

not uninterrupted good health. Their labors have been unwearied and their success by no means inconsiderable. While we advert to the testimony of an Erromangan Agent it may be well to observe that Mr. Gordon's estimate of the people around him and of his own labours, do not partake of the bright so much as of the dark side of the picture. We trace this to constitutional temperament, and as it is apparent in all his correspondence we may fairly conclude that he reports no favourable circumstance which we need take at any discount:

From his yearly Report, published in the June No. of the Register, we select the following items:—In the retrospect of and other year, he finds much, very much, reason to call to grateful remembrance deliverances from sickness, death and numerous evils. His estimate of the character of native teaching is by no means flattering. We can readily conceive from the testimony of the Secretaries of the L. M. S., that there is considerable ground for the assertion, that the native Teachers, as well as European Catechists, are prone to assume the air, and imitate or outvie the authority of Missionaries fully educated. Mr Gordon describes his trials from this source as far greater than the hostility of the heathen, open or covert. He reports, however, satisfactory progress in spiritual teaching. While last year he could only speak of the first principles of the gospel as made known to the people; now he speaks of the truth being so preached to their understanding as to affect their consciences. Under the exhibition of such truth as Dent. xxvii. 14—26, many heads are bowed down with shame. Under the missionary's stern denunciation of cannibalism, some retire, saying; would we could vomit up all the human flesh we have ever eaten. Although idolatry in various forms and war with all its horrors abounds around the missionary dwelling, some restraint, however, is already exercised, and arrows of conviction seem to be entering the hearts of these degraded heathen. In pride, lying, deceit, they show the very image of Satan. They do not hesitate to steal from the mission premises, even more freely than last year. By supplying the natives with food, which is scarce on the west side of the island, Mr Gordon has had houses built, and a church. He expects that the book of

Jonah and some other portions of the word of God will be put through the press shortly, thus providing the first portion of holy Writ in the Erromangan tongue. In a letter of date Oct. 22, 1859, the visit of the John Williams is specially noted as very opportune and of high consequence. Mr Turner, who first taught the Erromangans to know something of the gospel 15 years ago, now drew the attention of men, women and children, as he addressed them, describing his first interview with them, and reading the names of those he then had met. Within a week from this refreshing visit, the missionary's heart was again saddened by the recurrence of war. He has reason, however, to think that many engaged in the war must have had painful consciousness of sin in so doing. None of the killed had been eaten, and three had been buried not far from the mission.

It may be of some service to add here the testimony of other missionaries as to the state of Erromanga. Extracts from the Journal of the Rev. George Gill, published in the Missionary Magazine and Chronicle of the L. M. S., furnish us with the following particulars. But one chief has any direct intercourse with Mr Gordon. The wars in Erromanga are not very destructive of human life, as the natives have many large and fortified caves, into which they retire when pursued. By itinerating, Mr Gordon can address about 100 individuals every Sabbath. The administration of medicine has been attended with beneficial results, and has removed many former suspicions. Mrs Matheson writes: "the work here meets with a little encouragement. Oh, that Tana were in such a prepared state to receive the gospel." Who can doubt we respond to this fervent desire, that the heavy trials through which the Tanese mission has passed are just the divine preparation for a glorious harvest? He that goeth forth weeping, bearing his seed basket, shall doubtless return, bringing his sheaves with him.

We are now prepared to advance to the Island where our first missionary and his devoted partner still labor with unabated energy and continued success. Mr Geddies' journal appeared in the April No. of the Register.—From this most interesting document we glean the statistics and other important indices of his increasing usefulness. He repo