

ship, and for the protection of all Christians; and if you do not deliver up the murderers of Mr. Gordon, I will revenge his death."

A CONFLICT.

Nalig and his party were now being surrounded, and they refused to deliver up the murderers; and seeing that they must either fight or fall, one of them shot a heathen dead, and other three ran in among the heathen and three of them fell dead by the first blows of their tomahawks. On seeing this, the whole heathen party fled, and Nalig and his party got safe back to Dillon's Bay. They now resolved to leave off, for the time, any further attempts to rescue any more of Mr. Gordon's books or property. But made wood-fortification round the Mission Premises at Dillon's Bay, removed all their houses inside, and by keeping a constant watch, successfully warding off all further attacks from the heathen.

NATIVE TEACHER KILLED.

One of the oldest and best of the native teachers and a Christian, were murdered about the time of Mr. Gordon's death, but none have fallen since. After the Christian natives left with Nalig and Soso, they say the heathen assembled and burned Mr. Gordon's books and property, and boat, and made a fortification of the roof and wood of his house round a cave, in which they have been living ever since.

PROPOSAL TO EMIGRATE.

Though Nalig and his party requested the Mission to remove them to some island where they would be under the care and teaching of a missionary, yet, he said, they were willing to remain and teach themselves and the heathen, if the Mission so advised. He feared most from want of food, so many having unexpectedly assembled at one place. He added—"When the first Mr. Gordon was murdered, the Erromanga native Christians were few and weak, and afraid; but now we are many and strong, and God will help us to defend ourselves and extend his work among the heathen." I gave them what I could to help them in their present emergency, and such advice as they required; when, next morning, they returned to Erromanga weeping over their loss.

REVIEW.

Eleven years ago, a similar deputation of Erromangans, on their way to Anceyuan, called on me in Port Resolution, Tanna, with the sad news that, on the 20th of May, 1861, the Rev. G. N. Gordon and his wife had been murdered on that island by the heathen. I rejoiced to see his brother, the Rev. J. D. Gordon, at once offer to fill his place, and unfurl the banner of the cross

among his murderers, a hard and rugged field to work, and many trials in it; but God gave him wonderful success—first at Dillon's Bay, and afterwards at Portinia Bay, where he went to open a new station, when the equally devoted Rev. James and Mrs. McNair joined this Mission: and since Mr. McNair fell asleep in Jesus, Mr. Gordon did all he could for both stations, though 18 miles apart by land, and more than twice that distance by sea.

MR. GORDON'S WORK.

Mr. Gordon was an able and devoted missionary, who prayed and laboured incessantly and earnestly for the salvation of the heathen, and with gratifying success. Nor was his large heart satisfied with his work on Erromanga; he longed to see the Gospel extended to all our islands, and had Santo natives brought to Erromanga, from whom he learned the language, composed and got printed a small book in it. Spent one sailing season on Santo, and was the first to unfold the Gospel to its perishing thousands. He intended to return, but was prevented by the Erromangans requesting him to remain among them, and other circumstances.

HIS CHARACTER.

Some may say Mr. Gordon was a very peculiar man, but very few are without peculiarities. While living alone in his trying work, he may have become too easily offended with his friends, and given offence to them, but I am certain this arose from his acute sense of right and wrong, and from his constant desire to deal faithfully with all men, as in the sight of God. He was my intimate friend, and I know his whole desire was to good do to all men, while laboring for the salvation of the heathen. He now enjoys the Master's reward as promised to those who are faithful until death.

EFFECTS OF KIDNAPPING.

It is only a few months since good Bishop Patteson, Rev. Mr. Atkins and one of their native helpers were murdered in revenge for the dark deeds of the slavers in these seas. The Christian world has scarcely recovered from the shock caused by this painful announcement; when again it is reported, that the stealing of 10 young men by a slaver so aroused the heathen prejudices of the Erromangans, that the Rev. J. D. Gordon is murdered in revenge. How long this state of affairs will be allowed to go on, and in what it will end, God only knows. Those traders in human beings urged the Guna natives to murder Mr. Milne their Missionary, and in the Rev. J. Goodwill's last letter to me by the *Dayspring*, he says they are exciting the