

Santo natives against him and his wife. They have done what they could do to deceive the Aniwas and lead them to do us injury. Lately the *Dayspring* only escaped being taken and all on board murdered in similar revenge, by having to sail a few hours before the appointed time. Very many lives of both white men and natives are being taken in this revolting trade. And now the natives of almost every Island are thirsting for revenge, and those occupied by Missionaries are not excepted, and the following P. S., will show it is little wonder.

The Queensland Government and their friends in the Colonies and at home, including Mr. Monsel may gloss over those deeds of darkness and bloodshed, so as to mislead the Imperial Government and others in regard to the true character and doings of this trade, but certainly Queensland is responsible for all this loss of life and consequent misery. Surely those must be wilfully blind who do not now see, that so many of God's servants, and of others also could not fall in revenge for the doings of this trade, if it had been conducted as Queensland and her advocates have represented it. I believe neither Government Agents on board of slavers nor any measures for regulating it will do good. If the British Government do not condemn it altogether, and put it down as slavery, it will soon not only depopulate our islands, which to a large extent it has already done, for they have only a fraction of the inhabitants they had twelve years ago; but it will put an end to our mission, and to all missionary efforts among these islands; for all our lives are now endangered by its doings. Who will be its next victim? or how many more of us must fall before its suppression comes?

I remain,  
yours faithfully,  
JOHN G. PATON.

#### LATE DOINGS OF TRADERS.

P. S.—On the 26 of December last, "Capt. Hepburn or Sinclair," owner of the *Dagblucey*, called at this island with a returned laborer from Figee who had been away some six or seven years. The Captain at first refused to allow him to land because he said his payment had been left in Figee and he must return in his vessel for it. The man's father and friends implored me to try and get the Captain to allow him to land without payment, rather than take him back for it. Accompanied by some natives I visited the vessel, and informed the Captain of the desire of the lad's father and friends. The Captain said, "the man is afraid of them, and wants to go back with me to Figee." I cautioned him against his proposed course, and requested to see the

man. He went for him, but as a sail hid the other side of the vessel from my view, he quietly got into a boat with the man, and two white men, and some foreign natives, and left with all speed for the shore. He took three cheap muskets, some calico, and a few trifles on shore as his payment; but before he would land him and it, according to common custom in the trade now, he demanded three men or boys to be put into his boat in exchange for him. The natives at last agreed to his hard terms, and three lads were put into his boat in exchange to go to Figee, then the man and his payment were landed. After this, intoxicating drink was freely given to the natives, who would partake of it, probably to induce them under its influence to go with him, but as the Captain and his party had been drinking freely before, they quarrelled over it, when the three lads given in exchange escaped and they had quickly to make off for the ship.

Next day the captain, and two white men, and two degraded natives of Tauna, trained for the work of helping to decoy natives on board of such ships, and called "interpreters," went on shore in the boat at the other end of our island. They induced the chief to send off a man with the chief's old musket to be repaired, and sent on shore that night, or early next morning. As the man had not been sent back towards day-light, the chief sent off a canoe with his son, and a man, and one of my boys in it, to bring back his man and musket. My boy named *Noulou* went on board the vessel, as reported to me, to awake the man as all appeared asleep. And after the other two had waited without seeing any one till they became afraid, they hastened back to the shore. Instantly, they left the anchor was up, and the vessels sails set for Tauna, with a fair wind, and the two lads and chief's musket were taken away. I felt sorry for the loss of this lad and his chief, his father and his mother, were all very angry at his being so taken away, and said, but for the influence of Christianity they would have murdered us all.

P. S. No. 2.—The friends of this mission will be gratified to learn that the Rev. H. A. Robertson and his wife have reopened the Erromangan Mission. Let them have the prayers of all God's children for protection and success of this perilous situation.

#### The "Geddie Fund."

It is proposed to raise at least \$6000 as a Fund in honour of our lamented Missionary. It was originated in Halifax a few weeks ago, and liberal subscriptions have come in in aid of it, to the Treasurer of the Fund, A. K. MacKinlay, Esq.