

of winter—the end of July. This together with my exertions unavoidable in getting into a place of residence I ought on another relapse, and hence my not writing you by last mail. I am thankful now however to say that as the warm weather advances, I am coming round again. When I say “dead of winter,” you are not to think of the end of January in Nova Scotia. The lowest we had the thermometer since we came was 52° in the hall of the house—saw neither frost nor snow.

From the present state of my health I cannot hope to return soon to the Mission field—if ever. I think, therefore, it is very desirable if you could supply my place by a man from our own church. There he has a house to go into, and a small christian community to surround him. If I ever am fit to do Mission work, I can easily get another station on Fate.

If you cannot send out a successor to me from home, I think you better make over the station to the Mission, and let them dispose of it at their discretion. I have not yet resigned my connection with Erakor as its Missionary, but intend to do so in time for the next annual meeting in Aneityum unless I am then prepared to re-occupy it.

Respecting my support, I wish to say that in March I over-drew my salary by £20. Probably I shall have to draw £20 or £30 more before the end of the year. At the annual meeting I asked if they had anything to recommend to your Board respecting my future maintenance, as now, returning to these colonies still on the sick list. Their answer was, that they had no other recommendation to make than that made at last year's meeting—that that covered the case. We are now in the hands of your Board and the Church. While thankful for what the Church has done for us in time past, we must confess to a feeling of pain at the prospect of continuing a burden upon her. However, it is but an element in the cross given us to bear. May we have humility and faith to carry it meekly and patiently.

In a letter received from Dr. Steel recently, he says that a Mr. Blue, a Licentiate of their church, has offered for the F. M. service. They cannot undertake the support of two. They contemplate offering him to our church. I know nothing of the man. Of course, if you cannot send us men from Nova Scotia, you will accept the offer; but I would recommend strongly if you wish our church to take a deep interest in that field to send your own men.

* * * * [Here follow some directions respecting business matters.]

In Auckland business is very brisk at present. This is owing to the “Thames gold-fields,” some 20 miles distant. Every

vessel and steamer coming to port from whatever quarter, is crowded with passengers for the “Thames.” Auckland is literally full. Other places have their population drained away, such is the case with Onehunga, though only 6 miles from Auckland, and a good road between. We have a small cottage of four rooms here for 4s. 6d. a week. In Auckland, five miles distant, it would fetch a rental of 15 or 20 shillings a week. People seem half crazy about this gold-digging! It is painful to see this eagerness to become rich with the gold that perisheth, while the utmost indifference prevails respecting the true riches! Oh, what need that the Lord should interfere to reveal to men their true interests!

But from what I have written I find you can form no idea of my own condition as respects health. The cough holds on its way and also the expectoration. I am without much pain. The right side of my chest is principally affected, but the other is involved. My appetite is tolerably good; my sleep is generally comfortable, but sometimes not very refreshing. I can write only sometimes, and read but very little, and that in the fore-noon. When strong I could walk a mile, but often a quarter of the distance would appear to me a formidable task. This letter is all my work for two days. I drink codliver oil at the rate of half a pint a week. Many thanks for your punctuality in writing us.

Mrs. M. joins me in kind regards to Mrs. McG. and yourself.

Ever yours, &c.,

DONALD MORRISON.

Rev. P. G. MCGREGOR,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Letter from Mrs. Morrison.

ONEHUNGA, Nov. 25th, 1869.

Rev. Dear Sir,—You are no doubt in receipt of the Rev. G. Brown's letter per last mail, informing you of my sad bereavement. My dear husband was called home on the 23rd Oct. He died in the full assurance of a glorious immortality. I am now a lonely widow in a strange land, yet God is supporting and comforting me, supplying all my wants, and raising me up kind and sympathizing friends. I feel that I have much cause of thankfulness, and I can rejoice in the thought that the dear departed is now in possession of that rest and fulness of joy for which he longed. As Mr. Brown purposes to write you more fully by next mail, I shall leave him to give you an account of his last hours. He spoke for nearly three hours before his death, and only ceased 10 or 15 minutes before his happy spirit was free. His mind was singularly clear and active and his