

in his calmness in death, we may well "glorify God in him," and praise the giver of all grace for all that he has done for his servant—"for the good fight foughten well, and for the crown he weareth now." The Church that has a man given her of the self consuming zeal of Samuel Fulton Johnston, and is permitted to offer him to the service of God in the Mission field is highly honoured of God. Oh that a double portion of the same spirit were poured out upon all our ministers at home and abroad! Nor should we omit to remember how God has sustained the faith of all our agents in the Foreign field in all the trying scenes through which they have been called to pass.

It is no unimportant matter for gratitude, that God has given us such evidence of the reality of the work on Aneiteum, by the fiery trials to which the people there have been subjected. "That the trying of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, might be found into praise and honour and glory at the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ." God has been trying that people, and nobly have they stood the test. Christ has warned his ministerial servants, that they may expect many who at first promise well to fall away in the time of trouble; and among a people but recently reclaimed from the most degrading idolatry and taught to regard disease as the judgments of their gods none need have been surprised, if we had learned that of those who had professed Christ's name many had gone back and walked no more with him. In other Missions there have been at times sad defections. May not many of us have had our doubts of the genuineness of all that was reported to us? God has put them in the crucible, and has "sat over them as a refiner and purifier of silver," he has subjected them to tests, in their circumstances as severe as we need ever expect to see applied to any human society; and the result has been, that they have not fainted in the day of adversity, but have come out as gold tried in the fire. Thus the doubts of the Church have been reprov'd, and evidence afforded sufficient even to shut the mouths of gainsayers that the whole work is of the Lord. While multitudes have been cut down by death, let us rejoice with devout gratitude to God, that we were privileged to send them the words of everlasting life—that many are now with the spirits of the just made perfect, before the throne and shall meet us at the last day to rejoice with us as the humble instruments which God employed for sending them the gospel of salvation. And as we mourn over the multitudes of Tana and Erromanga swept into eternity without knowing a Saviour's love, let us ask why have they not the same hopes as the inhabitants of Aneiteum, why sent we not the gospel to them in time? They have passed away, and multitudes more are passing in like manner as hopeless and as miserable as they. What a call to be up and doing—to "work while it is day for the night cometh when no man can work."

We have also great cause of rejoicing in the evidence afforded, that these painful events have been already overruled for good, and in the prospect that they are yet likely to be the means more abundantly of advancing the cause of Christ in that quarter of the world. How wonderful that these events are already producing favourable impressions upon the minds of the remnant of the Heathen! Who that knew the views of that ignorant people regarding sickness and death, would not have expected that their prejudices against the gospel would have been not only confirmed, but excited to tenfold virulence! How remarkable that the Missionaries should have it in their power to bear decided testimony that, since these events, the minds of the inhabitants of Tana are more favourably disposed to the Mission than ever before. Truly God's ways are not as ours. Mr. Gill relates that on the island of Rarotonga in the year 1851 sickness so prevailed, that for a time Mission work was en-