

allow them to come near to me. I shall not soon forget my feelings, as I for the first time, stood in the presence of naked heathen men and women. I shuddered at the sight, and thought it impossible to live with and love such beings. It is truly painful and humbling to see those of your own race, so dead to the sense of shame, so brutish in their appearance and movements, and so destitute of everything noble and exalted.—How mysterious, that a portion of the human family should be left without salvation, and knowledge; and allowed to become so beastly, degraded and vile. I felt in my heart, that if Christendom could but see their poor naked, degraded fellow-beings, they would certainly for the sake of their common humanity, put forth united efforts to clothe their naked and less favored fellow creatures.

June 1st, Saturday.—*Levuka Ovalau*.—It is now nearly four weeks since we landed on these Islands. During the time that has elapsed since our arrival I had an opportunity of seeing the operations and results of the Wesleyan Mission among these Islands. Our friends, at home, have not had so full and frequent accounts of the operations of this society in the South Seas as they have had of other societies engaged in the good work on these islands. A few general statements, respecting the progress of the Wesleyan Mission, in Polynesia, I trust, will therefore be both interesting and profitable.

The Mission Field occupied in Polynesia, by the Wesleyans, according to mutual arrangements with other societies, is the Tongan, or Friendly, and Fijiean Islands. The first efforts made towards the Christianisation of these people, were the landing of 10 mechanics, from the ship "Duff," Captain Wilson, on the Friendly Islands, in the year 1797. They met with little success.—Three of them were cruelly clubbed, one apostatised to Paganism, and the rest through privations, and continued discouragements, were glad to embrace the opportunity of being removed from these Islands in 1800. After this, these Islands appear to be neglected, until the arrival of the Rev. Mr. Lavery in Tonga, in the year 1822. He, however, did not remain long, and the evangelization of these Isles was not efficiently and permanently commenced, until the arrival of Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Mr. and Mrs. Hutcheson

in 1826. Since this period, the Wesleyan Missionaries exclusively have labored on the Tonga and Fiji Islands.—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas still survive, but they retired from the work last year.—The first dawn of success, beamed on the mission in the year 1827, since which time their labors have been abundantly blessed; until it may now be said the Tonguese are a christian people. In the Friendly Islands, the Wesleyans at the present time have 5 European Missionaries, and 8 ordained native assistant Missionaries. They have 150 chapels, 147 day schools, 647 day scholars, 144 local preachers, 890 class leaders, 7,874 full and accredited church members, and the total number of attendants on public worship is 19,874. The united population of the Friendly Islands is estimated at about 50,000. The Tonguese are represented as being an energetic, daring, and intellectual people—bearing a strong resemblance to the Samoans.

In 1835 the Wesleyan Society extended their mission operations from Tonga to the Fiji Islands. For a long time their missionaries met with little encouragement—labouring amidst many sore privations, cruel persecutions, frequent threats from the heathen that they would be clubbed, and perils on the sea and on the land. The first missionaries to these islands were most faithful and indefatigable men. They continued to persevere in the face of the most disheartening difficulties and opposition. Many of these have entered into their rest, without seeing any pleasing results from their labours. But during the last few years the mission has met with remarkable, and seldom equalled success. So that the present missionaries say: "Other men have laboured, and we have entered into their labours."—Of all the numerous groups of islands in Polynesia, Fiji is the most extensive, valuable and populous. The Fijians are emphatically a nation of cruel, awful cannibals. One of the missionaries in endeavouring to give me an idea of Fijian character, said it just accorded with Paul's description of the heathen in Romans, 1st chapter, and 26th verse, to the end. But a glorious change has been wrought upon many, of these degraded people. The entire population of Fiji is about 300,000. Of these, 60,000 have professed Christianity. There are in