

ed opportunities we can never recall. Its misspent moments will never come back. All that we can do is to look to our merciful Saviour that he will blot out our sins of the past. But since the New Year is before us would it not be well for us to begin anew, looking to God for grace to help us. As we look over our failings of the past it would be well for us to take warning for the future not to be led away by the same sins this year.

Dear little friends although we have seen the beginning of this year we may not see its close. There will be many cut down by the hand of Death this year. If he were to call for you are you ready?

Then as year after year passes by we ought to be up and doing something for the Master. I write this for my little friends in Nova Scotia and it is my earnest prayer that it may prove a blessing to some soul.

May the New Year bring to every one of us a new heart.

From a friend in the United States.

THE DAYSPRING.

By a Sabbath School Scholar of James Church, New Glasgow.

In January 1850 Rev. John I. Baxter asked the S. School children of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces for \$100 to provide a boat for Dr. Geddie as he was in great need of one. Dr. Geddie had built one for himself out of his small salary. In a letter dated Nov. 28th, 1861, he says, "I spent this day in fitting out my boat". This was for a missionary voyage, but on that night the heathen party set fire to his house and this put an end to his excursion. Then a mission boat was purchased.

After a few years work this boat proved too small, and the missionaries wrote home, saying, that they wanted a larger one.

The answer to this appeal was the building of the "John Knox" on the Clyde. She was 29 ft. keel, decked fore and aft, with cabin capable of holding ten persons. She cost £400 stg. Her arrival was the cause of great joy to the missionaries.

After suitable service for four or five years the "John Knox" was followed by the Dayspring. She was built at New Glasgow by James W. Carmichael, Esq. Her dimensions were as follows:—

Length of Keel 78 ft., extreme length 85 ft. Breadth of beam 24 ft., and depth

of hold 10 ft. Good judges regarded her as the finest vessel of her kind ever built in Nova Scotia. She was painted white so as to resist more effectually the heat of the tropics. Her anchors, sails, chronometers were all furnished in duplicate and were of the best description. The cabin was 40 ft. in length and of a proportional breadth. The hull cost \$5750, and rigging, sails, &c., about \$5000. She sailed for Halifax on the 23rd Oct. 1863, where she arrived on the 25th. The missionaries who went out in her were, Rev. D. Morrison, Mrs. Morrison, Rev. James D. Gordon, Rev. Wm. McCullagh and Mrs. McCullagh. Rev. Hugh A. Robertson, now missionary to Erromanga, and John C. Reid, Esq., of this town were two of the sailors. The crew were under articles to abstain from the use of profane language, tobacco, and strong drink. She sailed for the South Sea Islands on the 5th Nov. 1863.

In Nov. 1857 she was undergoing repairs. Rev. D. McDonald in a letter written about this time, said, "£1300 have been expended on the Dayspring within the last 4 months. She cannot be sailed under £1200, irrespective of repairs. She was put on the slip in Nov. 1867, and it was found that her copper was very bad.

On the 6th of January 1893 the Dayspring became a complete wreck in Annetym harbor. Happy no lives were lost. She was insured in Melbourne offices for £2000 which went to the purchase of a new one.

After the wreck of the Dayspring the missionaries had the charter of a vessel, named Paragon, for 4 months. The cost was £80 per month. She was then purchased in Sydney, N.S.W. Her name was changed to Dayspring. She is built of blue gum, far superior to the English oak. She is 100 ft. long, and 22 ft. in breadth. In 1880 she was recoppered. She is used to take missionaries from one island to another. She takes missionaries to and from Sydney and all their supplies twice a year for them. She is running nearly all the time, her expenses are considerable, and that is the reason we take collections for her. In one year she paid 100 visits, and sailed more than 10000 miles.

A BOY IN A MISSIONARY COLLECTION.

A great many years ago, in a little town in Scotland, there was a missionary meeting held. Some very interesting