

great desire to see him. He was one of the chiefs whose district was devastated when the *Curacoa* visited Tana. It was supposed that he was one of Mr. Paton's enemies, but the latter has found out recently that he went after night, at some risk, during the prevalence of civil war, and nailed up his house to save its contents, in the meantime he has been punished for destroying the property which he made every effort to save. Since this unhappy affair he has assumed a hostile attitude. He could never be induced to go on board of the *Dayspring*, and has always treated missionaries with a gloomy reserve. He came to see me on his arrival here, for we were friends in former years. He began to tell me about the man-of-war's doings in his land, but I declined expressing an opinion about events which took place in my absence. I reminded him however that I had on a former occasion stood between the Tannese and trouble with a man-of-war, and would do so if necessary in time to come. I asked him to accompany me on board of the *Dayspring*, which he did, and I introduced him to Capt. Fraser, who gave him a present, and the receipt of this makes them friends. The question of receiving a missionary next came up. He said that they had received a missionary formerly, who told them that it was wrong to fight, and advised them to give up their wars; and then brought a man-of-war to kill them and destroy their property. He wanted to know the missionary before he would give his consent. I told him that Mr. Neilson, my son-in-law, was not settled yet, and perhaps he might go to Tana. He shook hands with him though he would not speak to him a few weeks ago on Tanna, and said he was welcome to take up his abode on Tana, that no person should injure him if he could prevent it; and he might choose any spot of land for a house and it would be given to him. I trust that our interview will lead to some important results in relation to Tana. I have known *Nauka* for many years, and though he is a dark-hearted heathen and a notable warrior I have always found him straightforward, and have much confidence in him. His consent opens Tana once more for the gospel, never again to be closed I hope, until the name of Jesus shall be known throughout the length and breadth of that dark island. I look on the visit of *Nauka* to this island as most providential. The *Dayspring* had just arrived from Fate, bringing such tidings as led us to view the part of Fate where Mr. Neilson intended to settle as closed. Our thoughts turned to Tanna, but the barrier there was the want of *Nauka's* consent, and it seemed very doubtful if that would be given. Let us thank God that the way is now so clear. I trust that the missionary brethren will

consent to the speedy occupation of this island, and that Mr. Neilson, if he goes to it, may soon be joined by others.

CONCLUSION.

I beg in conclusion to call your attention to the claims of this large group of islands. We want a few more missionaries at present to fill up openings, and we want others to help to open for themselves. We need men of intellect, energy and enterprise; men of faith and prayer, whose hearts have been warmed with love to Christ, and who are willing to "spend and be spent for Him;" men who have counted the cost, and are prepared to stand in the might of God, and do battle for His truth against the powers of darkness. Are there no young men willing to forsake the endearments of home and to come far hence, and preach among these Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ? If the missionary work has its troubles it has its joys also, and its repulsiveness as well as its fascinations appears greatest in the distance.

Ever yours, &c.,

JOHN GEDDIE.

Rev. J. Bayne, D.D., Sec. B. F. M.

Letters from the New Hebrides.

We have received the annual reports of Messrs. Morrison and Gordon. Mr. Morrison's contains an interesting account of his work. He is laboring without molestation, and his work seems to be making steady progress. We shall publish extracts in our next.

Mr. Gordon's report is of considerable length, and contains several matters of deep interest. The war previously referred to had continued to rage for more than a year previous, and as many as thirty had been killed, a number of them chiefs. Mr. Gordon gives an interesting account of his visit to the other side of the island, where he found encouraging prospects for the settlement of a missionary. Our readers are aware that Mr. McNair has since been settled there.

But perhaps the most interesting portion of his report is an account which he gives of the death of Kowiowi. It will be remembered that he is the man who killed John Williams. Since that time, he at one time professed a desire for missionaries, and at times professed a friendship for them, but they never trusted him, and always believed