

(who was ill), was voted to the Chair. The Rev. W. Mercer then offered up a short prayer. The Chairman briefly referred to the service Capt. Fraser had rendered to the mission cause. He pointed out that popularity was not gained by such a course of life as he had chosen, but that he was endowed with the true missionary spirit, and so he navigated the little barque in the dangerous seas and had not lost a spar and but few sails. Never on any occasion during the time of his command had any difference arisen between him and the ladies and gentlemen who had come in contact with him, but by gentleness he had secured the affection even of the savages amongst whom he had mixed. The zeal with which Mrs. Fraser has assisted her husband in the mission work was referred to, and in conclusion, the Chairman called upon the Secretary to read the address to Captain Fraser. It was a very well executed piece of illuminated writing, expressive of the regret felt at losing the services of Captain Fraser, and recognizing the disinterested services he had rendered to the mission cause. The address was the gift of Mr. James Ferguson, of Ferguson and Mitchell. Two palm trees, with flowers about the roots, formed the side borders, and at the top was a sketch of the *Dayspring*. The whole was neatly endorsed in a gilt frame. The purse was the work of a lady teacher of St. Andrew's Church school, Carlton. We give the address:

"To Captain W. A. Fraser, late of the mission vessel Dayspring."

It is with much regret, that we, the Sabbath school teachers of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, have learned that you have resigned the command of the *Dayspring*, and that you are about to return with your family to your native country.

We have always taken a deep interest in the New Hebrides mission and the mission vessel, and it is with heartfelt gratitude to Him who is God of the sea as well as of the land that we are able to say that after eight years navigation in most dangerous seas the *Dayspring* has never had a serious mishap, and that she has always done her work with satisfaction to all concerned. This was due, under God, to the skill and zeal of her commander.

Further, we beg to recognize your disinterested efforts for and on behalf of every work which was calculated to render the *Dayspring* and the mission a success.

It has always been a great pleasure to us and our schools to see our mission vessel in Colonial ports, and we bear ready testimony to the high character which you have always maintained for yourself and the vessel on your visits to Australia, as well as to your invariable kindness and attention to

the multitudes of children and adults who have flocked on board the *Dayspring* to gratify their felt interest in the mission vessel.

Along with this address we beg your acceptance of the accompanying purse of sovereigns as a small token of our esteem for yourself and Mrs. Fraser, and praying the Father of all mercies to be your God and Guide even until death.

We are, Dear Sir,
On behalf of the Sabbath School Teachers
of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria,
(Sgd.) THOS. L. McMILLAN, M.D.,
Chairman.

DAVID WOMURTRIE,
DAVID H. VALENTINE,
JAMES BALFOUR,
WM. IRELAND,
JAS. W. SMITH, Hon. Treas.
MALCOLM MCGILVARY,
Hon. Secretary.

Captain Fraser made the following reply:
To the Sabbath School Teachers of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

My Christian Friends,—Though looking forward with much delight to revisiting my native land, yet it is with sincere regret that I say farewell to my friends in this Colony. During seasons of care and anxiety, with my little vessel amongst the islands, I have always looked forward to my visit to Victoria, sure to meet here with warm welcome and encouragement. You speak of the pleasure it has always been to you to visit the *Dayspring*, I can assure you the pleasure has been mutual. To anyone feeling the deep interest in the mission that I have felt, it could not but be delightful to see the crowds of young people, with their earnest, devoted teachers, swarm the deck of the little craft which I have commanded with, I confess it, more pride than if she had been one of Her Majesty's finest ships, for what can be nobler than her work engaged in the service of the King of Kings. It was not without a pang that I severed myself from the *Dayspring*. I superintended her building nearly nine years ago, and since that time she has scarcely been out of my sight, much less my thoughts, and it is with deep thankfulness that I now record my gratitude to the Father of Mercies who has watched over, guided, and enabled me to sail her successfully all these years, and though compelled for the sake of my family to resign my command, her every movement will still be full of interest to me, and my prayers will ever follow her, that she may be more and more useful in carrying the glad tidings of the Gospel to islands still sunk in heathen darkness. And it is to you Sabbath School teachers she must look for her principal support. You have done nobly in the past. By your zeal