

ever, need a little stirring up. We have got nothing yet from South Australia and little from Tasmania.

With the assurance of my unabated interest in our mission—yours and ours—and in the dear little vessel and her work, not forgetting the good captain, and his wife, praying God to bless you and your labors,  
I ever am, yours very truly,

D. McDONALD.

Rev. P. G. MCGREGOR.

### Letter from Rev. D. Morrison

On board the "Dayspring" off the mouth of Auckland Harbor, July 29th, 1869. }

MY DEAR MR. MCGREGOR,—It is now some four months since I wrote to you last before leaving Auckland for the New Hebrides. In the interval I have been in the New Hebrides and attended the annual meeting of the mission. The minutes to be forwarded by Dr. Geddie will shew what subject occupied our attention.

With respect to myself I have to say, that until I reached Efate after the annual meeting, I purposed to remain in the New Hebrides at least till the end of the season. But having got back among my people in Erakor, I found that it was impossible for me to be so free from care and exertion among them as my shattered health required. I could have gone to live at another station—Dr. Geddie kindly invited me to live with them—but having to move from my own station, I thought it better, as the *Dayspring* was going back to New Zealand to go at once to a more invigorating climate, having at the same time the necessary rest. To this I had but one objection—and it weighed heavily with me—viz.: Living in New Zealand is more expensive than in the New Hebrides. But considering that my first duty was to seek the restoration of my health, I came to New Zealand notwithstanding. I hope your board will not disapprove of the step.

I am glad to be able to say that on the whole my health has been steadily improving since I left Sydney, in February last. The week of the annual meeting gave me more to do than I was well able to bear.\* I had consequently a slight relapse thereafter, but it was not serious, I soon rallied again. But though my progress is slow, yet myself and others think there is some real progress. My cough still continues on me tho' not so violent as it has been.—My strength is steadily increasing. I have not, however, as yet, made such progress that I can entertain the hope of being able to attempt the discharge of any public duty soon.

\*Mr. Morrison was chosen Chairman.

I shall have to draw on Dr. Steel, of course, as before. I suppose the authority given him to supply my wants in the past extends to the present, at least, till some new arrangement is made. Erakor is still my station. I am still away on leave of absence. Mr. Cosh is now in the vessel with us—he and family. They come for the benefit of his health. He had a bad cough when the vessel arrived in May, and was very weak, and had an attack of fever when we were at the meeting. He was not at the meeting, Mrs. Cosh having then been recently confined. I am happy to say that now Mr. C.'s cough has nearly quite left him, and that his strength is returned. The probability is that if he had been unable to have a change he would be a confirmed invalid before the end of the season.

Thus Efate is now without a missionary on it. But Mr. C. is going back with the vessel and will superintend the work at both the stations—Erakor and Ebang.

Mr. Gordon is on Santo. His landing was under very favourable circumstances. The people are numerous around him. Four influential chiefs were present at his landing and gave him welcome. May the Lord grant that he has now entered on a new era in his missionary career. His lot in the mission field hitherto has been peculiarly trying. At our meeting in May we released Mr. G. from Dillon's Bay and appointed Mr. McNair permanently to that station.

Who ever is at Dillon's Bay has a hard lot of it. True, he has good houses over his head, and a good landing place; but that is all that can at present be said in its favour. I trust that Mr. McNair may succeed by the blessing of God.

On Aniwa Mr. Paton continues to report favourably of the work.

The last accounts from Port Resolution were the most favourable heard from that place for some time.

At Komere Mr. Watt had a very hopeful reception. I hope he will now reap some fruit from Mr. Matheson's labour.—Both Mr. and Mrs. Watt seem eminently well fitted for mission work.

Mr. Copeland is laying foundations broad and deep on rocky Futuna. Only a little appears on the surface as yet, but by God's blessing it will appear one day.

On Aneiteum the work holds on its course. As you will have from Dr. Geddie fuller information about that Island than I can furnish, I shall say no more about it here.

I ought to have mentioned that on our arrival in the beginning of the season we found that mission families had, in the absence of the *Dayspring*, received reinforcement as follows:—Mr. Cosh's family a