

the vessel has secured her registration in class A I. at Lloyd's, for eight years, being one year more than ever before awarded to any vessel built in these Provinces. She is well furnished with all kinds of stores, and with a Library of more than 500 vols. The crew are under articles to abstain from profane language, from the use of tobacco and of strong drink.

It was intended that the *Dayspring* should sail from Halifax on Thursday afternoon, the 5th ult. But the weather was thick and the wind contrary. It continued gloomy all day Friday. But Saturday, the SEVENTH NOVEMBER was most beautiful, and in every respect favourable. At half-past one o'clock the Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board and two or three other friends, were landed and the *Dayspring* hoisted all sail for the sunny south. Large numbers cheered her from the wharves as she passed swiftly out of the Harbour; and then as well as since we doubt not many fervent prayers have ascended to the throne of God for the Mission Vessel and her precious freight.

She is expected to call at the Cape of Good Hope where she will probably arrive in forty days. She will then sail for Sydney, Australia where, if it be God's will to give her a prosperous voyage, she may be expected to arrive about the middle of February. A month or two will be spent in Australian ports and then, twenty days will take her to Ancientum.

All the services and proceedings connected with the *Dayspring's* stay here and her departure were of a most interesting character, and may well mark an era in the history of Missions from British America. This is the first, the only, Mission Vessel that has ever left our shores. Freight and equipped as she is we pray that God may greatly bless her and speed her on her way to the desired haven. May God also abundantly bless the children whose freewill offerings have enabled the church to take this important step in the Foreign Mission work. Follow the *Dayspring* with your prayers: for without God we can do nothing

THE LATE INTELLIGENCE FROM THE NEW HEBRIDES.

For some time we have been without intelligence from the New Hebrides, as we feel, greatly to the loss of interest in our pages. Our readers will therefore we doubt not, rejoice to read the long and interesting communication from Mr. Geddie which appears in the present number. It is pleasing to find that God is again smiling on the work on Ancientum. The details given by Mr. Geddie are deeply interesting. We are sure that our readers will admire the mingled firmness and tact of the native chiefs in dealing with the sandal wood traders, and also the prudence of our missionary in the case. The ill health of Mrs. Geddie is the only drawback to the pleasing picture.

Our readers will turn with special interest to the intelligence of the other Islands of the group. The picture drawn by Mr. Geddie is one of mingled light and darkness. The clouds still rest on Tanna and to some extent on Erromanga, but yet some beams of light penetrate the dark covering which invests them with a funeral pall, and we doubt not that when our Missionaries arrive they will find open doors, and a ready entrance for their message.

We have been however most struck with the intelligence from Erromanga. We may remark here that we do not feel that we are guilty of any dishonour to Mr. Gordon's memory, when we search after the whole facts as to his death, and the causes which led to the catastrophe, not even if on examination we should find reason to believe, that he had erred. If he made a mistake, it is only what the greatest missionaries from the days of the apostles have done—there can be no moral blame attaching to such mistakes—and the errors in judgment which they may commit it is the duty of the church to observe, that they may learn wisdom for the future. As to native testimony we of course are aware how unreliable it is. But truth and falsehood are discovered among them by the same means as among others, and who so qualified to sift their statements, and by comparison of the statements of different parties, and an examination of all the circumstances, to arrive at the truth, as the