

was his annual report which greatly interested the Board and which by their direction appears in our present issue of the *Record*, which our readers will thus have an opportunity of reading for themselves.

We also publish in the present number Mr. Gordon's annual statement which is also an interesting document, and which presents the reader with a very different picture. In Aneiteum Satan's kingdom has been well nigh overthrown. In Erromanga it stands in its strength. The victory has been declared in one case. In the other the battle is at its height, the enemy occupies the strongholds in force and the assailants are few, feeble and scattered. Still there are some indications of progress.

Various other papers were read from Mr. Gordon respecting the "Dayspring" and the subject of an immediate effort for the evangelization of the island of Espirito Santo. On the subjects referred to there is a difference of opinion among the missionaries, and as no decision on the points raised has yet been given by the Board, no advantage would accrue from the publication of particulars.

Mr. Gordon, at date of writing, was at Sydney, and had not then accepted the invitation of the church of New South Wales, to become their missionary.

Mr. Morrison was not able to prepare his annual statement. His letters show that his illness is of a most serious character. Cold caught while refitting or rebuilding a house had affected the chest, and having, from anxiety to advance his work, denied himself rest at the time when it would have been most beneficial, the chest affection became seated, as evinced by debility and profuse night perspirations. The reports of eminent medical men at Melbourne speak of acute pulmonary disease, and the necessity of very decided medical treatment with entire rest for a year, as essential to restoration. The latest accounts from Mr. Morrison himself shew a marked improvement, and are much more encouraging than those read to the Board.

No later intelligence from Mr. McNair can what has already appeared in the *Record*, was before the Board.

A prayer meeting in connection with the Board was held in the evening in Primitive Church, conducted by Rev. Messrs. Stewart, Walker, K. Grant and McGregor; and it is expected and requested that special prayer for the support and restoration of our dear brother Morrison will continue to be offered up in all the prayer meetings of the body; and that the general interests of the mission and the success of all the missionaries will also continue to occupy a place in the hearts and petitions of the Lord's people generally.

NEW HEBRIDES MISSION.

Annual Report by Dr. Geddie.

ANEITEUM, NEW HEBRIDES, }
DECEMBER 28, 1867. }

Rev. and Dear Sir,—The close of another year reminds me that I must prepare my annual letter for you. I have not much of importance to record about the work on this island, and our labours are about the same as in former years. My object in writing at present is rather to fulfil a duty, than impart information that will be of much interest to you.

On our return to the island last year, we found matters in a very unhappy state.—The natives on the two sides of the island were completely divided, and there was no friendly intercourse between them. We heard with intense regret that our little island, during our absence, had been on the verge of a civil war. It was painful beyond expression, to witness such a state of things among a people, who, for so many happy years, had taken "sweet counsel together, and walked into the house of God in company." No effective steps were taken to improve matters until a few months ago. I then visited Mr. Inglis' district by previous arrangement, accompanied by all the chiefs and leading men on my side of the island, and had an interview with the people there. Our whole party received most cordial welcome, and there was a large collection of food made to feast them. A public meeting was held, attended by natives from all quarters, and the result has been all that could be desired. The causes of alienation were talked over in a frank and friendly manner; misunderstandings were explained; mutual concessions were made; and all parties agreed to bury their animosities, and revive them no more. This visit was soon after returned, and a similar meeting held at my side of the island, with like results. I believe the natives to be sincere in their wish to live in peace with each