

and demanded of the head chief the murderers. He acknowledged having killed them, and it was supposed he had eaten them. Inflicted a fine of 15 pigs. The natives delivered only four, and then escaped. The canoes were then destroyed and the village set in flames.

December 22.—Corporal Marcus died from the effects of the poisoned arrow.

December 26.—Touched at Pentecost Island; the natives were inclined to be hostile.

December 27.—Called at Aurora Island. As the natives appeared friendly, the boat was sent on shore. Paymaster Hill had just got out and sat down on the beach when one of the natives clubbed him, inflicting two severe wounds. The men took to the boat, and the ship commenced to shell the village, which caused an immediate flight of the inhabitants. The village was destroyed, also the canoes. Left in the evening for Tana. After this nothing particular took place.

The *Rosario* arrived at New Caledonia on the 20th January, and left on the 29th. Arrived at Sydney on the 8th February, at 6 p. m.

This record will be read with deep distress by missionaries and persons interested in missions. Such attacks on the natives of the islands will only exasperate them. The tone of public opinion in England may be judged from the fact that at a large and influential meeting held lately in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, to honor the memory of the massacred Bishop Patteson, where the Bishop of Oxford presided, supported by Mr. Gathorne Hardy, M. P., the dignitaries of the University, the Bishop of Lichfield, and Bishop Abrahams, it was decided that the best way of venerating the Bishop's memory would be by providing for the permanence of Melanesian missions, and the shelling of the village of Nupuka by H. M. S. *Rosario* was sharply and emphatically censured. Bishop Abrahams, in moving resolutions for prompt Government interference to repress the Pacific slave trade, said they did not want such interference as that of the *Rosario*, and strongly deprecated such unchristian vengeance. Professor Palmer characterized the shelling of a village containing women and children as infinitely more savage and barbarous than the massacre of the Bishop. It had evoked indignant protests from that meeting and

throughout the entire country. The Bishop of Oxford also expressed indignation at the act.

HOME MISSIONS.

The readers of the *Record* so often peruse letters and reports concerning our Foreign Mission work, that they are very apt to overlook, to some extent, the claims which the home heathen have upon them. It is easy for us to wax enthusiastic when we hear of souls being brought to Christ from among the fierce Cannibals of the South Sea Islands, or the degraded Coolies of Trinidad, and yet we should not forget the quiet plodding work of our home evangelists, but remember that there are grief darkened homes in our own land requiring the light of the Gospel. To carry the glad tidings of Jehovah to these homes, or those living in spiritual destitution in our midst, is just as pleasing to God as to enlighten the darkness of heathendom. It is just as lovely to extend a helping hand and lift out a brother from the mire of sin and vice in our cities, towns, and country settlements, as to elevate a heathen world. Cases of home heathenism are sometimes met with by our catechists, probationers and ministers, of a lamentable type, which cannot be made public in the columns of the *Record*. Oftentimes much has to be suppressed which, if published, would lead us perhaps to take greater interest in the Home Mission enterprise, whilst it would not in the least lessen our interest in the Foreign Mission. Those whose lines have fallen unto them in pleasant places, could they glance at some of our Gold Fields, explore some of our shore regions, and visit some of our back settlements, would behold instances (not a few) of home heathenism, though of a different type, yet just as degrading as the heathenism of the South Sea Islands. Think of localities where the Gospel is rarely preached, where intemperance, Sabbath desecration and immorality abound where no family altars are erected, and children are almost wholly ignorant of the plan of salvation. There are harbours along our shores where no minister is