



A ROMAN COLUMBARIUM.

might be twenty feet square and thirty feet deep. A flight of very narrow stone steps led to the foot of it, each step with a rise of fifteen inches. The walls, as you will notice in the engraving, were honey-combed with little cells like 'pigeon-holes,' whence the Latin name, *Columbarium*.* In each of these niches there were one or two small receptacles, about the size and shape of a quart bowl, sunk into the wall and covered with earthenware lids. Some of the cells contained small urns made of common pottery, others of marble, and a few of more precious materials. Each and all contained the ashes of men or women who had been, as slaves or freemen, in some way connected with "the Palace," for this strange tomb bears the name of the *Columbarium of Caesar's Household*. The

names of these people, in most instances, were engraven on little marble plates let into the wall. Some of them are quite legible still. With what interest I read these, let my readers imagine—ONESIMUS; TRYPHENA; TRYPHOSA; CLEMENS; EPAPHRAS. Can it be possible that these were Paul's friends—our friends, might we not say, of whom we have read so often in the Epistles of the New Testament? "Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother—my son Onesimus." "Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord." "Epaphras our dear fellow-servant—my fellow-prisoner—a servant of Christ." "All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household." I do not insist that these urns contain the ashes of St. Paul's fellow-labourers, though at the same time I see no reason to doubt it. If not, the coincidence is certainly a very interesting one.†

Missionary Cabinet.

JOHN G. PATON—NEW HEBRIDES. †

MR. PATON modestly commences the thrilling story of his adventurous life of thirty years among the Cannibals of the New Hebrides, in these words,—“What I

write here is for the glory of God. For more than twenty years have I been urged to record my story as a missionary of the cross; but always till now, in my sixty-fourth year, my heart has shrunk from the task, as savouring too much of self. Lat-

† The Romans, who originally buried their dead, borrowed cremation from Greece during the time of the Republic. It became general about 100 B.C. and continued until about the end of the fourth century.

* For this fine cut of a Columbarium we are indebted to Messrs. G. P. Putnam, Sons, New York, the publisher of Gilman's "Story of Rome," in the Story of the Nation's Series.

† John G. Paton, missionary to the New Hebrides—an autobiography. Hodder and Stoughton, London, \$2.00.