

Colonial Churches of the Southern Hemisphere, who are their next door neighbours. I heard last year, through the *Record* of the Sister Church, that they intended to withdraw from this field; and I think we should too. You know that when a person is affected with phthisis, the disease will do its work notwithstanding all the attention and medicine you can give him. So these natives are smitten with a consumption that is certain to exterminate them. Certain causes will produce certain effects.

When I commenced to write this letter, I intended to tell you about Victoria, and the great loss the Church in Melbourne has sustained in the death of the Revd. P. S. Menzies, brother of the Manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia in Halifax, but I have been so hurried that I cannot.

We shall leave for the Islands tomorrow, April 4th. Dr. Steel is going down. Time will not permit me to add more just now.

Yours faithfully,  
J. GOODWILL.

#### Letter from Mrs. Goodwill.

The following private letter from Mrs. Goodwill has been handed to us, and we gladly publish it. Evidently the climate of the South Seas does not suit Mr. and Mrs. Goodwill, and we trust, therefore, that the Synod will recall them, if the Foreign Mission Committee has not already done so. Mr. Goodwill's letter is of later date, and it would seem from it that he has returned to the New Hebrides. We feel that in the circumstances this is a mistake; but probably he felt that his duty bade him return to his post till the Church recalled him. Some may think that he looks too much on the dark side of the Mission; but there is no doubt that it has a dark side. Still he has had some fruit of his labours. Some on Santo have given up their heathen customs; a few have even stood out against the Cannibal feasts. An idea of holiness has dawned on their minds; and when we think of Tana, where there has been a Mission established for a quarter of a century, and where there is not yet a single baptized person, we do not wonder that it is still

the day of small things on Santo. But whether Mr. and Mrs. Goodwill have returned or not, we think that the circumstances clearly point out that the Church should recall them. From Mr. Robertson we have had no word for a long time.

"DEAR SIR,—I received your very kind and interesting letters, and also the box of clothing. I feel very thankful to the Ladies of St. Matthew's for their thoughtfulness and kindness in sending me such nice and useful articles, both for myself, the children, and the natives; but as we are thinking about leaving the Mission, I had better hand them all over to Mrs. Robertson. Mr. Goodwill is also going to hand over the goods purchased in Scotland, and also those sent from Nova Scotia, to Mrs. Robertson.

We feel very anxious to hear from the Committee; we feel indeed very loath to leave the Mission, but we are advised by medical men that it is necessary to do so. I have been very ill most of the time since we left the islands, and the children have been several times at the point of death, but thank God we are all living yet. I feel a little better, but the children are still very weak—I am all alone. Mr. G. is in Victoria, and has been there for the last four months: he has had, he writes me, several attacks of the ague there. I expect him now every day, as our vessel is going to leave for the Islands on the 4th of April. We feel very much attached to the islands and the work. I don't think that we shall ever be happier anywhere else than we were on Santo, when the natives were quiet, and when we were well. The great draw back with us was the want of help, and it is impossible to get it on Santo, or to get any natives from any of the other islands to go with us. If we had help when we went to Santo first, it would now have been quite different with us. If our health would only stand the climate, we would not leave the islands, even were there nothing else than to show our appreciation of the great interest the Church has taken in us. We had all along obtained strength and encouragement from the very thought that we were continually remembered in your prayers. We always felt conscious