

which was replied to by one of the selected. The subjects of these discourses were, on the one hand, advice in reference to the duties about to be entered upon, and on the other a recognition of the weight of the responsibility incurred by the successful candidates.

Most, if not all, of those selected for the new mission were fine-looking men, and they were chosen out of many applicants, for their steady habits and strict moral conduct. The term of their engagement on the new duty was three years, after which they were to return to their wives and children, who were not to accompany them.

The extent and influence of the labours of the missionaries may be best understood by a comparison between the whole population of the islands, with the numbers of those who have embraced Christianity, and attend the schools.

The entire population of the group is estimated at 56,600, of whom 14,850 have embraced Christianity, and 12,300 attend the schools. These numbers are thus distributed :

ISLANDS.	POPULATION.	PROFESSORS OF CHRISTIANITY.	PUPILS.
Eastern Group . .	2,000	150	150
Tutuila	8,000	2,200	1,900
Upolu	25,000	8,000	6,200
Savaii	20,000	4,000	3,700
Manono	1,100	400	230
Apolima	500	100	120
Total,	56,600	14,850	12,300

The whole number of foreign missionaries is eleven, of whom one resides in Tutuila, six in Upolu, three in Savaii, and one in Manono.

The number of native teachers is one hundred and thirty-eight, of whom five are in the Eastern Group, thirty-one in Tutuila, fifty in Upolu, thirty-six in Savaii, twelve in Manono, and four in Apolima.

Besides those counted as having actually embraced Christianity, it is said that two-thirds of the whole population belong to the Christian party.

Of those who attend the schools, about ten thousand read, and this newly introduced habit has of course made a very great change in the habits of a majority of the people, but the number of heathen still left is sufficient to furnish an idea of their original manners and customs,