

punctual and regular in their attendance. Our Mutual Improvement Society has been quite a success. Mr. Lawrence Clark, of Carlton, gave a lecture last week on the chemistry of common life. Next week we finish the session with a concert. We are to have the Sacrament dispensed next Sabbath. I trust it will be a means of grace to us all." From Rev. Mr. Duncan the news comes that a second church is being erected by the people in another part of the settlement. From Mr. Copeland, Fort Ellice District, interesting letters, March 25th, have been received. "I returned," he says, "from a ten days trip, to Shoal Lake and Ross Settlement, which I enjoyed because the Spirit was present at my service, especially was His power felt at Shoal Lake, a week ago last Sabbath. There were several out who had never been before. Settlers are already coming in." B.

### Our New Hebrides Mission.

**W**E are favoured with the following extracts from a private letter from Mrs. Annand to a friend in Halifax.

*Aneityum, 24th November, 1879.*

The second volume of the Old Testament came by the "Dayspring" last trip. - It commences with Job and ends with Malachi. There is still another volume to come, containing the books from Genesis to Esther. I think you would have been amused could you have seen the people, the Sabbath after they had received their new books. Mr. Annand took his text from Ezekiel, 37 v. 1-10. There were not more than six in the church who could find the book of Ezekiel—it was all new to them. Mr. Annand gave it out three or four times, and waited, but it was no use; so I got down on the floor among them, (for you know that very few of them will set up on seats,) and found the text for some of them, and Mr. A. also was busy helping them. Just as I had got seated, I heard some one calling in a loud whisper "Missi! find the place for me." And there was one of our oldest men, Nimtiwan, holding his book out to me. After a little, Mr. A. commenced his sermon, and the good attention of the people was very marked—Mr. A. has given out 301 books.

On the 17th November, we closed our school for a time. It has been open for four months. We have taught 55 days during the four months. We gave 14 rewards to the most diligent scholars, and they all enjoyed the closing very much. We had a swing up for them and shewed them pictures, after

which each of them received a large plate full of rice and a bowl of tea. Then in the evening, we had the magic lantern views in the school-room. I think that all enjoyed themselves.

**DEATH OF AN AGED CHURCH MEMBER.**—On the 22nd, one of our best church members passed away. He was not very well for some time, but able to go out and fish and do his plantation work. He was at church on Wednesday, seemingly in his usual health. On Friday they sent for medicine for him, saying that he had the ague very badly. He was supplied at once and visited by Mr. Annand, but became weaker. We both went on Saturday evening and took him some beef-tea. Mr. Annand had prayer with him and though in great pain, he paid good attention, joining in the amen. The dear old man died shortly after, praying for the people of Aneityum and for us. He had no fear of death, and we feel that our loss is his gain. His poor old widow, who is very feeble, will miss him much, for he was very good to her.

**SYDNEY, 21st January, 1880. THE FAREWELL.** I was very sorry to leave our people on Aneityum. I did not think they cared for us as much as they do, poor things; for at least two months before we left, at all their meetings, they prayed that the Lord would make the sea calm for us, and keep us from harm, and that He would make our hearts strong, for the work, and give us bodily strength, and give us back to them again soon. They did not seem to think that we would leave them for good, of our own will, but that the Lord might take us from them. For days before we left, numbers would come round us crying and some of the old people would say, "oh missi! You will be away so long, we shall be dead before you return, and then cry like children." One old man brought us a small pig saying that it was to make soup for us on board the "Dayspring," that the big fat pigs on board were not good for soup. The day we left, a good many of the people collected to see us off, and many of them were in tears, some of them had pieces of red, blue and white print flying for flags, and just as the boat left the shore, they fired a volley of musketry. I think that it would be very hard to leave those poor people alone for good, we would not like to do it. We have left one of the teachers and his wife, and an old man to look after our premises.

**STORM AT SEA.**—We left Aneityum on 17th December, and landed in Sydney on the 31st. We had fine weather and smooth sea till Saturday evening, 27th, when we had a terrific thunder-storm. No one on board ever saw any thing equal to it, for the brightness and continuity of the lightning. On Sabbath evening we had what the sailors called a "southerly buster"—a fearful storm which