

Three couples were married, of whom three persons were church members.

The average attendance on school is about 40; and the audience on Sabbath increased to about 50. These are small results numerically, and yet, all things considered, they are very large.

DEATHS.

The death list is unusually long. It is as follows:

Killed in battle.....	20
Murdered.....	11
Died, (men 31, women 19)....	50
Children 11, infants killed, 2..	13
Died of the epidemic, July....	40

Total.....134

Born—males, 10, females, 4.. 14

These statistics are chiefly taken of Dillon's Bay and vicinity, but include others with which we have more or less intercourse.

INDUSTRY.

The external improvements have been very considerable. Their plantations have been enlarged, though the yam crop, on account of a long drought, was light. Between 20 and 30 houses, which gives an average of two each to our young men, have been erected. Half as many new canoes were made. The night and day watches fell, towards the close of the year, into desuetude, our little community having felt a sense of security notwithstanding the continuous fighting around—to which, heretofore, they were strangers. As many as 7 or 8 little boys were generally on the premises, whom I formed into a Sabbath School class, commencing eight months ago. Generally speaking, we lived unmolested; but of late the remaining offspring of the first old murderer have been showing their teeth, though afraid to bite. There will be no security here so long as there are two sticks of that rook's nest together.

THE EPIDEMIC.

An epidemic, resembling diphtheria in some respects, and influenza and scarletina in others, but which did not affect all persons alike, made its appearance among us in the end of June, about ten days after the arrival of the *Dayspring* from Melbourne, though there is nothing definite to lead one to suppose it was conveyed by her. After her visit we expected to have had the whooping cough, but have had that form of disease which proved so fatal last year on Aneiteum. Nearly all on the mission premises, besides some who came for medical aid, were down with it; but not many died. The most malignant form which the disease assumed was the one which seized the throat, which rapidly filled up with a viscid phlegm, the nose also with nasal mucus,

which in a few instances terminated in suffocation in 24 or 30 hours. In other cases the chest was attacked, but usually the head first, with a violent head-ache, which soon produced a high state of febrile excitement. As may well be imagined the poor people are greatly alarmed. In some quarters a few indications appear of its being turned in favour of Christianity; but in most cases the old tradition sways the multitude, and this is what we may expect. The sickness has put an end to the fighting for the present. Hostilities are suspended. All the schools have been closed now for a long time; but one has been recently opened in Cook's Bay, though I am apprehensive for the safety of the teacher. One has been ready a long time for Portenia Bay, but is still with us. We hope to be able to re-open some schools soon.

CHRISTIAN KINDNESS.

Our friends in Australia have been mindful of us. We have received, and do still receive, very great kindness from the Rev. George Mackie and Mrs. Mackie, of South Yarra, Melbourne. This year we got a box from Mr. Mackie's Sunday School, worth £7 10s., which sum was expended in purchasing the material with which it was filled. It was probably worth £10 sterling. Mr. Mackie has a thriving congregation, and a large-hearted one, to whom I feel under deep obligations.

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of a box of goods from Nova Scotia, which proved quite acceptable, and of very great service.

Dr. Steel informs me that he received £5 from St. Barnabas' Church, Sydney, for the use of this mission. I may remark here that this is not the first instance of disinterested kindness having been shown by our Episcopal friends of these sons of consolation. A few years ago I saw a subscription paper of the Rev. W. W. Gill, Mangaia, for contributions towards a monumental stone, to be erected to the memory of the missionaries who had fallen here; and opposite the congregation of St. B. was £5, and a guinea followed the pastor's own name. I hope to be excused for mentioning this now; but after their last spontaneous gift I have been led to do it.

TRANSLATION AND PRINTING.

Last year I had printed a translation of "Leitch's Scripture Catechism for Beginners." I had this done through the kindness of Mr. Mackie, who did his part well; but the printer nearly spoiled it entirely, by setting it up in small type. It is well covered, and contains a brief primer under the same covers. There are 1500 copies. I do not yet know the cost; but printing in the Australian colonies, like many other