

several years ago. Some half dozen of these boys and young men have been baptized, but their christian training has been neglected. On this Estate I have Coolie service every second Sabbath morning.

We have thus some encouragements. You will notice that I speak of the Hindi above. This is the low or Indian dialect of Hindustani, as Urdu is the high or Mussulman dialect. The Hindi is printed in the Nagari character, and the Urdu in the Persi-Arabic. I use both in speaking; but I only use Nagari in our public services, as the majority are Hindūs and have their prejudices in this matter. Two of the young men at Iere and Soodeen read the Hindi Gospels to me, and as the two young men are reading the Word of God for the first time in their own language and letter, the effect produced is striking. They read English but it does not seem to bring home the force and meaning of what they read as the Hindi does. They often stop to express their surprise and admiration. One of them seems hardly to know what to think. Though he has lost confidence in much that he formerly believed, he is not yet prepared to give up all, and he begins to apprehend very clearly that if he receive the Gospels as the Word of God in truth, he must reject the claims of Hinduism—a conclusion which he seems to be afraid of.

Pray for us and our work.

Very sincerely yours,

JOHN MORTON.

Extract from a letter from Rev. J. Morton to Rev. G. Patterson.

"I am having some encouragement in my work. There is marked attention paid by the Coolies to the message of life. I see good reason to labour and be encouraged even though I am unable to report conversions. One thing is evident, the people understand the language I speak and are stirred up to think and feel. At times they are moved. They often commend the truth and beauty of what they hear. Some of them believe, at least intellectually the word—the truth is finding entrance in some measure. Oh that it would so enter as to drive out all error, and lead them to take what must be to a Hindu the tremendous resolution, to trample custom and caste under his feet.

Hospital work is very pleasant, the poor fellows seem so grateful to be noticed. To be noticed, encouraged and cheered when sick and lonely, seems to open their hearts to us.

Mr. Grant seems to take to the Coolies, and I think he has felt already that they afford a wide field for zealous and devoted exertion, and a field not unpromising. I hope the Church will not be impatient. To

learn a language, gain an influence so as to be listened to with confidence and be understood, takes time, and this is only the beginning of the work. But if any are doubly urgent to hear of conversions, let them be doubly urgent in pleading with Him whose is the power."

NEW HEBRIDES MISSION.

(From the Christian Review.)

Death of the Rev. James McNair.

Recent letters from the islands have brought the sad intelligence that the mission is bereaved of one of its most faithful labourers. The following letter from Rev. Mr. Inglis contains a worthy tribute to the memory of our departed brother:—

*Aneiteum, New Hebrides, }
August 2d, 1870. }*

REV. D. McDONALD:

My Dear Sir,—As we expect to have an opportunity of sending away letters in a short time, I sit down to write you a few lines. The "Dayspring" arrived at Aneiteum on the 5th of May, bringing us four months' letters and papers. She brought back from the colonies Dr. and Mrs. Geddie; also Mr. and Mrs. Ella, of the Loyalty Islands Mission; she also brought Mr. and Mrs. Goodwill, a missionary and his wife for this group, from Nova Scotia, from the branch of the Presbyterian Church there in connection with the Established Church of Scotland, but which is negotiating a union with the other Presbyterian Church in that province, which is composed of what were the United Presbyterians and the Free Church. The Presbyterians of the lower provinces hold advanced opinions on the subject of union.

MISSION COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the mission was held at my station in June. It was a very interesting and a very agreeable meeting. The reports from all the stations contained greatly less of the discouraging element, and greatly more of the encouraging, than they ever did. Still you must remember that ours is slow, difficult, up-hill work. Every stronghold of Satan has to be taken by the slow process of sapping and mining. It is not as in old times, when armies met on plains, and one decisive battle sealed the fate of an empire. The god of this world has ruled too long over these tribes, and is too firmly entrenched among these islands, to yield up his power without an obstinate struggle.

ANEITEUM.

On this island the work goes on quietly and steadily. The money received for the