

selves, but apply the law of the land most rigorously, in not permitting any building to be constructed, without their own order and consent.

On Captain Hudson's reaching Rewa, he found Mr. Cargill, with his wife and five children, living in a small house, with only one apartment, having had his house blown down in a hurricane some two months before. The king paid no attention whatever to the request to build him a new house, until spoken to by Captain Hudson, when he promised to set about it forthwith. I cannot speak too highly of the cheerfulness and resignation with which the members of the mission and their families meet the trials they have to go through; nor can I withhold my surprise how any ladies or their husbands can endure a residence attended with such dangers and discomfort, cut off as they are from all communication with their friends and kindred. Truly, there is no poetry in such a life, and it requires all the enthusiasm that fervent religion calls forth, to endure the pains and perils to which they are subject.

We regretted to learn the death of Mrs. Cargill during our stay among the group, leaving a family of five young children. I can scarcely conceive a situation more pitiable than Mr. Cargill's is rendered by this bereavement. In consequence of the destitute state in which his children were left, he was obliged to return to England without delay.

It will be seen that the missionaries here have had but little encouragement. Neither is there a prospect of their making much progress for some time to come. The chiefs are averse to the new religion, because they do not choose to adopt, as they say, other gods at their time of life, and lest they should lose their authority over their people, whom they govern now through the medium of their gods or priests. They refuse to allow any one of the natives under their rule to join the mission, or receive instruction. From my own observation, I am very well satisfied that the common people, if permitted, would readily seek the change that would insure any thing like security from the tyrannical customs they are now suffering under.

The opinion is becoming general, that where a missionary resides wars do not take place; and the moment will arrive when the change in this group will be more rapid than that which has heretofore attended their exertions elsewhere. Although this may yet be at some distance, it must certainly ensue, whenever the intercourse with the whites shall have so much increased as to make it desirable for the chiefs to acquire the art of writing, and they have formed a proper estimate of our power. Should the king of one of the powerful districts be converted, his whole tribe will follow the royal example.