

under construction, extending communication past Blantyre and Lake Nyassa. The poles are to be of iron.

—A pathetic touch is given to the close of the career of Lobengula, the vanquished King of Matabeleland, by a recent English writer, who states that when Lobengula saw that war would certainly come, he sent a message to all the white people living in his country, including women and children, informing them that in the event of war he could not protect them, advising them to leave the country, and promising an escort beyond his boundaries. As the result, not one was harmed, and nothing belonging to them was lost or damaged.

—The Moravians have now 5 missionaries at their stations to the north of Lake Nyassa, only 1 of them with a wife. A day's journey off is the Berlin mission, and not very far away is Livingstonia, the Scottish Free Church field.

ISLANDS OF THE SEA.

—What wonders to civilization and Christianity have been wrought under the Southern Cross within a generation or two! For even Australia, and New Zealand, and "Van Diemen's" Land are now missionary centres, and are sending out consecrated men and women by the score to evangelize their still benighted neighbors. A few weeks since 5 missionaries sailed from Sydney to reinforce the Wesleyan mission in New Guinea.

—Let the heralds of the cross, before they have thoroughly mastered the language of the people to whom they are sent, beware, lest in their ignorance they preach deadly heresy. Rev. W. E. Bromilow has this to confess concerning himself in the early days of his work in New Guinea: "I remember that through the peculiar affirmatives and negatives I misunderstood a native who was helping me in the preparation of an address, and I said with all earnestness, 'Geebo ua ona 'ai 'aila. Ona

'ai 'aila i to umalina sinabwana.' 'Do not speak the truth. To speak the truth is very bad.' For months we used the expression, 'Goseda i to 'umalina' in the Lord's prayer for 'Him the evil one,' when it really means 'our friend the evil one.' I had often heard this word *goseda*, and from interpreters and others learned that it was used like our pronouns he and him. I tried it often, and it was always '*goseda*.' But one day I caught the word '*gosiagu*' and found out that it meant '*my friend*,' whereupon I asked for '*our friend*' and other forms, and I then ascertained that I had been calling the evil one '*our friend*,' because this term is in constant use in the place of the name of any one."

—Rev. H. A. Robertson, one of the missionaries of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, writing from Eromanga, New Hebrides, says, "We dispensed the Lord's Supper in July last at Dillon's Bay to 200 people, and on that day Narie Tangkow, the eldest son of the murderer of John Williams, was baptized in the presence of 700 people, and took his place at the communion table. A great sight it was, and would have rejoiced any one with a heart in him to have seen it. We have 50 teachers and 250 communicants."

—A clear sign that some of the islands of the Gilbert group are coming out of their heathenism is that the King of Butaritari recently refused to have any of his people go to San Francisco for the purpose of giving an exhibition of heathen manners and customs. This king, so recently enlightened, shows a keener sense of propriety and less greed of gain than do a host of people in civilized lands.

—In Malaysia is a population of 60,000,000, mostly Mohammedan Malays. The British and Foreign Bible Society has several European colporteurs at work and twenty-five who are natives. At Singapore alone Bibles are furnished in forty-five different languages.