

This year we have three children at school. Our two boys have been attending school here since January, and we intend leaving them in Sydney at the end of this month when we return to our station. The most satisfactory arrangements we have been able to make is to leave them with a Presbyterian family by the name of Smith. We have to pay a hundred pounds sterling a year for them, exclusive of books and clothing and any incidental expenses such as doctors bills, etc. For our eldest, now in her sixteenth year, we pay between eighty and ninety pounds sterling a year.

Mrs. Mackenzie, who has been very much benefitted by her change, returned along with our youngest child to Sydney last Friday; our boys and I intend following about the end of this week.

It is expected that the "Dayspring" sails on the 29th. There are no new missionaries to go down to the islands by this trip. It is probable that Mr. Copeland will accompany us, as a sea voyage may benefit his health which is not in a very satisfactory state.

We are delighted, as you may imagine, that the French troops are to evacuate the New Hebrides. Indeed it is probable that they have left before this. For this we may thank, as far as human agency is concerned, the colony of Victoria, which has been instrumental in stirring up the British Government.

Steam communication is now established between Australia and our group. It is the line running to Fiji. Our friends can now write at any time, addressing direct to the Islands.

No further steps have been taken towards getting a steamer for our mission as it is found that our dear old "Dayspring" can do the work for another year at least.

Rev. C. Murray of Ambrim, who was so ill last year and returned to New Zealand has, I am sorry to see, resigned his connection with Mission.

Had letters from some of our natives about a fortnight ago. Up to the middle of February they had no hurricane. Was very sorry to hear of the death of one of my scholars. He was a nice boy of about 16 years of age. He was one of those who prepared the translation of the "Peep of Day." He was a native of Eratap, but had been attending school at Erakor for nine years. He died very suddenly.

Was the picture of health when I left. We feel his death very much.

Rather bad news has been received from one of the new stations, Mr. Morton's. Zary, a fine young man, a native of Malo, who was Mr. Morton's cook, was shot dead by one of the Malekula natives belonging to a village quite near the Station. A quarrel had arisen between the murderer and the rest of the village. To take revenge he said he would go and shoot the missionary and then a man of-war would come and destroy their village. Going to the mission house he saw this Malo lad and shot him. When Mr. Morton wrote he and all connected with him were at Mr. Leggatt's, the other station on Malekula.

I have not heard anything from any of the other stations except Erromanga. Mrs. Robertson was suffering from an attack of fever.

Yours sincerely,

J. W. MACKENZIE.

Trinidad.

MISSION NOTES.

[For the Maritime.

An inquirer met Babu Lal Behari and myself at a distant station last evening, and in giving an account of his change of views, and of his acceptance of Jesus as the true incarnation of God and the only Saviour, he told of the agents chiefly instrumental in bringing him to the truth, but evidently attached more importance to the weekly visits of a poor earnest man and his son, than to any other persons.

The father could not read, but his boy reads Hindi freely, and when he reads his father explains, and now said he, "four of us wish baptism." We were greatly delighted to hear of the constant efforts of this humble man. Every visit was a walk of 4 miles through a thick wood. We had heard of his work amongst his neighbours, but knew not of his visits to the estate mentioned.

Another, at the same service, who had been absent with his employer stated, "Though my master was very kind to me, I could not remain at C. for there was no church there, no place to pray, and not one of my countrymen cared to hear anything about Jesus.

In returning home I was asked by a