

THE CONVERTED PAGAN AND THE  
LAWYER.

THOMAS HOOPER was a pagan boy from one of the islands of the South Sea. He had heard the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God having come down from Heaven to save sinners ; he had believed the message, and his heart was won to the Saviour. He passed two years at a school for missionaries in England, afterwards he made a voyage with a friend, and it so happened that one evening they found themselves in company with some distinguished persons, but mostly unbelievers. The company was being entertained by questions which a lawyer of the party was propounding, and by the answers which were being made thereto.

At length Thomas said : " I am only a poor pagan boy, and it is quite natural that you should find my answers amusing, expressed as they are in very bad English, but we shall all soon find ourselves in a larger company than this. Everyone will be there, and to each of us will be addressed one question : ' Do you love the Lord Jesus Christ ? ' For myself I can answer : ' Yes, I love Him, He is my Saviour. ' But you, sir, what reply will you make ? "

The lawyer was silent, and the silence of death spread over the whole company. After a long pause, which all felt the solemnity of, some one proposed that a portion of scripture be read, and they asked Thomas to close with prayer. He did so, and in a few simple words addressed himself to God, and prayed also for the learned lawyer who was so