

The spirits of the dead are supposed to go *eastward*, but they do not know where. Spirits are also thought to roam the bush. *Nobu* is the name which they give to their great god. They say that after creating the human race at Erromanga, he went away to another land. When they first saw white men, they concluded that they were made by the same great spirit, and to this day call foreigners, whether white or black, by the name of *Nobu*. They say that "once upon a time" men walked like pigs, and the pigs walked erect! The birds and some reptiles had a meeting about it. The lizard said he thought the pig should go all fours, and the men walk erect. The "water-wagtail" disputed this. It ended in the lizard going up a cocoa-nut tree, falling on the back of the pig, and making it stoop, and creep as it now does, and ever since pigs creep, and men walk erect! The first of the human race, they say, was a *woman*, then her son, and from them sprung the race of men. They have many tales about the doings of that woman and her son.

Rain they suppose to be caused by the sun, and say that if he is a long time without giving any, some of the stars get angry and stone him until he causes rain to fall. In another curious fragment, we trace the Scripture account of the prophet Jonah. One of their people, they say, fell into the sea, and was immediately swallowed by a *whale*. After a time the projecting pieces of wood, which he wore horizontally as earrings, pricked the inside of the whale and made it vomit him forth again. He was still alive, but as he walked up from the beach he was thin and weak!

Monday, 17th October.—In the forenoon we parted with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, and there, as at Tana, it made us sad to think of but one solitary missionary on such an island. Another missionary should be sent out at once for Erromango.

NEW HEBRIDES.

We have been expecting letters of later date from our Missionaries in time for our present No., and especially to have had Mr. Geddie's account of his visit to Erromanga and other islands. In this expectation we have been disappointed, though we believe that private letters have been received. In the meantime we have pleasure in extracting from the *London Missionary Magazine*, an account of the visit of the *John Williams* to Savage Island and Erromanga. Our readers will be gratified with the interesting account of the progress which the gospel has made on the latter island, and with the encouraging prospects presented for prosecuting the work. Verily the labours of martyred Missionaries have not been in vain.

VOYAGES OF THE "JOHN WILLIAMS."

The voyages of the Missionary Ship in the South Pacific, during the past year, have been full of interest and importance. The Rev. A. W. MURRAY, who was one of the founders of the Samoan Mission in the year 1836, was appointed by his Brethren to visit the several islands in which Missions are already established, and to ascertain the practicability of introducing the Gospel among many populous islands yet shrouded in heathen darkness.

His copious journal contains many important and instructive statements affecting the numerous islands which he visited, and from these we make a selection of the following:—SAVAGE ISLAND, and ERROMANGA. With regard to the former, the readers of our Magazine will be prepared, by the report of Dr. Turner's visit in 1859, for the cheering statements which we now transcribe from the journal of Mr. Murray:—

SAVAGE ISLAND.

"The *John Williams* sailed from Apia for the Western Islands, on Monday the 12th of August. We had on board Mr. and Mrs. Lawes, proceeding to Savage Island, the sphere of labour to which they had been appointed. On the 13th, took on board Mr. Pratt and family, he having been appointed to accompany Mr. and