

More Loss of Life in the South Seas.

The Australian mail, of date Melbourne, December 4th, has brought tidings of several massacres of whites, in revenge, it is supposed, for the malpractices of those engaged in procuring labourers for Fiji and Queensland. On October 31st, four European planters of Fiji, named Warburton, Kington, Robson, Whittaker, are reported to have been killed by some natives of the Solomon Islands, or, as they are sometimes called, the New Georgia Archipelago, a large group of islands 700 or 800 miles to the north-west of the New Hebrides. These natives seem to have been lured or kidnapped on board a labour schooner, and found an opportunity of rising against and slaughtering their captors.

On September 9th, Mr. J. Meldrum, master of the schooner "Cambria," was murdered by the natives of Suva Island. After he was killed a shower of spears was thrown into the boat that brought him ashore, and the crew of five wounded, one of whom died shortly after he was taken to the schooner.

The master of the schooner "Lavinia" reports, that in consequence of a steamer from Fiji having kidnapped eight women from the Island of St. Christoval—a large island in the south of the Solomon group—the natives were so enraged that they murdered a European left on the island by the brig "Aurora" to collect trade, and had attacked the boat of the schooner "Traveler," and that in the *melée* the second mate had been accidentally shot by one of his own men.

The *Melbourne Argus* states that the Secretary of State has addressed a circular despatch to the governors of the Australian Colonies, intimating that it was proposed to introduce into Parliament a Bill to prevent the seizure and carrying away from their homes, against their consent, of natives of islands in the Pacific, and requesting them to ascertain whether the Colonial Governments would be prepared to defray the expenses of prosecutions instituted, with their concurrence, under the proposed measure. In replying to this despatch, the New South Wales Government express their approval of the Act suggested, but consider that, in addition to making the offences proposed to be provided against, felonies, it would be well to render vessels engaged in the prosecution of such offences seizable as for a violation of the Slave Act.

From Australia.

The January number of the Australian *Christian Review* announces the death of Rev. George Mackie of Melbourne, a most useful and popular Presbyterian minister.

He was but 48 years of age. He was Moderator of the General Assembly.

The same paper contains the following notice:—

The "Dayspring" may now be looked for any day from the islands, if, indeed, she does not reach Port Phillip Harbour before this issue of the *Review* gets into the hands of our readers. She was appointed to leave Anceitum for the colonies on or about the 1st December, and she seldom takes more than a month in getting up to the colonies. We are glad to hear that a quiet movement is taking place among the Sabbath-school teachers and other friends of the mission to present a testimonial to Captain Fraser on the occasion of his last visit to Melbourne in command of the mission vessel, and we most cordially commend the object to all interested in the good cause. Captain Fraser deserves well of all friends of the New Hebrides Mission, and it is right that at the end of his connection with the "Dayspring" he should get a substantial assurance that his services have been appreciated.

United Prayer in the month of May.

Christians in England and the Continent have agreed to unite in prayer during the month of May for the following objects:

"I.—*Prayer for the Reformed Churches.*
—(1), 'That the doctrines of salvation, of our fallen state, of faith in the expiation of the Cross, of justification, regeneration, and the grace that flows from possessing them, may become more living in every Protestant, by the grace of the Holy Ghost; (2), That the communion of each of us with Christ should be true, that each Protestant should be able to say with St. Paul—Christ dwelleth in me, and that having the mind of Christ we should glorify the Saviour and win souls to Him; (3), That the Head of the Church, to whom all power is given in heaven and earth, would graciously banish from the Church the errors of infidelity, rationalism, and superstition, and give repentance to the acknowledging of the truth, so that faith, charity, and concord may be restored to the Churches of the Reformation.'

"II.—*Prayer for the Conversion of the souls of Roman Catholics, especially of their ecclesiastics and dignitaries.*

"III.—*Prayer for Particular Countries.*
—For France, that it may reject every religious system which places the traditions of men on an equality with the Word of God, and that its unbelief may be changed into true faith. For Spain, that its present state of inquiry may pass into full gospel light. For Italy, that its new freedom and opportunities may be followed by an awakening of conscience and renewal of