

the natives. I can read the Testament, and pray, and have a sermon nearly prepared. Mrs. McCullagh is able to converse with the natives daily.

The warm months are approaching. In January and February you have snow in Nova Scotia. Here we have hot sultry weather, with the thermometer at 80° all night as well as during the day. At such a time there is no rest nor refreshing sleep, nothing but tossing to and fro the whole night.—Last night we had loud thunder and frequent flashes of lightning.

We had very dry weather since June, and now the rain has commenced. When it rains here it pours. Our friends at home know little what hardships are to be encountered from the climate alone. In cases of fever and ague the whole system is weakened and appetite fails. Dysentery and diarrhoea are very prevalent. Many of the natives are dilatory in applying for medicine, and hence deaths ensue for want of timely aid. A chief named Kanahath died suddenly from inflammation of the lungs. He thought little of it and none of us at the station knew about it till it was too late. I must conclude as the barque is about to sail.

I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

W. McCULLAGH.

Rev. J. Bayne, S. B. F. M. &c.

Erromanga.

(From the Miss. Magazine and Chronicle)

It is gratifying to turn from the despotic and oppressive measures exercised towards our missionaries and their people in the Loyalty Islands, to glance at the hopeful prospects which are supplied from Erromanga. In the former group of islands we have seen the twilight leading on the morning, and, as we hoped, a precursor of mid day; but suddenly the sky is overcast, and storm and tempest seem to be at hand.—But in Erromanga, where we have so long mourned over the total darkness, light is arising, and we trust that God is about to avenge the death of His saints by bestowing the blessings of grace and salvation upon the degraded and savage people.

The Rev. Samuel Ella, describing the present state and prospects of the island, writes as follows:—

"We were five days beating up in the Mission vessel 'Day-spring' from Fate to Erromanga. We made Dillon's Bay by nine a. m. on Saturday the 16th July.—The wind falling, we went ashore in the boat, and were nearly two hours pulling in. As we moved in close along the shore, natives came down to the rocks and shouted to us; some waved cocoa-nut leaves as a signal of good-will and invitation to land.

We did not know then that these were Christians, though we observed they were more decently clad than the heathen are. We approached the fatal bay with melancholy feelings: as we entered we saw very distinctly the scene which has so often been described. We found the Aneitemu teacher, and Joe and Kauiaui, and a large number of natives waiting to welcome us. They took us to their chapel, a very unpretending little place, and to the teacher's house. Joe at once informed us of the state of things on this island, and gladdened our hearts by the intelligence that about 300 people around the bay were attending the means of grace and were really anxious for instruction. They had within a few months erected four chapels. Several of the natives, we trust, have heartily embraced the truth, and are desiring to live in accordance with the will of God. We met about twenty of these. We paid a visit to the grave of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, on the right bank of the river. It was in a very dilapidated condition, but a new fence was being placed around it. Mr. Gordon, who was with us, was greatly moved at this scene. We all viewed this sacred resting-place of the remains of these martyrs for the Redeemer's cause, with feelings of hope, mingled with sorrow.

"In reference to the hopes which we may now entertain for Erromanga, we might have appropriated the words of Montgomery as we looked on the grave of these servants of God:—

'This place is holy ground:

World, with thy cares, away.

Silence and darkness reign around;

But, lo! the break of day.

What bright and sudden dawn appears
To shine upon this scene of tears!"

"The next day, Sabbath, we left the vessel at nine o'clock, and found a large company of natives assembled on the beach to greet us. We proceeded to the chapel for Divine service. I counted 120 in the building, and there remained about thirty outside, who could not obtain room within. Most of the assembly were tolerably well clad. Mr. Gordon read a chapter from his brother's MS. translation of Luke, and afterwards a short address. Mr. Inglis followed with a few words, interpreted by the teacher. We also had English services on board: that of the morning was attended by Mrs. Henry and her family, from Mr. H.'s sandal-wood establishment. Mrs. Henry showed us much kindness during our brief stay at Erromanga.

"The next morning we again visited the shore, and projected a journey to the place where Mr. and Mrs. Gordon resided at the time of their murder. Captain Fraser took his photographic apparatus to obtain views. The road was a difficult and steep ascent o