

agreed to my brother's proposal and we immediately proceeded toward him. When we reached the spot where he was at work, we at once entered into conversation with him, and after speaking for a little time upon such topics as are common on such occasions, we introduced the question of personal religion, asking him if he was thinking on the subject. He immediately replied, and with some eagerness, as if glad the matter had been introduced, "Oh, yes. I have for some time." A long conversation followed in which however, my brother, who was older than I, took the lead.

My recollection will not serve to give any thing like the order, but the substance of it I can never forget. He told us that he had been for some time anxious on the subject of religion, that he had been reading his New Testament diligently and also praying to the best of his ability. But he had not had religious instruction in youth and was now ignorant of divine things. He had been desirous of further information, but found none of those about him able to give him what he needed, and he welcomed our approach to him as of messengers of God. He told us of his history. He had been a man-of-war sailor and served throughout the Napoleonic wars; had been in some of the desperate engagements of that period, in which as he described it, he had seen "the deck slippery with the blood and brains of men." During this period he had no more of the sense of religion that was common among the class to which he belonged, but he told us a strange dream which he had at that time which continued to dwell upon his mind. He saw like a great furnace with fire burning in it, but in the midst of it a huge beast, and he saw a file of men one after another drawn to be seized by this horrid monster. He felt himself drawn forward, but almost immediately after felt himself seized and drawn back, while at the same time he heard one saying, "I have got—or I have saved—this one."

We conversed with him for some time and instructed him in the way of salvation. He received the information gladly. Indeed, he seemed already under the influence of divine truth, but was highly pleased to have it made more clear to his mind, and he received the word as a little child. We were struck with the simplicity and humility of spirit that he manifested. With the view of testing his condition we asked him, "Do you love the Saviour?" In a tone I cannot forget, as possessing simple faith with a touch of something like surprise, that it should be thought possible that he could have any other feeling, he replied, "Oh, yes, I love Jesus."

We asked him then if he did not wish to commemorate the dying love of Christ by observing the Lord's supper. He said he would like to do so if he thought he should. Altogether he seemed so sincerely and humbly pious, that we recommended him to do so, and on the whole state of the case being submitted to the session, they cordially agreed to his admission, and on the following Sabbath he joined with us in the holy ordinance.

I heard of him years after, and found that he continued to live a christian life. He had severe trials, but under them exhibited much meekness and continued instant in prayer. He has long since fought his last battle and I have no doubt won a victory more glorious than Trafalgar.

I have only to add that a grandson of his, reported as a very excellent young man, lately finished his studies at our Hall and is now an ordained minister of our Church.

The incident suggests several lessons.

First, Does it not teach ministers and Christian workers not to despise or overlook any man?

Secondly, What encouragement does it afford to earnest personal effort with our fellowmen on the subject of religion. Such efforts may be sometimes repelled but we do not know how often we would find the soil all prepared to receive the word.

Thirdly, What a remarkable manifestation of the sovereign grace of God, and how wonderful the arrangements of Providence by which God seeks out his chosen and gathers them into His fold.

Lastly, See the influence of the conversion of one man extending to after generations, and in ever-widening circles.

Does it not say then, "In the morning sow thy seed and in the evening withhold not thy hand, for thou knowest not whether this or that shall prosper or whether both alike shall be good." "Blessed are they that sow beside all waters."

New Hebrides.

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM MR. ANNAND.

Santo, New Hebrides,
June 20, 1889.

DEAR MR. MCCORDY:

Yours of Christmas came to hand on the third instant. Thanks for greetings and good wishes. I see by the *Witness* that you were remembered substantially during the season of joy and good will. Quite a num-