

sure that I express the sentiments of every member of the mission, when I say that we regard them as a valuable addition to our missionary band.

For the missionary supplies which have been sent to this island under Mr Johnston's care, I beg to thank the persons who contributed them. These contributions indicate a deep interest in the missionary cause, and we feel that we ought if possible to labour with more diligence in a work that has drawn out the sympathies of so many hearts at home. They will be chiefly employed in the support of native teachers, and of scholars who are receiving instruction with the expectation of being employed in the work on this or the neighbouring islands. But while friends at home aid us by their contributions, we entreat that their prayers may not be withheld on our behalf and also on behalf of these poor islanders among whom we labour.

I enclose the minutes of a meeting which took place on this island last month. It was the first of a series of annual missionary meetings which we intend to hold until our ecclesiastical organizations are more complete. I feel thankful to say that our meeting was a most happy one. We earnestly sought the presence of our DIVINE MASTER, and I trust that we enjoyed it. The several Brethren who were present on the occasion seemed to part cheered, refreshed, and bound together more than ever by the ties of christian love.

I regret to inform you of the death of Namuri, one of the Aneiteum teachers on Tana. He died nearly two months ago. He belonged to my station, and was one of the first natives on this island who embraced christianity. During the early years of this mission he suffered much persecution from his heathen friends. He was not a man of much energy of character, and I hope he was a sincere christian. When a teacher was wanted for Tana about two years ago, he expressed his willingness to go. During the last year his health had been very delicate. A few months before his death he was struck by a heathen native with a stone. It is quite possible that this may have hastened his end as he never was well after. The account which Mr. Paton writes me of him is as follows: "I am sorry to inform you of the death of Namuri. He died on Thursday in the presence of all our Aneiteumese and almost without a struggle. About eight days before his death, I brought him from Nowija to the mission house that I might see him often. I blithered his head, and did all for him in my power, for which he was very grateful, but his time was come. I buried him beside Vasa, (a Samoan teacher killed on Tana some years ago) at the other end of the old house from Mrs. Paton's grave. Lathela assisted me to make the grave and the coffin. It is rather singular that he should be here both when Kowari and Namuri died. Kavaniana (his wife) was remarkably attentive to him, she is an active good woman, and very useful about my house. I scarcely see how I am to get my food prepared without her. On Tuesday Namuri said to me 'Misi, I am not afraid to die. I love the things of God and so I do not fear. Long ago I did much bad conduct, I was very wicked. But since Misi Geddie taught me what was right and wrong, I have hated evil and loved good. I lean on Jesus.'" I spoke to him a little when he answered, "Thank you Misi, you speak to me just like Misi Geddie, and Simiona and Peter, your word is like theirs and brings all things to my mind that they told me long ago." He said many such things to me, showing how his mind was occupied with spiritual things, though it wavered for the last two days before his death. As his life so far as seen by me corresponded with his dying statements, I hope he sleeps in Jesus."

The latest accounts from the neighbouring islands are very encouraging. The prospects on Tana and Erromanga have never been more favourable than at present. But we want a few more men, and God's blessing on the human instrumentality.

I hope my dear children have reached Nova Scotia by this time. We feel their absence, and time scarcely reconciles us to it. It seems hard to be separated from them at an age when they so much need a parent's care. Our consolation is that they are under His guardianship, who has promised to be a father to the fatherless. The natives seem to mourn their absence as much as we do ourselves. They speak about the children almost every day. The natives of Aneiteum will long remember them, especially those born on the island. It might interest you to