

We sailed round to islands on the north of Efat. They are one of them about five miles and the other about ten miles off. Their names are Egun (Engun) and Emou. There are other smaller islands. We were kindly received. They speak the language of Efat. At Emou they wish Mr. Neilson to remain among them on the spot to be their missionary.

MASSACRE OF WHITE MEN.

I have now to record a sad event which lately transpired. About the middle of the month a small craft called at Emel, in one vicinity, for natives to go to work to New Caledonia. The Emel men had been often in ships; so the chief agreed with some ten of his young men that they should go, ostensibly as laborers to New Caledonia, and at sea that they should kill the white men—three in number—and bring the vessel back. This they did, and on Wednesday 21st returned with their prey. They dropped anchor at their own island, and plundered the vessel, stripped her of her sails and ropes, took down her masts, &c. On the following Monday another vessel from New Caledonia came to Efel, and procured the hulk of the plundered schooner, which the managed to take away in a couple of days.

CONCLUSION.

In closing, I am happy to report some progress by the blessing of God.

Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Cosh are now near us in Ebang. We have there a church consisting of ten adults and four children.

The Gospel is preached in Ertab every Sabbath, by some of our people, the two chiefs of their village being favorable to it.

We have the gospel of Mark in Efatese in the hands of our people. They are diligently learning to read it every morning, Sabbath and Saturday excepted. Some can read it fluently.

The gospel of Matthew is translated. There were 625 copies of Mark's Gospel printed, at a cost of £24 1s. 9d., or about 9½d. per copy.

Our communion Roll numbers 57. Within the last year we have had in the village six births, four marriages and five deaths.

The natives of this island are largely being taken off as labourers to other islands. Within the last eighteen months no fewer than 17 vessels have called, to my own knowledge, taking men off to Fege, to Tahiti, to Queensland, to New Caledonia, and Torres' Straits. These crafts are of all description, from three masted ships down to crafts of 8 or 10 tons.

Decr. 1st.—To-day the *Dayspring* has made us her fourth welcome visit; and long may she continue to cheer our hearts by her regular returns. Ill could the mission spare

herself or some such craft in carrying on the work in this group.

All which is respectfully submitted.

DONALD MORRISON.

Letter from Mrs. Geddie.

Mr. Editor,—

I hope the circulation of the *Record* is not falling off, though I have some misgivings on the subject. You give us much precious intelligence it is admitted, but if you had more of the domestic kind, which the letters of the women furnish, you would find your periodical all the more agreeable to the mothers and sisters in our Israel; and it is of great importance that their interest in the work of the Lord among the heathen be not allowed to languish. I am glad to have it in my power to send you some extracts from a hurried letter from Mrs. Geddie. It was not written to be published and may contain information that is not new to some others of her correspondents, but while they content themselves with reporting good news from the Islands to friends and neighbours who come within their reach, I wish you to send quickly to the whole church and let them know how the little things are done "out there" which are so intimately connected with the comforts of domestic life. W.

Extracts of a Letter from Mrs. Geddie:

January 11, 1867.

So many missionaries were never collected on Aneiteum before. The first two weeks after we came home, we had three missionaries and three ladies from the *John Williams*, Miss Williams, daughter of the British Consul at the Narragatois, Mr. and Mrs. McCullagh, Mrs. Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. Neilson, and Captain and Mrs. Williams, sometimes ashore to tea. Then, after the meeting of missionaries at Mr. Inglis' station, came Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. McNair, and Mr. Gordon, to await a passage to their several stations by a trading vessel. They were detained here a week, but we found room for them. We had a very pleasant time, and enjoyed the company of our friends very much. I had a great deal to do, and just coming home things were not quite at hand, but we got along nicely. Of course I did not attempt any teaching except on Sabbath. Now that the vessels are away, I have commenced school again. Mr. G. takes my old scholars,