

to send the help we need for his own work.

My time is very short so I shall not say anything about the mission generally. You will get full news from others. Our own work I think is in quite a healthy state. My great trouble is want of teachers. We have had a man from Erakor for a year. He left two of his children at home, and is anxious to go back to them again. I had to send Nainf, (he is a native of Erromanga,) over to our old station. He speaks and reads the Tongan well. He teaches at that village and preaches at the three villages on that side every Sabbath. I have a Tongan settled at the bush village, where we drank a cocoanut together. Our chief here I have appointed as the resident teacher. He works hard and well. There are five villages on the island willing to take teachers, but I have none to give them. We preach at all of those places every Sabbath. I sincerely hope that you will not only be able to spare Nainf when you come back, but that you will also be able to send me some more teachers.

This year is one that will ever be remembered in the history of the mission on Tonga. Our first baptism took place this year. I baptized eleven adults, and two infants. Had not some sixty of my best people gone away to Queensland, I would probably have had 30 or 40 baptized. We have got a church built at our old station at last. The number of churches is now five. The house is a great help to me. I have made nine miles of road for it. I have paid for it. It has cost upwards of £30. Our people at least those of two villages, have made 1,200 lbs of arrowroot. This will go to pay for the road. A few of my old scholars have returned from Queensland, and others who went away as heathen are now falling in with the worshipping people. I am hopeful that we shall see great change for the better here in another year or two. There has been no fighting on Tonga for a considerable time past, but there are some old scores not settled off yet, so that I shall not be surprised if a limited fight were got up again.

I will hardly expect to hear of your return until April 1885. I hope you will manage to get north to the meeting at Api.

With our united kind regards and best wishes to you all, I close this hurried note. Yours very sincerely,

OSCAR MICHELSON.

## THE TRINIDAD MISSION.

Letter from Rev. J. K. Wright.

Couva, Trinidad, Sept. 25th, 1884.

Dear Mrs. McCurdy:—

Your letter of the 20th August, presenting \$25) *Twenty Five Dollars* to the Couva field from "the Young Ladies Helping Hands Society" of James Church, New Glasgow, was thankfully, I had almost said, joyfully, received on Monday of this week.

I write now so that my letter may catch the outgoing Packet. For myself, and in the name of our Master, and for the Couva Mission, I very heartily thank your society for the gift.

I have found it necessary to do many things for which no provision was made in the estimates—e. g.,—At Calcutta village we had neither land nor building. School was held in a "bungalow," belonging to a maharadje Coolie who had given free use of the place to the Mission since work was begun in that quarter. The place was small and every way unsuitable, besides, the owner had a chance to rent it to a family at a fair rent, and could not let us have it longer unless we agreed to pay rent at the same rate as was offered him.

I brought the matter before the Council, and we all thought it better to buy and build. This I did at once. The whole cost of land and building was \$331.94. I made application to have this school put on the Government list of schools. This very morning the Inspector came and we rode down to the school. He was more than satisfied with everything and promised to so report to-morrow, so that the acceptance of this school on the list is certain, and we shall receive \$15.00 quarterly and something more at the end of the year according to the standards reached by the children on examination.

Another extra was the opening of a new school on Providence Estate. This school now stands in the relation of branch to the Esperanza school. At the end of the year if we get a larger grant, I shall erect this into a school standing by itself. New schools and of course school houses are required at Perseverance Estate and in Spring Village. These I fear must wait. I am sorry for this as the people are anxious. Your gift will be applied to helping these extras. Some friends in the Port of Spain have subscribed something to help. And I expect some money from London and Toronto, so I may be able to present it