

by Dr. McOnald, and certainly no man was more competent than her faithful friend and indefatigable agent at Melbourne for so many years.

The third portion of the work, or what comes first on the title page, consists of a series of letters written from the New Hebrides by F. A. Campbell, the son we believe of the minister of Geelong. These add much to our knowledge of the islands, and by pen and pencil he makes us quite intimate with the islands, the missionaries, their residences, their work, their people, and their difficulties of all kinds.

The work is what it claims to be "a contribution to the physical social and religious history of this important group, prepared merely with the desire of giving the friends of the mission some clear idea of the kind of places where their missionaries are laboring, and the kind of work which they are trying to do."

We have no hesitation in saying that it is a most valuable contribution toward that object, and that it should without delay be placed in every Sabbath School Library in the Lower Provinces. It is worth a half-a-dozen, or it may be a whole dozen of the prevailing fictions which constitute three-fourths of what pass for Sabbath School books.

We must not omit to add that Mr. Campbell is a Botanist, and having placed the collections of plants made on the islands in the hands of a master of that science there is appended a chapter on the Phytography of the New Hebrides, and Loyalty Islands.

NOTICES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

THE Sabbath School Lessons for 1875, prepared by the Synod's Committee, are now ready and can be had on application to the office of the "Presbyterian Witness," corner Sackville and Granville Streets, Halifax, at the usual rates, 50 cents per 100. Superintendents and others should send early so that the lessons might be in the hands of teachers before the first of the year.

MAKE up your list of *Record* Subscribers for next year (1875) by the 20th of this month, or as near the date as possible. Send the order without delay to the office of publication. The money should, wherever possible, accompany the order. Ministers, Elders, Home Missionaries, Catechists and Church-workers generally, are earnestly requested to aid in securing an increased circulation for the *Record*.

TO CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.

Five months ago the Treasurer paid \$200 by direction of Synod for Presbyteries to be refunded within two or three months at farthest. Only fifty dollars have been returned,

and the remainder is urgently needed before the new year.

CHURCH INSURANCE FUND.

The Committee on the Church Insurance Fund have to announce that the Synod have agreed to carry on the scheme with a slight modification of the original plan. Originally it was proposed that after payment of rates for three years, there should be no payments except on the occasion of each loss by fire. Instead of this, it is proposed now that the payments be continued after the three years are expired, at the same or reduced rates as may be found advisable, until the fund accumulates to such an amount that the interest will pay all demands upon the fund when payments will cease. It will be observed, that under the present plan there will be no extra calls for losses. For the security of the fund, twenty gentlemen of good commercial standing have agreed to guarantee their proportions of any loss that may occur previous to the premiums being sufficient to meet the same. The fund is therefore perfectly secure. The following are the rates.

TABLE OF RATES.

	Amount insured.	In rural districts.		In towns or villages.	
		In 1 year.	Annually for 3 years.	In 1 year.	Annually for 3 years.
1st Class.	\$1000	\$12 50	\$ 5 00	\$20 00	\$ 7 50
2nd "	2000	25 00	10 00	40 00	15 00

It is important to the success of the scheme that a large number of congregations join. Applications are requested to be forwarded with the money to J. W. Carmichael, Esq., Treasurer of the fund, on or before the 31st December next. Blank schedules may be had from the Convener.

GEORGE PATTERSON, *Convener*.

TO THE CHILDREN OF THE CHURCH.

Cards have been sent out asking you to help the Board of Foreign missions in carrying on the great work of sending the Gospel to the heathen. Not only the Board, but the Synod, the missionaries, and the whole Church, feel thankful for your past aid, and we believe the Lord Jesus has approved and blessed your work.

The cards, for which please ask your minister, will tell you that we look to you for nearly \$1000 for the *Dayspring*, and for about \$400 for the Schools under the charge of Messrs. Morton, Grant and Christie in Trinidad. Besides all this, a young man is going out from us this fall to be a teacher of the young Coolies, and money will be wanted for his passage to San Fernando.

If you will give as quickly and as well as you did last year, the friends of our missions will have new cause to return you their cordial thanks.

P. G. MCGREGOR, *Sec'y, B. F. M.*
Halifax, Nov. 24th.