

better their condition. They would always remain like grown up children, needing to be cared for.

Can we hope for any such result from French occupation. There will be development in the way of commerce. Traders will settle on the islands. There will be ports of call for French steamers. The resources of the islands will be developed. They will be brought into close contact with the rest of the world. The influence for a time will be decidedly adverse to religion. Christianity instead of having to contend with simple savagery and idolatry, will have arrayed against it other forms of sin incident to more advanced civilization.

But what are the prospects for the future. The probabilities are, judging from the past, that the native races will die out, like the Indians of our own provinces, and the islands will be peopled by a stronger race. The population of Aneityum is only one-fourth of what it was forty years ago, and with the increase of settlers it will probably diminish still more rapidly. The result, however, with the final triumph of Christianity, must be a stronger race, a stronger church. Meantime, let us do our duty and leave results in the hands of Him who has permitted it, whose is the kingdom and the power.

A bright side to matters in the New Hebrides, is the extent to which the field is being overtaken. Santo, Malekula, and Ambrim, are the three largest islands of the group. Malekula and Ambrim have been recently occupied by the three new missionaries sent out by the Australasian churches, and Dr. Paton writes that he is authorized to offer appointments to two more men, to be supported by these same churches, so that the whole group is in a fair way of being speedily occupied, so far as the settlement of missionaries is concerned.

A correspondent writes as follows: "Enclosed you will find six dollars for forty copies of *THE CHILDREN'S RECORD*, in addition to those already sent. I am placing a copy in every family of this section of the congregation. I think I can do as much for Foreign Missions by using the money in this way as by giving it directly to the Foreign Mission Fund." The writer is not far astray. Part of the

money will go directly to the Foreign Mission Fund, as all profits of *THE CHILDREN'S RECORD* are devoted to Missions. The contributions of that section will be increased sufficiently to more than make up the balance, while over and above, there will be the greatest good of all, the benefit to the young people in these forty families.

Mention is made in another paragraph of the aid that our Missions in Trinidad receive from Government in the support of schools. We have similar reasons for gratitude in connection with the viceroy of India and his noble lady, the Earl and Countess of Dufferin, who were so favorably known in Canada. Several unpleasant hindrances to mission work there have been removed through his influence, and she is supporting several persons in America who are studying for mission work in India.

We have received a copy of a sermon by Rev. John Knox Wright, our missionary in Couva, Trinidad, on the Great Commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." It is terse and clear, shewing the need of the perishing, the suitability of the Gospel to that need, the responsibility that rests upon Christians in this regard and the grand results that have already been attained. Referring to one point he says; "Let us remember that the true consistent lives of Christians are a great power for preaching the Gospel. Lately a Brahmin in India who had been thoughtfully reading the Scriptures and comparing them with the books of his own religion, said to a missionary: "Ah Sahib we are finding you out. We are better than our books, but you Christians are worse than yours. If all Christians lived up to the teachings of their Scriptures, your religion would quickly spread over the world; no religion could stand in the way of it."

This issue is largely occupied with our Foreign Mission work. The Reports both from the New Hebrides and Trinidad will repay careful study. The members of our church should not only have a sympathy with missions generally but an intelligent knowledge of our own mission fields and the work there done.