

five or six women have died. Some of the people come to us for medicine now ; when they ask for it we give it, but *never* go to them and urge them to take it, because, if the person were to die, they might blame us and take our lives. Mr. Annand has a good many sores to dress for them. The Lord has been very good to us and caused the people to be friendly towards us, while others in the Mission have been in great danger this year. We have felt quite safe among our people. Mr. and Mrs. Morton, who last year, just a week before we settled here, settled in Malekula (between fifty and sixty miles south from us), have passed through a trying season. One of the natives, who belonged to another village near to them, was angry with some one in the village in which Mr. and Mrs. Morton live. So he said, "I will kill the missionary." He came one evening with his gun, looking for Mr. Morton. The blinds happened to be down that night. They had not been in the habit of putting them down, as they thought the people friendly ; but this night Mrs. M. says something prompted her to do so. Mr. Morton thought it needless, neither of them being aware of any danger. When the man could not see the missionary, he was turning away, when he saw a young Malo man, a servant of Mr. M. He attracted his attention, got him of his guard, and shot him through the back. As soon as the poor lad was shot he ran to the house, and fell down at his master's door and died soon after. His last words were "Jesus loves me." It was a great shock to poor Mrs. Morton ; they have been afraid to light a lamp at night ever since. They have both suffered very much from fever. They were here this month at the meeting of the Synod, and have gone in the *Dayspring* as far as Aniwa for a change.

Our people continue to attend church and school fairly well. We hope to get our first book from Sydney by the *Dayspring* in November. Mr. Annand sent the MS. away by H. M. S. *Diamond* a fortnight ago. We have two Santo young men staying with us. The *Dayspring* brought them from Sydney. One is from the south-east of Santo and has been away for nine years. The other one was taken away when quite a little boy and has quite forgotten his own language, and cannot tell to what part of Santo he belongs, and has even forgotten how to climb a coconut tree. They happened to fall into the hands of some Christian people in Sydney, and so both can read a little English and have some knowledge of the truth, and have been baptized. We trust they may stay with us and help us by and by to work among their kinsmen. They assist a little now in teaching the letters.