths, and three of these were old people, but the fourth was dear *Atnello*, one of the finest men and best teachers I have yet had. He was of much help to Mr. Macnair at one time. He was an elder in the Church here and the teacher at Dillon's Bay. Since Soso died several years ago we have had none who knew as much as *Atnello* and *Yomot*. Soso was very carefully trained by James Gordon as he had him (Soso) assisting him in studying the languages and making translations. Since Soso died I have depended chiefly upon *Yomot* and *Atnello* in the languages, and in learning *Yomot* and *Atnello* were very unlike. *Yomot* is bold, and outspoken, gains his point, but makes enemies sometimes. *Atnello* was quiet, gentle, unwilling to offend any person, and very polite, but in his own quiet way had firmness and influence, and so the people obeyed him without fully seeing that they were actually ruled. In this way he made fewer enemies, but he had to bear at times the enmity of the heathen when they were angry with the whole Christian party out of hatred to the Gospel itself.

#### PURCHASING LAND.

I expect to send to you a copy of a deed of land which I purchased at Portinia our East Station. I mentioned this purchase to the brethren at our annual meeting in July and also my intention to purchase as much land at the head of Cook's Bay as possible for mission purposes, for I fear if I do not do so now it will soon be "too late." Once the French come to our Island there will be little chance of securing any suitable spot for mission purposes if indeed they will recognize our claims to any property they can grasp. The missionaries approve of my purchase in Potnunia and of my purpose to purchase land in Cook's Bay. Whatever I do will be made out in the name of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Mr. James Gordon purchased or gave gifts for some land in Cook's Bay but got no Deed of it, and with darker days I also gave presents to the leading men in order that they would allow me to pass through their land and erect school-houses at various points, but neither did I get a Deed. Several of the best and most powerful men have died since those days, but of those living, there are a few who will acknowledge our first claim and as they are likely to be at the Communion Services here on the first Sabbath of September (September 5th 1886) I intend D. V. speaking to them about the land on the Monday following.

#### STOPPING THE GROC.

About ten months ago a white trader settled almost at our cottage door and though he was a very civil man some of the young natives had got *grog* from him several times when working for him, and some church members had fallen into the trap. Of course I was greatly grieved, for although the slave vessels carry off our young men they have never given them *grog* in port here which has been a great blessing.

I resolved to walk over land at once and see the trader myself, instead of writing, and if possible get him to promise not to give the natives any more. I started at day-break and got over at 5 p. m. without any one knowing I was going, so I got them just as they were, without any special making ready.

I called on the trader as a friend, and next day I went on to Cook's Bay and preached and visited a sick teacher three miles further on.

The following day which was Thursday