

they learn much from listening to others. Many of them can repeat the catechism, the ten commandments, and portions of scripture, who have not yet been able to learn the alphabet. The schools meet at sunrise, as any other time would be unsuitable to the natives. After school is over they go to their work. In a few years, when our scholars are confined to the young, the schools will be reduced in number and size.

At each of the two principal stations there is an advanced school. Each of these schools is attended by about 100 scholars, chiefly young men and young women of promise. Instructions are given in reading, writing and cyphering, geography and scripture history.—The school at my station has been under Mrs. Geddie's charge for nearly three years, but as its duties are now becoming too burdensome for her, I hope as soon as our new church is completed to assist her in it. There are scholars attending it from all parts of the district, who live in grass houses built near the mission premises. We are about to build a new school house, as the one which is now occupied has become entirely too small for the number who attend.

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the translation of the New Testament in this language, has been completed. About two-thirds of it have been printed, and the remainder is in manuscript. We hope to have a new and revised edition of it printed by the British and Foreign Bible Society.—Mr. Inglis, who expects to go home in the "John Williams," will carry it through the press. In a language so recently reduced to a written form, we have found some difficulty in expressing the truths of divine revelation as intelligibly as we could wish, yet I hope that our version does not contain any material errors. I feel thankful to God that I have been permitted to share in the work of translating a portion of his Holy Word in a new language.

The natives of this island, I believe, appreciate what has been done for them, and they have always shown a readiness to relieve as much as possible the expenses of the mission. For some years past they have made annual collections of native property, consisting of mats, &c., for the heathen islands around us. We have found their contributions useful for our teachers, and also as presents

to friendly chiefs and others. But we have recently suggested to our natives the duty of doing something for the cause in a way that may directly aid themselves, and eventually make the mission self-supporting. They have cheerfully agreed to this, and at our suggestion the people of most of the villages have made small plantations of arrow-root, which, when ripe, will be prepared and collected at our annual missionary meetings. It will then be exported and sold for the benefit of the mission. There is no other way in which, in the present circumstances of the island, the natives can directly aid the cause. I cannot promise that much will be done for some years, but we labor among a people who appear to be willing to do what they can.

You will regret to hear of the death of Nohoa, the principal chief of the district in which I reside, and the man of highest standing in the island.—When we arrived at this island we found him a savage and wicked man, who was much feared and hated by his people. He allowed us to land, but gave us little encouragement to hope that he would ever embrace Christianity. His influence indeed was for a long time directed against the cause.—After some years his opposition calmed down, and he eventually abandoned heathenism. He took the side of Christianity at the very time when the mission was in the midst of its greatest trials. His previous hostility had been so marked that his sincerity was for some time doubted, but he soon gave evidence of it, by giving up many heathenish customs, parting with one of his wives, abandoning the use of kava, cutting off his long hair, &c. All his influence was now exerted in favor of Christianity, when the heathen were threatening our own lives and the destruction of all the Christian party. I shall never forget his kindness to myself and my family when my house was set on fire at midnight by the heathen. For more than two months after this event he slept in my house every night for our safety, and said that the heathen must kill him before doing any injury to us. Indeed had not this man been raised up to befriend the mission, it is questionable if it would have risen above the opposition arrayed against it. After Nohoa embraced Christianity, he became a humble disciple at the feet of