

making wonderful improvement in his reading and speaking.

He is the second son of the murderer of John Williams, and must have been about a year old when that sad event took place.

Usuo laid the foundation stone, if you remember, of the Martyr's Memorial Church of Erromanga, in 1880. He is High Chief of Dillon's Bay.

#### FOUR MONTHS LATER.

Tuesday, Aug. 31st, 1886.

It is now four months since I began this—a long time to have a letter on hand and unfinished.

#### PREPARING FOOD FOR THE COMMUNION.

To-day our boat has gone south for food to enable our people of Dillon's Bay to supply the East side people who are coming this week to the Sacrament appointed to be observed first Sabbath.

There has been great drought here for three months which has all but burned up the native plantations, and this is especially felt in this valley and indeed all over the West and North sides of this island where there are no swampy lands for taro, and the yam requires dry soil, but rain occasionally, like our wheat and oats and hay at home. Yomot has arrived to-night, and by Friday there will be several hundred strangers in this valley.

#### THE MISSIONARY FAMILY.

Mrs. R., myself, and our youngest child are well, but there is much sickness and many deaths among the natives this year again. Our three children who are attending school in Sydney were well when we last heard from them.

A trading vessel from *Noumea* brought us letters from Mr. Ella, Miss Ella, and our eldest daughter written on the 24th of July. Mr. Ella mentioned that our three children were then well as also Mr. McKenzie's daughter who is now quite grown up though only 14 years of age this month.

#### A CRUISE IN THE DAYSPRING.

When I returned home from the meeting, Mrs. Robertson felt she needed a change, so as the *Dayspring* was going as far as Ambrim, and there were few passengers on board going and fewer returning we went the short trip, and were only three weeks and a half gone. We had magnificent weather and a most delightful trip and Mrs. Robertson and our child are

feeling much stronger for the change.

We called at Brakor, Hav. Harbor, Nguna, Emai, Tongoa, Epi, and Ambrim, and Messrs. McKenzie, Milne, Fraser, and Murray were landed and Mrs. McKenzie and their four children, and Mr. Fraser's two children. Mrs. McKenzie and her children and Mr. Fraser's children were with Mrs. Robertson while we were at the meeting of Synod in Tanna.

#### DEATH IN THE MISSION.

Messrs. Fraser and Murray as you know both lost their wives this spring, and Mr. Fraser's youngest child is very weak.

#### NEW CHURCHES.

Mr. McKenzie and his young men are are putting up an excellent large church; the frame is up. Mr. McDonald has put a fine large church resembling Dr. Geddie's church at Anicityum. Mr. Milne is erecting the church of the New Hebrides. Certainly it is beautifully built as he is so particular and an excellent workman. I preached to his people in it when North. Our New Hebridean half-washed, half-clad, natives, don't appear to advantage in such a building.

#### HOUSES AND STORES.

Captain D. McLeod (a native of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia) has built a fine house and store in Havana Harbor on this island, and the French Company have a very fine store and house also. They are improving their land, building etc., with great vigor at present.

#### A GLAD SIGHT.

One sight during our trip was at Emai, where we saw over 300 natives who have come out of heathenism within the past two years. What a change since I visited them about five years ago.

Ever yours,

H. A. ROBERTSON.

#### BRAZIL; ITS PEOPLE. ITS SCHOOLS, ITS RELIGION.

BY HORACE M. LANE, M. D., SAO PAULO.

Brazil is one-fifteenths of the habitable world, one-fifth of both Americas, three-sevenths of South America. It is larger than the United States and her territories (leaving out Alaska), and fourteen times as large as France. It has a coast line of nearly five thousand miles and possesses forty-two sea ports, among which are the largest and best of the world. Within