

give a striking idea of the feelings of an untaught people, when observing for the first time the effects of written communications. As I had come to the work one morning without my square, I took up a chip, and with a piece of charcoal wrote upon it a request that Mrs. Williams would send me that article. I called a chief who was superintending his portion of the work, and said to him, 'Friend, take this: go to our house, and give it to Mrs. Williams.' He was a singular looking man, remarkably quick in his movements, and had been a great warrior; but, in one of the numerous battles he had fought, had lost an eye, and giving me an inexpressible look with the other, he said, 'Take that! she will call me a fool and scold me, if I carry a chip to her.' 'No,' I replied 'she will not, take it, and go immediately; I am in haste.' Perceiving me in earnest, he took it, and asked, 'What must I say?' I replied, 'You have nothing to say, the chip will say all I wish.' With a look of astonishment and contempt, he held up the piece of wood, and said, 'How can this speak? has this a mouth?' I desired him to take it immediately, and not spend so much time in talking about it. On arriving at the house, he gave the chip to Mrs. Williams, who read it, threw it away, and went to the tool-chest; whither the chief, resolving to see the result of this mysterious proceeding, followed her closely. On receiving the square from her, he said, 'Stay, daughter, how do you know that this is what Mr. Williams wants?' 'Why,' she replied, 'did you not bring me a chip just now?' 'Yes,' said the astonished warrior, 'but I did not hear it say any thing.' 'If you did not, I did,' was the reply, 'for it made known to me what he wanted, and all you have to do, is to return with it as quickly as possible.' With this the chief leaped out of the house, and catching up the mysterious piece

of wood, he ran through the settlement with the chip in one hand and the square in the other, holding them up as high as his arms would reach, and shouting as he went, 'See the wisdom of these English people; they can make chips talk! they can make chips talk!' On giving me the square, he wished to know how it was possible thus to converse with persons at a distance. I gave him all the explanation in my power; but it was a circumstance involved in so much mystery, that he actually tied a string to the chip, hung it round his neck, and wore it for some time. During several following days, we frequently saw him surrounded by a crowd, who were listening with intense interest while he narrated the wonders which this chip had performed."—Williams's *Narrative of Missionary Enterprizes in the South Sea Islands*, quoted in the *London Patriot*.

---

#### "REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS."

"Can the apostle have meant what he says in this passage? What! are we to rejoice when we are bowed down with sorrows, overwhelmed with cares, oppressed with poverty, bereaved of our dearest friends, filled with pain and anguish of body? Or, still more strange, are we to rejoice when suffering the anguish of a wounded spirit; when we are faint, disconsolate, and sorrowful on account of our sins?

But what have all these things to do with your rejoicing *in God*? If you had been told to rejoice in riches, or in health, or in friends, or in your own goodness, you might indeed think the command strange and reasonable, when you find yourself poor, or sick, or friendless, or defiled with sin. But you are told to rejoice *in God*. Is he any the less God, because you are thus troubled? Is he any the less great and glorious, the