

TRINIDAD MISSION.

The successful commencement of the Trinidad mission ought to be a matter of thankfulness to God. It would appear from various circumstances that God has work for our Church on that island. The field on which Mr. Morton operates, and the people among whom he labours are somewhat different from these islanders, which will furnish an agreeable and profitable variety in your missionary intelligence. I shall be glad to hear that your appeal for another labourer for that field, has been crowned with success. We all know that two are better than one, and our Lord whose wisdom is infinite, sent his disciples two and two on their missionary tours. The New Hebrides mission will not suffer by this new effort in another direction. The additional interest which a new mission will create is likely to develop to a larger extent the means for its support, and therefore be clear gain to the missionary cause. I hope that our Church will never entertain the idea of giving up this mission, or even relaxing her efforts in this quarter of the world. There is no part of the mission field where the returns for missionary labour have been so speedy and so great, as on the South Sea Islands, and in the present state of the Church these advantages seem to be necessary to sustain and expand the missionary spirit. The distance of these islands is no serious objection, against them. A thousand miles now does not mean the same thing as a thousand miles in former times. When I left home, the voyage to these islands, under the most favourable circumstances, occupied more than six months; it may now be made in less than half that time. It is hard to say how near these islands may be to you 20 years hence, from increased facilities of intercourse. The Electric telegraph and steam navigation are fast annihilating time and distance.

I must now bring my letter to a close. May God bless every effort made by our Church to extend his cause, both at home and abroad. Remember us and our work at the throne of grace.

Ever yours, &c.

JOHN GEDDIE.

Rev. P. G. McGregor,
Sec'y B.F.M.

Letter from the Rev. Mr. McNair.

ANIWA, 26th October, 1869.

Dear Sir,—Your very kind letter of 9th of March last, came to hand a fortnight ago, and as there is a chance of replying by a trading vessel, I shall embrace it.

I should like very much to see your suggestions carried out and the ladies fairly

engaged in the way of correspondence, for they can enter into domestic details much better than we can. Mrs. McN. cannot, however, meanwhile commence for she is still weak. She was confined of a daughter on the 23rd August last, and since then she has had fever and ague to keep her down. We brought her here this week for change of air. We may have to return next week, as the vessel is going north to Santo—at least it is important I should return at once, for Erromanga is getting more interesting now. The fallow ground seems yielding; their prejudices against the missionary in many parts appear one the wane.

I have settled a teacher for the first time at the north end of the island last week, and I think I could have got two more disposed of in a similar way, had I them with me on the following days. You are aware that since our arrival on Erromanga, the Chiefs stoutly refused to take teachers at our hands, and I saw clearly as long as they did so, there was very little hope of evangelizing the island. I saw also that, their prejudices against the Missionary himself, was one of the greatest drawbacks. Things have now changed a little, and the great want may soon be, if not already want of proper men as teachers.

We sailed round the island last week in the *Dayspring* in way of exploring. We visited several boat harbours never before visited by a Missionary. At one of these places, *Meleve*, I was recognized by one or two, and the cry got up *Misi, Misi*. In a short time Mr. Milne and your most obedient were carried to the beach shoulder high amid great noise and rejoicings such as Savages can get up. They would have one of us remain with them, they would make a house, their land was rich and plenty of food. The Chief of *Meleve*, a very pleasant man is also chief of Potak, another excellent boat harbour, two miles or so to the south. They complained bitterly to us of the doings of the slavers—the chief told me they had stolen or decoyed away 10 of his men. Early in the morning, we entered the fine boat harbour of *Efu*, near the south end of the island. Here we were taken for slavers. I stood up in the boat and explained to them the object of our visit, and that we were very different from the class of men they supposed. Still they were suspicious and doubtful of us and no wonder, for I found out afterwards that they were ignorant of the very name of *Misi* and *JEHOVAH*.—Hence my difficulty and their confusion. As soon as we got them really convinced, however, their countenances changed and all was frankness and heartiness. I had along talk with the chief who brought me to see his wives and children at the inns or