

SUPPLEMENTS.—It must not be forgotten that the Funds of the Home Mission are regularly drawn upon for aid to a number of weak congregations. These are in all parts of the church, east and west. Some are rising rapidly into the position of self-sustaining charges, but there are others that will require nurture and help for many years; and new congregations are being formed every year. Let these facts be borne in mind when you are giving your contribution to the funds of the church.

"TRIALS OF THE CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDERS."—A gentleman who signs himself A. McK. has written a series of papers under this title in the *Pictou Record*. We are sorry to observe the unfairness of statement and the bitterness of tone pervading these articles. We do not see any necessity for fighting the Disruption battle over again in Nova Scotia. The "Cape Breton Highlanders" are men of sense, intelligence and honour. They know their friends.—They know their Bibles. We have no fear of their being misled into "deep contrition" for following the dictates of their own consciences. We certainly doubt the propriety of "A. McK.'s effort to revive questions that by common consent have slumbered for years. There is work enough for us all and room enough in the world for us all. Surely we need not turn to maligning the Free Church or the "Secession." God has greatly blessed both these churches. We owe them much; they have both toiled and suffered for the truth. Surely A. McK. might leave them alone!

Rev. JOHN INGLIS, the excellent fellow-labourer of our Missionaries in the New Hebrides, writes very favourably of the "*Dayspring*," and of the Missionaries and men who went out in her. He says: "This mission was never before placed in so commanding a position for making a deep and lasting impression on the surrounding Islands. He reports that for the last year the public health on Aneiteum has been very good—the deaths being only half as numerous as in 1863. The cotton crop has done well, and the soil has proved well fitted for its production. It is expected to prove a valuable export. During the voyage of the *Dayspring* round the islands, Mr. Currie, the first mate had a narrow escape from drowning. He was accidentally pitched overboard while the vessel was making nine knots and the sea running high. Providentially he seized a rope and was pulled on board.

THE TROUBLES IN LIFU.—Our readers are already aware that the French Government has responded in the right spirit to the appeal of the British Missionary Societies

in reference to French interference with religious liberty in the Loyalty Islands. After a polite reply was received through the usual diplomatic channel, a brief and temperate Memorial was addressed to the Emperor himself and subscribed by Earl Shaftesbury and many more of the most distinguished men in England. This called forth the following most satisfactory reply from LOUIS NAPOLEON:—

"TUILERIES, Jan. 24, 1865.

"Gentlemen,—I have received the complaints which you have addressed to me relative to the recent proceedings of the Governor of New Caledonia, in the Loyalty Islands. I have caused a letter to be written to Commandant Guillaum, condemning any measure which might impede the free exercise of your ministry in these distant countries. I am certain that far from raising difficulties in the way of the representatives of the French authority, the Protestant Missions, like the Catholic, will aid it in spreading amongst the aborigines of that archipelago the benefits of Christianity and civilization

"Receive, gentlemen, the assurance of my distinguished sentiments

NAPOLEON.

Rev. T. CUMMING, minister of St. John's Church, Halifax, is now in Scotland on leave of absence for three months.

The Sabbath School.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY.

[The following brief notes on the lessons issued by the Synod's Committee, are intended to aid Sabbath school teachers in their important work; but it is hoped that they may be read with profit by others.—Should these notes prove acceptable we shall continue them in future numbers of the *Record*. The labour involved in preparing these two or three pages can be best appreciated by those who have made a similar experiment.]

FIRST SABBATH.

SUBJECT: *The Tower of Babel*, Gen. xi. 1-9.

The confusion of tongues led to the dispersion of the descendants of Noah, mentioned in chap. x. It occurred about the time of Peleg's birth or 100 years after the flood and 150 years before the death of Noah, see chap. x. 25., xi. 10-16., and ix. 28.