

the contributions of the natives for the printing of the Scriptures, and passengers leaving for health or to superintend the press.

What ships from other countries are; what steamers and coasters are; what railways, canals, and roads are; what cabs and Cobb's coaches are; what drays and horses are; what post-offices, postmen, and telegraphs are, to you in Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, and Nova Scotia—all these the *Dayspring* is to us, the missionaries and teachers in the New Hebrides. Were all these means of communication to be withdrawn suddenly, what would you do? Your respective countries would be brought to ruin in a day; such a state of things you could not tolerate; indignation meetings would be held everywhere. I hope you will never suppose that it matters little to us should you cease to support the *Dayspring*. Let all who contributed to the building fund, though many of them have grown to be men and women, remember their own vessel still; let them train their children to maintain what they initiated; let all the youth occupying the various Sunday-schools interested in the mission, and all who desire the evangelisation of the heathen, take the vessel into their affectionate support."

REPAIRS.

The *Dayspring* has been afloat for more than eight years, and though she has not, during all that time, met with any serious accident nor sustained any severe damage, yet as might be expected, it was found on examination that she required a thorough repair and outfit. Had she been sold as was proposed, kidnappers would probably have gained possession of her, only to trade upon her reputation, and hence it was determined to repair. Had she been sent to Scotland for this purpose as was also proposed, another would have had to be chartered for the season, and so it was determined to go on with the repairs at Melbourne during the first months of 1872. These have been effected and the *Dayspring* has doubtless sailed and may be regarded as re-established and for several years as good as new.

To meet the anticipated expenditure Rev. D. McDonald, of Melbourne, promptly and earnestly appealed to the children of the different churches by whom she is owned, to provide a double contribution for 1872, and to do so quickly. The request has been nobly responded to all round, and nowhere more liberally than by the youth of our own church. In the December No. of the *Record* Mr. McDonald's appeal was published, the whole sum required was remitted in February, in part it is true by anticipation, but now the balance in hand

is greater than it ever was on any previous year.

CHANGE OF CAPTAIN.

Another event in the *Dayspring's* history for 1872 is the loss of one captain and the gaining of another. Captain Fraser who watched over the vessel during her equipment for sea, and who has commanded her during all these years retires, and it is due to him, says the Editor of the *Christian Review*, to say that no commander could care for a vessel more than Captain Fraser cared for the *Dayspring*. A life has not been lost nor has a spar gone overboard, since the day she was launched, and it is well earned gratification to Captain Fraser to feel that after sailing his vessel over very dangerous seas during the whole period of her first classification she is still in as sound a condition as she well could be in the circumstances.

It is well known that our vessel could attend to the wants of a larger mission band than that which occupies the New Hebrides, to twenty as well as to ten. For the present number however she is indispensable, for any increase she is ready, and for her safety and usefulness we may well cherish profound gratitude.

The Board have some expectation that Captain Fraser may arrive before or during the meeting of Synod. They would close this narrative by expressing their earnest wish for his safe arrival among us with his family; and that his successor may prove himself worthy of the important and honorable post to which he has been appointed.

TRINIDAD MISSION.

After a statement of facts given in the Report of last year the Board appended these general remarks. "To all then it must be evident that our Trinidad mission presents this year many phases of interest and many signs of life. It has been strengthened and our two missionaries are mutual supports."

The events of another year fully bear out these statements, the evidences of vitality have increased and interest in the mission has deepened in Trinidad and in the Lower Provinces. Our missionaries have wrought together, not only in the same work but locally, to a much greater extent than was anticipated or arranged, and God has blessed the work of their hands and the counsels of their hearts.

One year ago Mrs. Morton in sickness was removed to San Fernando, and her return to Iere was considered by medical advisers very inadvisable. This rendered Mr. Morton's residence in that city for a season at least unavoidable. Notwithstanding his removal Mr. Morton continued his