

may in themselves be trivial; but to us who watch with anxiety the progress of religion amongst the natives, they are proofs of the gradual hold which Christianity is having upon them."

The Dioceses of Honolulu, Melanesia, Orange River and Central Africa are of peculiar interest as they are without the British Dominions, signs that the Church is beginning to remember that if she has any claim in any sense to the title Catholic, she must allow no national boundaries to limit her work. In Melanesia the work has to be carried on in an unusual manner. The climate is such that no white man can live upon the Islands during the summer months; there are between 150 and 200 islands, each one of which has its own peculiar dialect, and the inhabitants of all are exceedingly jealous of the approach of strangers. To meet these difficulties the Bishop fixes his head quarters in New Zealand, (he intends however soon to move them to a small island off Australia) where he spends the summer months. When winter approaches he and his assistants embark in the *Southern Cross*, and sail from island to island holding such communication with the people as their conduct and his knowledge of the language permit. His great object in this is to persuade the inhabitants to allow some few of the most promising boys to come with him. Every winter enables him to procure some who are taken to New Zealand, where the summer is spent in teaching them religion and civilization. As soon as they are sufficiently advanced they are sent back to their homes, there to teach by word and deed what they have learnt. And this plan joined to the direct instruction given as far as practicable by the Missionaries is not without visible effects. One island, that of Mota, the first to receive Missionary visits is specially mentioned as being greatly changed. Some few years ago no man stirred about without his bow and arrows, no man from one village except under certain circumstances felt sure of being able to trust himself in another; we could not obtain any boys from any other village to come and live with us. Now men may walk where they please in Mota, and unless there be some special quarrel between two or more villages, scarcely a bow or club is seen. There is no reluctance shown now in sending boys to the schools. How different from our first winter! And in the neighbouring islands which we visit each voyage we find the most favourable feeling existing. Natives of them all have been with us and the influence of our Mota scholars, and of our short sojourn at Mota has extended itself on every side."

But this is not effected without great personal danger, as during last year's voyage, the Bishop's boat was attacked while moving off from the island of Santa Cruz, and though the Bishop himself escaped without injury, three members of the Missions were wounded with poisoned arrows, of whom two soon after died.

It is cheering to observe that the present King of the Sandwich Islands is carrying out the plans of his predecessor and giving earnest help to the Mission which is prospering favourably under Bishop Staley, and his assistants. During the past year, a Hawaiian who had been a Major in the army and an aide-de-camp of the late King has been ordained deacon, and is now labouring upon his ancestral estate. The Mission has been greatly strengthened by the arrival of three members of an English sisterhood: the amount of good that that they are able to effect renders it a matter of regret that there are not more of them.

We have dwelt at some length upon the work among the heathen, as it seemed to be the most interesting. But it must not be supposed that this is all or even the principal part of this Society's operations. Its great objects are "the religious instruction of the Queen's subjects beyond the seas, the maintenance of clergymen in the plantations, colonies and factories of Great Britain and the propagation of the