

obliging men also, and have often conveyed goods and letters to and from the other islands free of charge. Captain Hastings of the *Sea Gull* spent nearly a fortnight at Tanna in assisting Mr. Paton when his life was endangered, and he has called several times at Fate to let us know how Mr. Morrison was, and to leave any papers or parcels for him. Captain Ware of the *Coquette* in which Mr. Geddie went to Sydney from Aneiteum, is also very obliging, and has brought us news from Bromanga repeatedly, and also removed Aneiteumese teachers when the Tanese persecuted them. Captain Townsend of the *Adolphus Yates* was also ready to do any service to benefit this mission. Mr. Geddie got a free passage to Sydney when he took Lathella and his wife and some others in 1864. The expenses then were about £60 I heard Mr. Geddie say, but Captain Burns generously gave the passage. I may also mention that my own supplies from Sydney in March last were brought in the *Coquette* free of charge owing to the kindness of Mr. Dawson. It is necessary that my supplies should come thus, in order that we may be in a better state of preparation for the reception of new brethren, and also to give more space in the *Day Spring* which is well-filled when leaving Sydney.

I have dwelt thus particularly on some points requiring a little special attention, for, though things have been said and done by many employed in the sandal-wood trade which are altogether unjustifiable, still this is no reason for condemning the doings of *all* in that trade, or not cheerfully acknowledging kindness and courtesy shown by those who are civil and obliging and ready to benefit the mission often at great inconvenience. To captain Burns then and his agent Mr. L. Dawson, and the captains who sail from this harbor as already mentioned, it is only just and courteous to tender this public acknowledgment. * * * * *

What a contrast is here now. Instead of snow we have great heat all day, and not much modified during night.—Last year this month was rather cold,

but we are more than satisfied with the heat now. Since the 7th of this month, I have scarcely known what a sound sleep is.

HEALTH AT THIS STATION.

On the whole we have reason to bless a gracious Providence in whom we live, move, and have our being, for His great mercy to us and loving kindness in this respect. Until lately, I have not had more than a days indisposition, occasionally after a wetting or remaining out too long after sunset. But my wife has suffered severely on two or three occasions,—first from fever and ague, followed by inflammation of the eyes, and also from severe pains in the face and head as well as toothache for an accompaniment. Our infant had very severe attacks of fever and ague, but is now much improved and looks well. The first death in our household was that of a young man in February last, his death was caused by eating a poisonous fish, and not getting the remedy promptly.

The next death in the *ninnim* here was that of little Alice, whose father taught in Tanna till he was driven away this year. This little girl was one of the best readers for her age that we have had, and was a decidedly good child. Like the youth referred to she was prepared for death, and I have no doubt is now happy with her Saviour. There have been several cases of illness here such as fever and ague, and colds after wet weather.—Young people here are not careful as at home to change or dry their clothes, and suffer accordingly. The most difficult case I had to deal with in surgery, was that of a little girl named Melissa, whose hand was almost severed from the wrist by a fish. In the course of a month, however, she was quite well, and can now use her hand freely. In this climate wounds require prompt attention and careful management. The flies are very irritating in cases of sores. Next to fever and ague, sore feet and sore eyes are most common. In many cases the suffering is protracted from want of application in time. It is not uncommon on this island