

"THE DOT UPON THE I."

(Dr. Tyng related the following incident to his Sunday-School in the Epiphany Church, Philadelphia, many years ago.)

In Russia's far-off frozen clime
There lived a lovely child:
The Lord to deeds and words of love
His tender heart inclined.

He loved to hear his parents read
In God's most holy word,
And treasured up within his breast
The blessed truth he heard.

This little boy was very sick,
And when about to die
He called his father to his side,
And said, "I want to buy

"Bibles to send to heathen lands,
Where they know not the Lord;
That they may all read for themselves
In His most holy word.

"I cannot send whole Bibles there,
Perhaps not one short word;
But I would like to give some help
To spread its truths abroad.

"Those three bright pennies in my box
I think a type would buy
To print in Christ's most holy name
The dot upon the i."

"That stricken father did not fail
Those little coins to send.
O children, think how many coins
In wanton waste you spend!

Christ will receive the smallest gift.
When follies tempt your eye,
Think of the little Russian boy's
Small dot upon the i.

M. W.

My son, forget not my law, but let thy heart keep my commandments: for length of days and long life and peace shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee; bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thy heart.

OUR OLDEST MISSION FIELD.

Away in the South Pacific Ocean, where North winds are warm and South ones are cold, where the coolest weather is in our summer time, and in the shortest days the sun is North at midday instead of South, lies a group of about thirty islands, some of goodly size, with others very small scattered between them, extending North-West and South-East for four hundred miles, and having a total population of from 50,000 to 60,000. This is

THE NEW HEBRIDES

our oldest mission field. Forty years ago Dr. Geddie began his work at *Anciteum*, the most southerly of the group, and one after another has been occupied by missionaries until the gospel has been brought to most of the islands.

In the whole group there are sixteen missionaries, three from our own Church, two from the Free Church of Scotland, and eleven from churches in Australia and New Zealand. But even though other churches have now the largest part of the real work, the field is near and dear to our church yet on account of its being the beginning of mission work with us as well as the first beginning of mission work in these islands.

Many are the wonderful changes that have taken place. Where fighting, killing and eating each other used to be so common; where widows were strangled when their husbands died, and mothers when their sons died; where many little children were put to death, where vices and cruelties unmentionable were common, are now the voice of prayer and song of praise. And the children instead of being trained in habits of cruelty and sin, are now taught to love that same Jesus of whom you sing and to whom you pray.

LITTLE THINGS.

A little thing may decide your all. A Cunard steamer put out from England for New York. It was well equipped, but in putting up a stove in the pilot-box, a nail was driven too near the compass.