

ton left, there were three slavers in Havannah harbour—viz., "Daphne," "Marion Rennie," and "Lismore." The crews of these vessels formed an expedition to revenge the Nguna massacre. They set out on a Sabbath morning, but instead of going to the guilty district, they went to the mission premises. The teachers were conducting worship with some natives at the time of their arrival. The meeting was broken up, all the teachers were put in irons, and one young man was shot dead at the door of the teachers' house. The party then called for fire to burn the missionary's house, but providentially none could be procured, and they contented themselves with breaking a new cooking-stove which they saw in the cook-house. The teachers and the wives were taken in irons to Havannah Harbour, and kept prisoners in the slavers. Loaded guns and knives were held to their breasts, and they were threatened with death if they did not confess that the crew of the "Fanny" were massacred by Mr. Milne's orders, but all efforts to extort a confession was vain. Mr. Milne returned home to a desolate station, but found the teachers at Havannah Harbour, much dispirited after the infamous treatment they had received.

#### TONGOA.

We met with a welcome reception at this island. When we landed, the natives knew us and ran, calling out, Missionary! missionary! The word of our arrival soon spread, and in a short time a large crowd of unarmed natives were assembled on shore. We went to the village, which is about half-a-mile from the landing-place. I had two Rarotongan teachers and their wives with me, whom I intended to leave here; but the chief was absent, and nothing could be done until his return. He was shooting pigeons on the mountain, and we sent after him. A meeting was held after the return of the chief, and the question of receiving teachers talked over. He told us that war was raging on the island at the time, and the teachers would not be safe. Only a few days before we arrived, ten men had been killed fighting, and a renewal of hostilities was daily expected. Under those circumstances, we abandoned the idea of leaving teachers for the present. We parted good friends, and hope that we may be able, at no distant time, to settle teachers on this interesting island.

I met at Tongoa a party from Moi, or Three Hills, which is ten miles distant. The party consisted of twenty persons, and they had come in a large canoe. I had been on their island about eighteen months ago, and they were glad to see me here.

At the time of my visit, about twenty natives were stolen from their island by the

schooner "Flirt," and carried off to the Fijis. The captain had engaged to take them to the neighbouring island of Apea, and bring them home in three days, for which he was to be paid in pigs. Twenty natives were too strong a temptation for the cupidity of the captain, and, instead of bringing them back to their own island, he carried them into bondage. I was an eye-witness of this outrage myself.

#### SANTO.

We brought Mr. and Mrs. Goodwill to their station at Cape Lisburn. The natives were delighted to see them. The mission premises had been well looked after during Mr. Goodwill's absence.

A vessel had been at this place a short time before our arrival for the purchase of natives. I saw axes, and very large and heavy knives, apparently made for the trade, which were given as payment. When I asked the price of a native, the people answered that they received one axe and two knives, or one axe and one knife, for a man, according to his capacity for labour.

A native who can talk a little English came on board while we lay at anchor. He brought with him a very good gun, which he said would not go off. On examination, we found that on loading her he had put in the bullet first and the powder last. We thought she was safer in his hands loaded as she was, and declined removing the charge. The native told us that the gun was the payment he received for inducing some inland natives to go to the Fijis, by assuring them that they would be brought home at the end of one yam season, with quantities of property which he found it difficult to enumerate.

During our visit, I made inquiries about a village on the opposite side of the bay, where I had been well received on a former occasion. I was warned against going to the place. The natives say that a slaver called last year, and employed a native man known as "Santo Jack" to bring off six women for licentious purposes, which he did. When the women were on board, the vessel got under way, and carried them off, as well as the man who had been the instrument of their degradation. They are now labouring on the plantations in Fiji. The enraged husbands now seek revenge, and are on the lookout for the first white man who may fall into their hands.

The natives of Cape Lisburn gave us a letter addressed to the resident missionary. It had been left in their charge, shortly before, by the schooner "Stormbird," of Queensland. The letter was written by Mr. Watson, the agent on board. He wished to inform us that the "Stormbird" had lost her mate, a seaman, and native at Caba or Lepers' Island. The three men