

of over sixty miles. We certainly would not have risked such a voyage in an open boat, but we could not help ourselves. The Mission vessel had left for Australia some time previously, and the Captain of a trading vessel, who promised to call for us in November, had his vessel taken from him, and could not therefore keep his engagement with us.

The Eromanga crew remained with us over Sunday, and on Tuesday the Rev. Mr. Watt and I went to the harbor with them, and the next morning they sailed again in the Yarra Yarra, for Eromanga, and Mr. Watt, and I walked overland to this station. Mrs. Robertson and I have been just one month with Mr. and Mrs. Watt, not doing very much but visiting some of Mr. Watt's out-districts, reading a little and writing some. I am preparing sermons, both in English and Eromangan; but not having an Eromangan interpreter with me, I make but comparatively slow progress, as the interpreter must supply the place of grammar, dictionary and translation. Mr. Watt has an excellent printing press, and offers to print in Eromangan any hymns I may make or translate. I intend to try one or two, but, as we have already a very good collection left in manuscript by Mr. Gordon, and which Mr. Paton printed for me last year, I am not anxious to do much at hymn-making.

Things are going on quietly at this station—nothing very exciting. Occasionally a Tanna man demonstrates his affection towards his wife by knocking her down with a bludgeon. Since our arrival we have witnessed three or four such scenes. Last week a tribe near the harbor shot four men belonging to another tribe, which tribe in turn killed five of their enemies and wounded two. Those who have lost most heavily are now waiting an opportunity to kill one or two, and thus square accounts.

I fear I have not been so mindful of writing to the Church as I ought to have been: but really I have been so occupied with our settlement in Eromanga that I have been unable to write; and when the *Paragon* left us last September I had not one letter written, and since that time there has been no opportunity of sending any letters to Sydney or Melbourne for Nova Scotia or any other place. However, now that our house is finished, and a number of teachers settled, and the island visited, I hope to be able to keep up regular correspondence with the Church, whose servant I am.

By the minutes of Synod which I sent on by Mr. Goodwill from Sydney, you will see that I have not succeeded in getting a fel-

low-laborer for Eromanga. The Cook's Bay people are very anxious for a missionary. I have several teachers settled at Cook's Bay, and about 100 natives attend their services.

Church Members on Eromanga when I was settled ..... 8  
 Church Mem. suspended ..... 2  
 Church Members died ..... 1  
 New Ch. Members admitted Jan 12, 1873 8  
     do      do      do Aug. do do 5  
 Ch. Mem. now on Eromanga ..... 19  
 Restored Church Member ..... 1  
 Total admitted by me ..... 13  
 Schools when I was settled ..... 1  
     do now in operation ..... 10  
 Natives attending Church on Eromanga 200  
 Island in a very encouraging condition.  
 Health of myself and family excellent.

Yours ever sincerely,

H. A. ROBERTSON,

TANNA, NEW HEBRIDES, }  
 March 30th, 1874.

REV. WM. McMILLAN, M. A., Sec. F. M.  
 P. C. M. P., B. N. America.

REV. AND DEAR SIR.—One of Mr. Neilson's natives came overland to-day with a few letters (no home letters) from Missionaries, and as this postman is returning to the harbor (Port Resolution) early to-morrow morning, I am anxious to write you a few hurried lines with the hope that Mr. Neilson may be able to forward to Sydney direct, or *via* New Caledonia by some vessel ere long.

Mr. Neilson wrote to-day and stated in his letter that Ross Lewin, a cotton planter for some years past on this island, and an old trader in these Seas, was shot by Tannese on Tuesday last at his own station. (Black Beach, Tanna.) Mrs. Lewin, her young son and her two brothers, immediately fled to sea in an open boat, taking the dead body with them. Next day they were picked up by the *Schr. Donald McLean*, (owned and sailed by Capt. McLeod of Cape Breton,) and brought to Port Resolution, and almost immediately sailed again for Fate or Sandwich Island.

Two white men, Jones and Underwood, traders in Port Resolution, have gone to Black Beach in order, if possible, to look after the property and station of the said late Ross Lewin. 'Tis feared they too may be shot. I remember seeing Lewin ten years ago on board ship at Aneityum, and frequently afterwards.—He was twice at my station since our settlement.

Mr. Neilson writes that Mr. Gray of Eromanga is dead. I feel this keenly. Four months ago he drank tea in our house at Dillon's Bay, and was then the very picture of health, and seemed to have, human-