

filled up with durable, substantial and never fading blessings.

My good, intelligent and useful *Mary* is gone too—oh, I do feel her death so much every day. She was an affectionate daughter to me. Her husband (*Lathela*) feels her loss very much, poor fellow, he will not soon find one to fill her place. They were a very happy couple, and much more enlightened than the rest of the natives. They had lived long beside us and had daily intercourse with us, and were so anxious to acquire knowledge. *Mary* has left a fine little boy whom I feel it my duty to take charge of.

Not only ourselves but the cause owes much to *Mary*. She was the first girl that came to live with me, and the first female that embraced Christianity. She did all that lay in her power for the cause. But if spared I may send you a little sketch of her which may be interesting to the friends of the *Aneiteumese*. At present you will have enough to think about when you receive the sad news from *Eromanga*.

But, dear friends, do not be discouraged nor let those who are seeking the riches of the world out-do us. There is a family living upon *Eromanga* braving every danger and difficulty, that they may become rich; and shall we shrink or be discouraged from going forward to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to the perishing heathen? It is true that a large proportion of the population of this Island have been cut off, yet there are many left who have souls to be saved or lost. I feel specially interested in the young. I have a large boarding school just now, and could get many more if I had room for them. I intend when the Samoan teacher's widow and family leaves to take in several promising little girls.

Dear Mrs. Johnston teaches the little girls, and they are improving very fast. I teach the larger girls sewing, and any families who bring garments to make. I intend to re-commence the afternoon school as soon as the church is finished, but at present all the young men are busy at the church. I have not had any afternoon school since last February. The sickness broke up all our schools, and I fear it will be some time ere we have every thing going on as before.

When we again meet how many a seat will be vacant! It makes me very sad to think of it. When I go into

the school-room and look round and say such and such a one sat there and there, but they will never occupy these seats again, my heart is ready to break, and I weep like Rachel for my children, because they are not. Still I am comforted by the thought that many whom we esteem and love are spared, and feel that we should be thankful.

Dear Mrs. Johnston is with us, but I am sorry to say her health is not at all good. She is very willing and contented to remain here and do what she can if her health would permit, but as it is not improving she thinks it will be her duty to return to her native land, but she has not yet made up her mind. We should like very much to have her remain. We esteem her very highly, and shall feel very sorry to part with her, should she be obliged to return home. There is plenty of work for her to do, but if her health does not improve soon we cannot advise her to remain. She has a good number of scholars who attend every forenoon, and they are improving rapidly. Indeed, two or three that I feared would never learn to read have learned very soon under her instruction.

What effect the sad news from *Eromanga* will have upon the Missionary cause at home, we do not know, but we fear it will be very disheartening; but I do hope and trust that it will be the means of stirring up Christians to do even more for the perishing heathen.

Our dear brother and sister have fallen but let us not be discouraged and yield to satan that island where they sacrificed their lives for the salvation of souls. If white traders can live upon the islands so should Missionaries.

Such events as the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon should not deter Missionaries from exerting themselves. They should rather make them more earnest in doing all in their power to destroy satan's kingdom. In instigating his servants to burn our church we have reason to believe that the Evil one outwitted himself. The very person who is supposed to have set the church on fire now attends church, and the little band of bad men who called themselves heathen are scattered, and I believe that all attend worship.

I must now say a few words about our respective families. I hope your children are all well. I hope you see our dear children. Do not fail to give them any advice they need. They will be