book of nature; it gratifies desires of influence, authority and respect; and the missionary as well as his more worldly brother is not without these. nor if he would be actively useful should he; but above all, his calling makes him not only independent of the world in support, but separates him from it in its most flattering and seductive aspects. He is equally apart from the stormy passions of politics, the greedy and soul-deadening struggles for gain, the allurements of refined wickedness, and the scarcely less dangerous fascinations of high-bred society. Want and vice are known to him but through errands of mercy. His then is a position to practically exemplify the prayer of Agur. Neither poor nor rich, withdrawn from the world, but actively engaged in usefulness towards it, he occupies a peaceful relation toward his Maker and fellow man; saved by faith in the One and respected for good works by the other.

Each station in life has undoubtedly trials and temptations peculiar to itself. No where can frail human nature be placed on earth out of their reach. Every individual has some pet Satan or a legion of choice imps of his own, and it is only by watchful conflict they are kept in any sort of decorum. The grace of God can alone make a good and faithful missionary, but once one at the Hawaiian Islands, the favored individual is placed on a pinnacle, where if he but watch well the citadel, but few of the shafts of the common tempter can reach. To say that none do would be to say they were saints and not men. I have ever found them the latter, but at the same time my own honest conviction is, that it would be well were there more even as they.

The contrast between the American and French missionaries in one respect is very striking. Devotion to their cause is conspicuous in each. But their method of winning souls is widely different. The Protestant literally plants himself in the nation; but instead of levelling himself down to the native standard, he builds his civilized and comfortable house, raises his family as if he were still in New England, plants, preaches, and waters. In short he makes himself a civilized model for his proselytes. This is expensive it is true, but it is a literal exemplification to the native of what christianity has done for the white man. The argument of its utility could not be stronger presented. The Catholics, so far as we have observed them, begin with the native in his hut. Without scrip or purse, and I may say coat, he visits him, sleeps on his mat and partakes of his fare. Those who have visited the residences of the Catholic clergy find them plain and unfurnished to even the appearance of poverty.—The Protestant calls the native to come up to him. The Catholic goes down to the native. Both are equally zealous in civilizing and christianizing in accordance with their widely varying systems and tenets. It is yet premature to give an opinion as to the respective adaptation of each to their several ends. The Protestant has done enough to show practically good results in part. The Catholic is still too recent for a correct comparison.

If I have been correctly informed, the common sense of even the natives of this island has been vastly shocked by the exhibition of late of some very absurd so styled *relics*. However, since the the exhibition of the holy garment of Reves, in the 19th century, human credulity is ripe for any thing even now. But I must cease reflections and on with my journey.

On the 14th I rode to Wailuku. The road for the first six or seven miles passes gently down to the beach through a pleasant and fertile country. The remainder of the way is not particularly agreable, particularly if the sun is disposed to make reflections upon one in the passage over the sand hills which skirt the plain. The Wailuku plain which is some six or seven miles across by rather more in width, was once waving with tall grass, and when Mr. White first came to the island, trees six inches in diameter grew in it. Not a bush is now to be seen. The goats and cattle have exterminated the grass and dug up the soil of the plain, which dried by the sun, is now moving in drifts to the leeward into the ocean, leaving a bare and sun-parched surface. The windward beach which was once covered with a profuse vine that kept the sand in its place, is now travelling in huge wave-like heaps to the other side. The sand may be said to make a breach clear across the isthmus. It is also filling up a large pond near by the famed golgotha. So light is it and so easily borne aloft by the furious winds that here unchecked sweep every thing before them, that at a distance, mingled with the red dust of the plain, it resembles a conflagration; the smoke arising from the burnt cities of the plain. Every thing like vegetation is being killed. It may not be too late to remedy the evil to some extent, but it is a lamentable fact that this large extent of country, once covered with grass and trees is now a worse than barren waste.

Wailuku with its numerous rills, rich valley and cultivated enclosures, affords an agreeable relief to the general desolation of this region. There is water enough both here and at Waikapu from the back valleys, to enlarge the cultivation greatly. On approaching Wailuku, its large Quaker-like stone church, school house and other mission buildings, give it the resemblance of a factory town. How tame and uninteresting all these native villages would appear, were the improvements of the missionaries removed. Wailuku being built on a rising ground, with mountains in the rear, and giant sand hills in front, makes a somewhat imposing appearance from the number and regularity of its larger edifices, most of which are connected with the female seminary. The soil here is very productive. I was much gratified with a visit to Mr. Bailey's garden, who has in a small compass a greater variety of plants, fruits and vegetables, than I had supposed even to exist on Maui. Among old acquaintances, I noticed oats, asparagus, catnip, spear-mint, sage, pepper-mint, dock-weed, herds-grass and other plants more than I can remember. Geraniums ten feet high were abundant, and growing as much higher as they could be supported. Tree figs of delicious flavor were also plentiful. It were impossible for me to recollect one half the variety here cultivated. Mr. Bailey deserves much credit for his industry in raising and acclimating so many exotics, and were the natives sensible of their value, they would draw largely upon so prolific a nursery, opportunely placed in the midst of one of the garden spots of Maui.

The temperature of Wailuku is not excelled in evenness in this kingdom. Its range is from 70 to 83 deg.—and what is vastly agreable, but few moschetoes. I slept without a net, and am told it is common to do so. Barring its solitariness, it is a good place for invalids. The mission families, hospitable and kind as they invariably are to the stranger, afford society of the most favorable kind.—Lahaina is within five hours' ride, over a road however not often excelled in dust, heat, rocks and ravines. If the mountain were removed, it would be well enough, and could be done in three hours. But as it will remain as long as the island lifts its head above the waters, though a second prophet of the faithful should arise, I would respectfully suggest to the governor, that he would entitle himself to the abundant thanks of all Maui wayfarers, were he to employ upon it some of his loafing population, who might as well be breaking up the vice of idleness in this way as any other. The road hence to Lahaina, some 9 miles, is of a summer noon *rather* hot, but this the traveller expects, and when he reaches the the town he can cool himself by a sea-bath, which here inside the surf is excellent.

On this my return to Lahaina I wandered into the churchyard, for the double purpose of seeing the church which is now unroofed, and of looking at the numerous grave-stones. The tower of the church had settled suddenly and given the workmen a fright, so that the walls must be rebuilt at a considerable expense. This churchyard affords a great contrast to that of Honolulu. It is profusely verdant with grass, and shaded by the tall cocos and the more extended but shorter *kos*, the last in rich blossom. One of these trees had a trunk I should think 12 feet in circumference. Stranger dust to a great extent lies mingled with the native soil. Many a seaman has here found his final resting place, away from all kindred remains. But better this by far than the "unwept, unknelled, uncoffined and unknown" ocean grave. Some of the head-boards are quaintly *decorated*, if that be a proper term to apply to mortality's sign-board. The "spouse of the worm and brother to the clay" has in some instances been furnished by his friends with not only a momento of his name, age and race, but a *picture*, ("heaven save the mark") generally a tawdry shop print of a male or female head, enclosed in a glass frame attached to the board. Thus a mourner reads the name of a lost wife perhaps and looks upon a vision of *attempted* female loveliness, clothed in a French bonnet with all the accompanying et ceteras of ribands, collars and jewelry, *with some encomiums upon past virtue beneath*. Some one not having obtained a lithograph had daubed a head in paint after such a manner that there is not a Boniface's post in "ould Ireland," but would have groaned under such an accumulation of ugliness if held out as a sign. "Chacun a son gout." This letter has elongated itself to a most Alexandrine length, and I must close o give your readers a breathing spell; that is if they have not fallen out by the wayside, before half through. A sedative however, is often useful in your over exhilirating atmosphere, and you may now thank me for one.

THE POLYNESIAN.

HONOLULU, SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1846.

Tahiti.

We have frequent arrivals from this place, but the difficulty attending the procuration of authentic intelligence concerning the late hostilities is inconceivable to any one who has not tried it. Reports are rife, varying according to the temper of the parties. It would be gratifying to the public to obtain a correct version of the events of the present year. From our own correspondence we can only glean that during May and June, Gov. Bruat with 1000 men and a steamer, attacked the several camps of the Tahitians at Papenoo, Hautana and Bunaauia, and in the conflict lost several men in killed and wounded, including some superior officers. The natives remained masters of the interior, but were driven to great straits by the destruction of their cultivated grounds and the desolation of their valleys. Numbers have since come into the French lines and given up their arms. Three of the English missionaries offered to mediate before the late battle, but Gov. Bruat would grant no terms short of actual submission. Papeiti at the latest dates was quiet but the island generally is in a sad condition. As the French appear bent upon maintaining possession, it would be an act of mercy to the islanders to induce them to give up a system of hostilities which however much it may annoy and exasperate the French, must end in their own destruction.

Since writing the above we have had the pleasure to receive from Capt. Bonnet of the French Transport Lion, the following letter containing a succinct account of the late events at Tahiti, which will not fail to interest our readers.

[TRANSLATION.]

HONOLULU, AUGUST 11th, 1846.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE POLYNESIAN:

Mr. Editor:—I hasten to reply to the letter with which you honored me, requesting a succinct account of the events which have lately taken place at Tahiti, in order to publish the same in your esteemed journal. It affords me the more pleasure, to comply with your invitation, that I feel the necessity, as a Frenchman and a Patriot, of rectifying several erroneous and injurious assertions against the character of my nation, published in the newspaper called "The Friend," which in speaking of Tahiti, appears not always to be a truth-telling one, and to be wanting in that evangelic charity, which in other respects it professes.

A few days after my departure from Tahiti, at the end of February last, some native insurgents of Papenoo, renewed their incursions and depredations upon the territory of a Chief, subject to the Protectorate—an expedition was then prepared, and at the moment they were about to set out for Papenoo, some relations of Pomaro, requested to attempt *in their name*, a new proceeding in her favor they appeared to think themselves certain of success; the Phæton was placed at their disposal on the 4th of March; they returned a few days after to Papeiti, to announce that Pomare could not be more favorably disposed and that she would have returned to Tahiti, had it not been for her very advanced state of pregnancy.

The relations of the Queen were themselves to impart this intelligence to the insurgents and set out again in the Phæton; every thing then tended to peace and communications for some time suspended, were re-established between Papenoo and Papeiti.

However, about the 20th of March, without any apparent cause, nearly 900 natives presented themselves before the block house of Haapape, and vigorously attacked it. Twenty foot soldiers, and about as many of the natives, who formed the garrison, repulsed the enemy and maintained their position till 8 o'clock in the evening; then being aided by a reinforcement by sea, they compelled the enemy to retreat.

The next evening the insurgents of Panavia, divided into two bodies, came by different roads, to attack Papeiti, but they were so promptly and vigorously attacked, that they had not time to carry off all their killed; it is well known they are very careful in not letting them fall into the hands of their enemies.

On the 23rd of March, the insurgents having returned to attack the block house of Haapape, a sally was made by 45 Frenchmen and natives, allied, who overthrew them and forced them to flight, leaving in our hands one nine pounder, with its ammunition.

During several days the insurgents did not show themselves in the neighborhood of our positions.

About the 10th of April, the Phæton anchored at Papuna, in order to watch the movements of the insurgents, and to prevent them from going to Morea, to massacre the wives and children of auxiliaries, as they had manifested the intention of doing; our allies were to get provisions upon this point, sustained by 50 light infantry. During this time 25 of the Phæton's crew had the temerity to attack 500 or 600 Kanakas, enclosed in their entrenchments, they did them considerable injury, but five of our men were killed and several others wounded.

Admiral Hamelin arrived in the Papeiti Roads on the 28th of April. In the meanwhile, the relations of Pomare were carrying on negotiations in her favor, which remained without result, decided Governor Bruat upon setting out, in the beginning of May, at the head of 1000 men, soldiers, seamen and allies, in order to drive the insurgents from their positions in Tapai, Papana and Ahona, which was done without striking a blow.

On the 10th of May, the 4 forts which they had erected at Papenoo, made a lively resistance to our troops, who nevertheless took possession of them the same day and pursued the enemy into impassable places.

The French troops bivoucked during about twelve days in this part of the island, in order to destroy all the resources of the enemy, and to hinder them from re-establishing themselves there.

The inhabitants of the valley of Fatahua were likewise driven from a very strong position which they occupied, and their resources were destroyed, to punish them for depredations which they had committed a short time before, near Papeiti. A block house was established upon the important position of Tapai, which opens the communication with the eastern districts, in closing it to the insurgents of that side of the island.

At the latter end of May, the Expedition marched upon Panavia and took possession of the fortifications of the insurgents, who were driven into a narrow defile, where they had concentrated their forces in an impregnable position, from whence, without being seen, and from the top of their rocky walls, they were enabled to fire upon our troops who could not see them, and to throw down enormous stones, which rolling upon our soldiers, in which manner several were severely wounded. It was necessary to give up the pursuit of the enemy, and destroy their resources.

This day cost us the brave Commander of the Brea, mortally wounded in the chest by a gunshot; Mr. Perrot, a first class student, killed in the intrenchment, and three soldiers; among the wounded who number 15, are Lieutenant Malmanche, Chief of the Staff, who had to suffer amputation of the right leg; Mr. Claniere, Captain of the 31st, and Sub-Lieutenant Lejeune, who had already received several wounds in the preceding actions, where we had 21 wounded.

The number of officers wounded is considerable, if compared with the remainder; this disproportion is explained by the tactics adopted by the Kanakas, which consists, as much as possible, in directing their fire upon the chiefs, and because the latter, walking at the head of their troops are actually more exposed.

A little before my departure, some insurgents having descended into a valley, in the north, to collect provisions, were made prisoners and conducted to Tahiti, others came to surrender and lay down their arms to the commanding officer at Tapai. Those who remain in the mountains have to suffer cold hunger, and intestinal divisions, for some wish to persist, whilst others wish to surrender. Our troops were occupied in erecting fortifications in the positions formerly occupied by the insurgents, and establishing artillery there.

In fact sir, if the French Government could for one moment have entertained the idea of abandoning Tahiti, now that the land is sprinkled with the blood of our soldiers, a similar thought is become impossible; and notwithstanding the assertions some time since set forth either by misinformed or jealous persons, I make so bold as to affirm to you that all measures are taken to form at Tahiti a permanent and durable establishment, and with views of times to come.

As to the affairs of the Island of Huahine, and to the false and slanderous account which has been given of them by the *Friend*, (doubtless misinformed) in its numbers of the month of April last, and which its editor had the delicate attention to convey to me on board of my ship, I think I cannot do better than to lay before you a letter, which one of my friends, who resided at Huahine during the events, and who was as capable of judging of them as any one, has been good enough to write to me, giving me a detail thereof.

I shall adjoin, for the edification of certai[illegible]rties, that Capt. Hammond, of the Salamander, into whose hands the Friend of the 15th April has fallen, hastened formally to give the lie to a letter contained therein, and attributed to one of his officers, who has played a part in these unfortunate events.

The above sir, is all that I could collect from documents during my stay at Tahiti, and in inquiring from persons the best able to furnish me therewith. I place it at your disposal, and authorize you to give it all the publicity which you may think proper.

I beg of you, Mr. Editor, to accept my profound salutations.

(Signed) BONNET.

The Editor of the Friend probably experienced the same difficulty as ourself, in obtaining intelligence from Tahiti, which while it does justice to both parties will excite ill-will in neither. The public are deeply interested in the progress of events there, and expect at the hands of editors all the intelligence to be obtained. The sympathies of the generous must incline towards the weak, and there are none perhaps who do not desire to see the Tahitians once more at peace in their native land. France however in extending her authority over them is doing no more than England at New Zealand and the United States on the Continent of America towards the aboriginees in their vicinity. The strong are swallowing up the weak the world over, and hardship and injustice are to a great extent the necessary results. It is a sad comment upon the professed principles of chistianized nations, that with their missionaries of peace and good will to all mankind come wars and exactions; and with their bibles, ardent spirits, good and evil from the same hand.

Accounts of the battle at Huahine in January last have been already published here, but they are not so full and candid as the following relation which we extract from the Samoan Reporter of March.

CONFLICT AT HUAHINE. Two vessels have just arrived from Tahiti. By the first we received information which we deemed of an encouraging character, because it afforded promise of quiet, and the continuation of the work of God in the Leeward Islands. It was to the effect that Admiral Sir G. Seymour, in pursuance of despatches from home, had returned from the Sandwich to the Society Islands, in November, in order to ascertain whether the Leeward Islands had formed part of the government of Pomare; because if they had not, the British and French Governments had agreed that they should not be included in the Protectorate. The French Commissioner had been assured, by natives on his side, that they did belong to Pomare; but Sir George found evidence which satisfied him that each of the larger leeward islands had an independent government. He therefore requested the French Commissioner to withdraw the blockade from Raiatea, and the officers who had been stationed with the consent of a small minority, at Borabora and Huahine. This the French Commissioner declined, but gave his word of honor that all things should remain statu quo until the decision of the parent Governments should be known. Admiral Seymour left again for the Sandwich Islands in the end of November, having previously addressed to Tapoa, chief of Borabora, Tamatoa, chief of Raiatea, and Araiipaia, female chief of Huahine, the following letter.

"I, the commander-in-chief of H. B. M.'s Naval forces in the Pacific Ocean, acquaint you that it has been told the Government of Queen Victoria that the chiefs of the Islands of Huahine, Raiatae, and Borabora, deny that a treaty made by Queen Pomare could affect their islands, which have been always independent of Tahiti. The British Government communicated this to the French Government who answered, that if the islands shall be proved to have been independent, that they will not be subject to the French Protectorate.

"It has therefere been agreed between the two Governments that evidence shall be taken to clear upthe doubts which exist as to the independence of the Islands of Huahine, Raiatea, and Borabora, and the French Commissioner at Tahiti is directed by his Government to forward any testimony bearing upon the subject; and the officers under my command will be authorized to send any testimony to England which they may receive. The two Governments will then examine and determine whether the Islands were independent or not.

"I have moreover to declare to you that the British Government considers all acts which may have been or may be taken in order to establish the French Protectorate in the Islands of Huahine, Raiatea, and Borabora, and their dependencies, to be invalid, and that their independencies should be respected, until the doubts which are entertained on the subject shall have been cleared up.

"The French Commissioner at Tahiti has acquainted me *that he will take no hostile measures against you* during this inquiry; and you will do well to leave the question of your independence in the hands of the Governments of Great Britain and France; to have patience, and to live during the period which must elapse before their decision can be made known.

"Given on board H. B. M.'s ship Collingwood, off Huahine, Nov. 20th, 1845.

"(Signed,) G. F. SEYMOUR."

The natives, having for twelve months previously been kept in a state of alarm, were well pleased with this arrangement, and many of them left their fortresses, and began to cultivate their lands, which had been neglected for two years.

But by the Coquette, last arrived, the intelligence is afflictive in the extreme. We have collected the following details.

THE FRENCH AT BORABORA AND HUAHINE. *Battle at the latter Island.* Sir G. Seymour sailed again for the Sandwich Islands on the 26th of Nov. Nine tenths of the people of Borabora still adhere to Tapoa, their lawful chief; the other tenth has become a French party, and a French officer is there for *their* protection.

One of this party complained that Tapoa's party had prevented him from taking food from his own land. This the other party denied. The Frigate "Uranie," Capt. Bonard, and the "Phæton," steamer, therefore were sent to Borabora, to resent this alledged injury. A fine was demanded; although