

Gordon was murdered. Soso, the teacher was addressing them, and the first word that fell on our ear as we entered was that name precious above all others. A deep solemnity seemed to pervade every heart, and I felt that of a truth God is in this place.

MR. GORDON'S DEATH.—The cause of the murder of Gordon, so far as known to us, seems to have been a prejudice against Christianity arising out of the superstitious belief which the Erromangans entertain—that the missionary brings sickness and death.

There had been a good deal of sickness among them during the past year, and two of the murderer's children had died. Mr. Gordon had attended them and given them medicine. So on the day on which the second one died, Nerimpon, as reported, went to Mr. Gordon's house and found him sitting under the verandah. He said to Mr. Gordon that he wanted his axe sharpened. Then watching his opportunity he sank it into Mr. Gordon's forehead. He sprang into the house and fell dead on the floor, giving a slight groan.

It seems that Mr. Gordon knew that his life was in danger, for he took Soso one day and pointed out the spot where to bury him if his life should be taken. The following is a copy of a letter sent to the Mission Synod by Soso, on behalf of himself, Naling, the young chief at Dillon's Bay, and Woris, and translated by Mr. Milne.

"SOSO, NALING AND WORIS."—Love to you missionaries on the Islands of the New Hebrides. I speak to you concerning our wish, together with the small chiefs of this place, because the powerful chiefs and the old men and the people of Erromanga have rejected the messengers of God to us, and the Word of Jesus Christ, and we are witnesses to them that he (or it) went round the land of Erromanga. And now hear and know, if you are willing, take us and put us on one land and give us one missionary to teach us, and do not send one to this place for we will leave our land, and leave ye it too; and send four man-of-war ships to remain at Erromanga, one East, and one West, and one North, and one South, and let them destroy the villages of the murderers and thieves and breakers of the word and scoffers and of all evil-doers in the land of Erromanga. The end of my word and of Naling's Woris's. Ah! love to you missionaries.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Our church has been sorely tried in this mission field. One laborer after another has been cut down, thus for a time blighting her hopes. But perhaps this was necessary. Had continued success crowned her efforts she might forget the source from which it came. But God has been showing us that "it is not by might nor by power, but by His Spirit" that the work shall be carried on. Notwithstanding these trials, could she but fully know the change that has come over many of the dark-hearted savages of some of these islands, she would thank God and take courage.

LORD'S SUPPER AT ANEITEUM.—It was our privilege, during the meeting of the Mission Synod, to commemorate our Saviour's dying love with the natives of Dr. Geddie's station. This happy scene was saddened by one circumstance. He who was the instrument in God's hand of leading them to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, was prevented by a providential dispensation from partaking of the Supper with us. He had a stroke of paralysis which rendered his right side quite powerless. This circumstance seemed all the more trying as it was in all probability the last oppor-