

and Espiritu Santo by means of missionaries settled at different points and teachers stationed where they can be visited by a steam launch, thus the whole group will be occupied.

Mrs. Robertson of Erromanga has been very ill. Rev. Dr. Gunn, Medical Missionary on Fotuna, a neighboring island, was in attendance upon her, and writes that she has been at death's door twice but she has been spared and is now better. A young daughter came to the home a few weeks since.

In a note just received from Rev. K. J. Grant, he writes:—"We arrived home at noon Monday, 27th Oct. We had a most favorable passage. Weather fine, steamer comfortable, captain, officers and passengers agreeable. Miss Fisher stood the voyage well, and is with us in the meantime. We have already seen most of the mission-staff. All are as usual much occupied, and in fair health."

Miss Tissie Copeland for five years an efficient teacher at San Fernando, has gone back to Trinidad, this time as the wife of Mr. T. Geddes Grant, son of our missionary there. Mr. Grant has in the past taken a deep and active interest in the work of the Mission in San Fernando and now Mrs. Grant, though in another sphere, will still be a centre of usefulness there.

A custom obtains to some extent among Presbyteries that might be well discontinued, that is, the passing of complimentary resolutions when a minister resigns his charge or accepts a call to another congregation. Concerning the custom several points may be noted. (1.) When done in any case it is almost necessary to do it in all cases. (2.) If done in all cases the resolutions must be largely in the same strain. (3.) If this be done, then, as Presbytery rarely says less than it feels it must be tempted at times to say more than it feels, more than it knows to be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. (4.) The results of this must be a weakening of the moral sense of honor and truth, on the part of those who

pass them and the conveying of a false impression to strangers to whom the resolutions may come. (5.) If Presbyteries do discriminate and in some cases, either pass resolutions "damning" with faint praise or do not pass any, they unnecessarily hurt the feelings of a brother and perhaps wound an already discouraged heart. Flattering resolutions do no good. Where a man is known, by his works and worth men will judge him. If he go among strangers his work will soon be weighed, and if weighed by the resolutions and found wanting it will be the worse for him.

We know of at least one Presbytery that has on its records a decision that there shall be no such complimentary motions passed in such cases, and that Presbytery can most cordially recommend it to others as excellent both in principle and practice.

The Presbyterian Church of England has appointed Rev. John Skinner a young Scotchman, Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis in the Theological College, London. In his opening address the new professor has boldly avowed himself in favor of the new criticism. He thinks it probable that the era of prophecy was before the law. He breaks up the Pentateuch giving to each part its probable place in the history of Israel, and puts the priestly code as *probably* away down after the Babylonian Exile. His address, says the Presbyterian Messenger, was received with mingled feelings. No wonder!

The Presbyterians and Methodists of Lunenburg held their Thanksgiving service together in the Methodist Church, the Methodist Minister conducting the devotional services and Rev. E. D. Millar preaching. This spirit of the unity is a grand one. Let it be carried out thoroughly. There are two lines that require special attention in this regard. (1) That no attempts be made to induce Christians to leave their own denominations where churches exist side by side. (2) That denominations do not erect preaching stations where they have only one or two families and where the only hope of gain is from other denominations.