

when her real usefulness would be commencing, she might be anxious to return home for the education of her son.

Letter from Dr. Geddie.

MELBOURNE, MARCH 26, 1870.

My Dear Sir,—I have finished up my visit to Australia, and am about to return to the islands. Our visit to these Colonies has been beneficial to Mrs. Geddie's health and my own, and I trust not unprofitable to the cause. We leave our little daughter at Ballarat, where she attends school.

My time has been occupied in visiting during my short stay in these Colonies. I have been in all the principal towns of Victoria, and in some parts of Tasmania. I need scarcely say that I have met with a most cordial welcome wherever I have been. Much interest is still manifested in the *Layspring*, and the children contribute liberally for her support. I have addressed many missionary meetings, but the largest was a meeting of children at Ballarat, when there were about 1800 children present.—This was probably the largest meeting of children ever convened in the southern hemisphere.

The most interesting event which occurred during our stay here has been the visitation of the *Layspring* by the children of Ballarat and surrounding country. She lay at Geelong about sixty miles distant, and the excursion party were taken there and back on the same day, for the small sum of one shilling for children and four shillings for adults. The whole party consisted of 2200 children, and 800 Sabbath School teachers and guardians to look after them. There was an abundance of refreshments, and to crown the whole a band of music, including two bag pipers. The children spent a most delightful day, and returned happy to their homes. The manner in which the expedition was planned and carried out did great credit to the parties who had charge of it. We all felt thankful when it passed over without the slightest accident. It was an intensely interesting sight to see so many young persons going so far to see a vessel which is devoted to the spread of the gospel. The largest and most magnificent vessel afloat does not excite so much interest as our little *Layspring*. Our churches are much indebted to the Rev. D. McDonald of Emerald Hill, Melbourne, for the trouble which he takes about her. He has made our vessel the special object of his advocacy, and his appeals on her behalf are irresistible. I have no fears as to her maintenance as long as she is in his hands.

The arrival of Mr. Goodwill has been very cheering to me. He appears to be a

man well fitted for the work before him, and has produced a very favourable impression here. I trust that God will recompense the Church of Scotland, which has sent so good a man to the mission field.—May he soon be followed by others, equally devoted to their Master's work. I regret that he is not better known in our congregations, for though he comes from another branch of the Presbyterian Church we are one in heart and one in action here. Mr. Goodwill accompanied me in my visits to Tasmania and some other places, and perhaps his letters may contain fuller accounts of these visits than I can give you at present.

I am much indebted to kind friends here for assistance in maturing arrangements about the printing of the Old Testament, especially to the Rev. M. H. Beecher, rector of St. James', and Secretary to the Bible Society. I long to see this portion of God's word in the hands of the natives. It will, I believe, give a favourable impulse to the cause of Christ on our island. I hope (D.V.) to see the work of printing begun about the first of January next year.

May God prosper all our efforts to extend his cause. We long to see Nova Scotia better represented here. May God raise up men among you who will be willing to forsake the endearments of home and come far hence to preach among these Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.

Ever yours, &c.,

JOHN GEDDIE.

REV. P. G. MCGREGOR.

Report of Rev. K. J. Grant's Visit to P. E. Island, July 1870.

To the Revd. the Board of Foreign Missions:

Having just accomplished a visitation of the several congregations of P. E. Island Presbytery, I beg to submit a brief report.

Our appointment dated from 24th April, but ice in the Gulf prevented Mr. McCurdy and myself from reaching Charlottetown until Saturday the thirtieth. As we failed in fulfilling appointments for 7 days, and as both of us were under the necessity of returning at the time originally specified, we were compelled, though very reluctantly, to forego the visitation of several congregations in the Western section of the Presbytery. I am happy, however, to be able to state to the Board, that by returning to the Island a week before the meeting of Synod, I had the privilege of addressing the congregations not previously visited, so that every congregation has been addressed on the subject of Missions, while in some, two or three meetings have been held. In all 41 meetings have been addressed. The attendance was generally good, in some cases it was large, considering the busy