

has been to some extent prospered by God. Our natives represent the place where they landed as a lovely spot, and they are of opinion that it would form a suitable site for a Mission Station. The population in the neighbourhood is numerous.

RETURN OF BOAT.

The boat was absent on this interesting voyage longer than we expected.—She had rather a boisterous voyage home, the wind being high and squally. I happened to be on a visit to Mr Inglis when she arrived at his station. We went out in the evening to take a walk, when a woman came running after us and calling out "the boat." We turned and saw her. We waited on the shore until she landed. A large number of natives had collected on the occasion. As soon as the men came out of the boat and told us of their welfare and prosperous voyage, we sang a hymn on the spot and knelt down to thank God who had so graciously preserved our friends from the violence of savage men and from the dangers of the sea. The time, place, and circumstances, all conspired to make our act of homage to the Father of mercies peculiarly solemn.

Since the return of our boat from Tana and Fotuna Mr Inglis and I have resolved to reinforce the Missions on both islands, by sending additional teachers from Aneiteum. One will go to Fotuna in a few weeks. We design to send the boat again to convey him to his destination. His name is Filip, and he has a wife and child. He is a member of the Church, and his wife is a candidate at present for admission. He belongs to Mr Inglis' district. We hope that he and his wife will prove useful agents in the work.

We have likewise resolved to send two teachers to Port Resolution on Tana.—We have selected two of our best natives for this important sphere. Their names are Abraham and Nimitiwan, both chiefs of importance on this island. They are Church members, and, as far as we can judge, good men, whose hearts are in the work. They are known on Tana, and they will command respect and influence which would not be given to men of inferior rank. Nimitiwan can speak the dialect of Tana fluently. Abraham's appointment to Tana is unlimited, but Nimitiwan goes with the understanding that he will return to this island as soon as Missionaries are fairly settled. We

have deemed this limitation proper, as he is advanced in life and as we cannot spare too many of our men of influence. I trust that, by the divine blessing, they may be successful in recommencing the Mission at Port Resolution and in preparing the way for missionaries. They are both men of my district, and I feel that I must submit to a great sacrifice in parting with them.

All preparations have been made for the departure of Abraham, Nimitiwan, and their wives. As soon as a passage can be procured for them they will leave for their destination. Some time may probably elapse before a passage can be obtained for them. They take with them all the materials for a house, ready to be put up as soon as they land, with the exception of the thatch and lime, both of which can easily be procured on Tana. Wood for building cannot be obtained on that island, except at a great distance in the interior, where it would not be safe to venture for it. When I asked our natives for a house for Tana they turned out from one end of the district to the other and soon brought more than enough of wood for it. The teachers are instructed to build their house without delay, and have it in readiness for missionaries to occupy when they land at Tana, until they can erect buildings of their own. They also take with them a good canoe, which will enable them to hold communication with their brethren at the other station. The canoe is made after the Samoan style, and far superior to any made on these islands. One of the teachers driven from Erromanga to this island by sickness, is a canoe maker by trade, and we have taken advantage of his skill in getting this canoe for the Tana Mission. We have done what we can to promote the comfort and usefulness of our teachers, and now we long to bid them adieu and send them to their destination.

I may add that we have a small book in the language of Tana in type, and it will be printed in a few days. It is compiled from two books in that language prepared by the Rev Messrs Turner and Nesbit, who formerly resided on that island. It will be valuable to our teachers.

NEED OF EUROPEAN MISSIONARIES.

I ought to mention here that we send teachers to the neighbouring islands in the assured hope that they will be followed by missionaries at no distant peri-