

attended every Sabbath day during the sailing season. It so happened that voyage after voyage he was disappointed in getting away ; but, lest his being absent even one Sabbath day should lead them to conclude that he was not *afuace*, he was resolved that that should be no obstacle in his way ; and he and some of his people attended regularly until the vessel was hauled up at the close of the sailing season. From that time until she resumed her voyages last year neither he nor any of his people came to Church one Sabbath day. After her first trip last year he again came back and attended regularly. As there is no good anchorage at this side of the island the vessel did not often call off at this station, and he was again disappointed every voyage last year. He came, however, until she made her last voyage, but has not since been inside the Church door.

Kali another of our great chiefs, a great warrior, has been a man of war from his youth and a most inveterate cannibal. So great is that man's appetite for human flesh that he has had all his own men and women, two excepted, killed and eaten. He felt his own weakness provided war should at any time break out, he knew that they do not now go to war upon Aneiteum, and he vainly imagined that his being fashionably *afuace* would prove a security to him not only against war, but also against sickness. He attended punctually until taken with the measles ; since that time he has not been near us.

I need not multiply individual cases. The above, especially the two former, seem to be the all prevailing motives by which our people have hitherto been actuated in attending worship. They consider that if they suffer teachers and missionaries to live among them in order to supply them with temporal necessities, and in a measure to insure the security of foreigners trading with them, that they are a praiseworthy people. But so soon as you get a sufficient acquaintance with their language to recommend to them the gospel of Jesus, to interfere with their idolatry, and to request them to receive and embrace Christ as freely offered in the gospel, so soon do they consider themselves justified in treating you as badly as they can in every imaginable shape and form—in threatening your life—nay, even in killing you, provided you persist in speaking to them of Jesus. In short, they will let you live if you let them die in their sins ; but life and property are not secure one day after God opens your mouth, and enables you to tell them faithfully of a heaven only for the children of God and of a hell for the workers of iniquity.

#### EVENTS OF LAST MONTH.

During the month of January our average male attendance has been nine and a quarter, three of whom were children. Fifty-seven on this side of the island have died of the after consequences of the measles, such as inflammation of the lungs, inflammatory sore throat, &c. One woman committed suicide in order to accompany her recently deceased husband to the world of spirits, preferring to die by her own hand rather than submit to the cruel torture and death which she knew awaited her. Two women were killed, their bodies exhibited at all the villages on this side of the island, feasted over at every village, and at every feast a portion of each body was eaten. We had two hurricanes, one on the 3rd, the other on the 10th, each of which has done much injury to native food and property—three earthquakes of greater or lesser violence, the last, on Sabbath the 20th, was the most severe I have ever felt. We have also had four terrific thunderstorms, all of which were accompanied with heavy rain. All things considered, the month of January, 1861, is one not soon to be forgotten on Tanna. Native report says that the mortality has been equally great at the other side of the island. We are exceedingly anxious to hear from Port Resolution—have not had any direct communication with that station for ten weeks, and know not how it fares with our dear brethren.

#### CALL FOR PRAYER.

Cease not to remember us and our poor natives when you go to the throne of grace. Did you know the state of dark Tanna we would not require to ask you to plead with God on their and on our behalf ; but of their darkness, of their degradation, and of their misery, you cannot form any conception. It is such as no pen can describe—such as no heart can conceive. Imagine a people led cap-