

LESSON LXXXVII.

ANECDOTES OF ELAU, A PAPUAN GIRL.

Er-ro-man-ga	in-tel-li-gent	Ply-mouth
He-bri-des	un-for-tu-nate-ly	Su-ma-tra
il-lu-min-a-tion	re-tain-ed	con-sump-tion

You may remember reading in one of your former lessons, an account of Ungka, the ape of Sumatra; in that story, a little girl is mentioned who was on board the same ship, and of whom Ungka was very fond. This was the child whose history I am going to relate. Elau (for that was her name) was born in Erromanga, one of the New Hebrides, islands in the South Pacific Ocean. She was of the Papuan race, a people so called from Papua, or New Guinea, and who inhabit a great number of the islands of Australasia. Travellers have much difficulty in becoming at all acquainted with them, as they are exceedingly fierce and barbarous. The different tribes are always at war with each other, and not only kill, but even eat the flesh of those whom they have taken in battle.

It appears that poor little Elau narrowly escaped meeting with this dreadful fate, for she and several other children had been taken prisoners by a tribe which was at war with their own, and she was only saved by the kindness of some of the natives of another island, who preserved her life, and took her out of the hands of her cruel enemies. Soon after, Mr. Bennett brought her on board the ship in