

mainland at "Naone," a mile or so from here, because he had broken "taboo." He had eaten some food cooked on a fire not belonging to his "caste." He asked Mr. Annand if he might come and work for him. We were very glad to have him come and stay with us. He is Mr. Annand's best scholar. They at the village do not object to his staying here. He seems quite happy, and not the least afraid of eating our food. The men are all in different classes or "castes," according to the number of tusked pigs they have killed. No woman can eat food cooked on the fire used for the men's food. Bassi's wife would like to come here also, but some at the village object to her staying here, and her husband thinks it better that she remain and look after their little property, lest his enemies take possession of it. She is here nearly every day, and often brings him a "yam" or "taro" pudding. He may be forgiven any day and taken back. We should like to keep him with us.

I must now draw to a close, as it is getting late. Would you kindly address your next letter to the care of Rev. Dr. Steel, Sydney, N.S.W. Letters are safer addressed thus. He is our agent in Sydney, and he forwards our letters, etc., by the "Dayspring." The steamer which calls at Efate is no benefit to us, as the letters forwarded by her often lie at some trader's station until the "Dayspring" picks them up. Sometimes a man-of-war or a labor vessel brings them to Malo, an island about nine miles from here. Again thanking you and those connected with you in the Lord's work for your kindness, and wishing you all God-speed, in which Mr. Annand unites.

Letter from Mrs. Gibson.

EDINBURGH HOUSE, *August 29, 1889.*

MRS. GIBSON.—You doubtless think it strange that I have not ere this replied to your kind letter and sent the address for which you asked. Owing to the absence of Rev. W. B. Ritchie, Secretary of the Mission Council, I was unable to get the necessary information till yesterday, although I wrote about it three times.

Mr. Ritchie desires me to thank the ladies who have so kindly