

will I presume be enabled to report progress when he writes you. Judging from a brief note received a few days ago I infer that he and the Fateans are getting along together beautifully. It is but fair to state too that the Fateans have given me a helping hand by sending me mats (the natives of this island do not make mats) for my new house. And further the payment demanded is simply stones, (for native ovens), of which there is abundance in this Arabia Petrea.

Two months have elapsed since my settlement here, during which time I have been the daily recipient of many benefactions from a covenant-keeping God. My health is good. I am much stronger than I was this time last year. This may be chiefly attributed to the physical exercises (for these are various in this part of the world) through which I have rather involuntarily gone.—To work from morning to night with the natives of these seas, who many a time sorely try your patience, may be humiliating, but it is also invigorating. One great stimulus to this exercise with me was living in a native house, windowless, and otherwise inconvenient. Every time one entered it, or came out of it, he was obliged to do obeisance, and that too, with no feigned attitude.

I am now in a house of my own, I am thankful to say, and in this respect am better provided for than was the Son of Man, who had not where to lay his head.

Though there has been a great change for the better since 1861, it is still but the day of small things. On Sabbath, June 21st, 1857, only twelve came to the house of God in the morning and but 8 in the afternoon. The average attendance at the Bay alone since my arrival has been about 140 morning and evening. Of these, however, but few have said "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord." There are many who endeavour to serve the Lord and Baal too, inasmuch as they attend worship, and make and go to Nesekavas, feasts. Feasting appears to be the great curse of the island just now. There are no wars, and any fighting done is of a private character. The attendance at school is but small, not exceeding on an average daily 25.

A small primer has been recently published, which with the gospel according to Luke give an impetus to the cause of education. The primer has been and Luke is being printed on Aneiteum by Mr. Ella. Thus though shut out from Uea at the time when we came important service has thereby been rendered the mission on this island. The execution of the printing or letter press is excellent.

I have not been here a sufficient time to know much of the "regions beyond" Dillon's Bay. The greater number of the chiefs of the island, important and unimportant, have paid me their respects. I hope to be enabled by and by to return their visit.

Clothing is now in demand. I was glad to find some articles of ready made clothing in the box—a very good one indeed made up for me in Pictou. Mr. Copeland has made a few more in addition, so that we have sufficient for "the present distress." It will be the part of you and of other friends of the Redeemer's kingdom to pray that "I who appear clothed on the Sabbath day may be found likewise in their right mind." Both of these things I am assured and can assure you, can be predicated of at least a few of the natives of this island, of how many it would be presumption to say, but I think of at least two dozen. A dozen young men, who desire to become teachers are now receiving farther instructions in divine things. As there are a few places needing their presence, I shall (D. V.) in the course of a few weeks, baptize some or all of these, and send forth half of the number and keep the others as a relay to take their places in the course of a few months.

The exiles have all returned but one. The last of them, two young men, came in a sandal wood vessel from Mare a few days ago.

There are, notwithstanding, as in the days of yore, several things to hinder the advancement, and retard the development of the Redeemer's cause in this island. Some of these come from without, others from within. Some of these are in us, who are engaged in carrying on a work about which we are unfit to have anything to do. The adverse influences which have operated against the cause of Christ here still exist to a great extent, so that whatever has been achieved has been gained "not by might nor by power."

You know how to order your petitions for the cause of God on Erromanga.

Yours as ever,
JAMES D. GORDON

Letter from Rev. Wm. McCullagh.

ANEITEUM, NEW HEBRIDES,

Oct. 10th, 1864.

My Dear Sir,

The barque *Feronia* is here just now on her way to China with sandal wood, and I embrace the opportunity to write a few lines.

The *Dayspring* is now at Fate or Erromanga or some of the islands to the north, with supplies for native teachers previous to her last visit *en route* for Adelaide and Hobart Town. Mr. and Mrs. Copeland and Mrs. Fraser have gone this time. Mr. Reid and C. Lycon are repairing the *John Knox* to go to Caledonia for a permit to land goods for the Loyalty brethren in return for favors done by the *John Williams*.

I am labouring now as hard as I can to learn the Aneiteumese, so as to understand