

LETTER FROM REV. J. W. MCKENZIE.

MALO, NEW HEBRIDES, JULY 8, '87.

My Dear Mr. Morrison,

Your very kind letter came duly to hand by the *Dayspring*. It was a glad surprise to receive a letter from you as Agent of our Church. May you be long spared to act in that capacity. I do hope we will hear frequently from you, for it does cheer us so much to get a few words of sympathy once in a while from those who take a real interest in our work.

From the above heading you see that I am not at my own station. Mr. Robertson and I left our wives and families at Erakor over eight weeks ago. We came by the *Cairndhu*, the *Dayspring* having taken on board all the other missionaries who were going to the annual meeting. The *Cairndhu* was chartered by the *Dayspring* Board to bring down to the islands the material for house-building and other cargo left by the mission vessel, and to assist in the settlement of the new missionaries.

We met at Ambrim and held our meeting, after which Messrs. Watt, Lawrie, Morton and Leggatt sailed for Malekula in the *Dayspring*, the two latter wishing to settle on that island, while Messrs. Robertson, Fraser, Murray and myself accompanied Mr. Annand and Mr. Landels in the *Cairndhu*, with a view to settling them on one of the islands to the north of Malekula.

We sailed direct for this island and settled Mr. Landels under most favorable circumstances. We then set sail for Tangoa, a small island adjacent to Santo, hoping to settle Mr. Annand there should it prove an eligible opening. The wind not favoring us, our good captain, a fine young man esteemed by us all, determined to run back to the anchorage here, and wait for a more favorable breeze. But unfortunately when near the place wind and current were against us and we drifted on to the reef. All our efforts to get her off being of no avail everything was landed on the beach.

Part of us came to the mission house where we have been most kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Landels, while the greater number erected tents near the wreck, where they seem to be very comfortable. The Annands are to settle on

Tangoa. It is not more than eight miles distant from this station.

Our first officer left us in a boat over a fortnight ago to intercept the *Dayspring*. Mr. Robertson and I are looking most anxiously for her. We told our wives that they might expect us back in eight weeks. That time has more than expired and we cannot even set sail southwards for a week or two yet, so we fear they will be anxious about us.

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Yours very sincerely,
J. W. MACKENZIE.

Trinidad.

MISSION NOTES FROM TRINIDAD,

BY REV. JOHN MORTON.

(For the Maritime Presbyterian.)

Oct. 8th. I left at 7.27 a. m., for St. Joseph, to see Tara, who was reported ill. Tara means a star, and her husband's name is Meghu, which means a cloud. They were married and baptized seven months ago, but she is only 16 years of age. A walk of three quarters of a mile brought me to their unfinished and far from comfortable house. Having prescribed medicine and conducted divine service with the neighbours at her bedside, we returned to the opposite side of the town to see a poor dying woman, who had sent word to Annajee that she wished to be baptized. This poor woman occupied an inner room with earth floor and walls, and only one window, about 20 inches square. It was made of boards and stood wide open. One daughter attends the St. Joseph school, and an elder one was cooking in the outer room. These children were both baptized before we came here, but have received no religious instruction, so far as we know, from those who baptized them. The mother was not an idolater, had no faith in idols or deotas, was conscious of sin and praying for mercy, but not clear as to the way of acceptance and peace, though she had been told about Jesus. I tried to make this very plain to her and she listened eagerly. I promised to return in the afternoon when her husband would be home and decide then as to baptism.

On leaving the house we were told that a woman in the neighborhood had cut her throat with a razor. It appears that she