

who was lifted up that He might draw all men to Him.

This picture is bright, and we may be asked how do we account for, or vindicate the alienation described in Dr. Geddie's last report, verging almost to open rupture between the population of the two sides of the island? We are not careful to answer the objector in this matter. We have never represented Aneiteum as a Paradise, nor the people as perfect or other than sinners saved by grace from the depths of heathenism. We would naturally anticipate that infirmities and inconsistencies should occasionally stain their characters; and when we see in families, and communities, and nations, and even churches which have long enjoyed the full blaze of gospel light, alienations verging on collision, why should we be stumbled at the inconsistencies of the Aneiteumese, who, with all the ardour and impulsiveness of children, must have also something of their feebleness. But if the misunderstanding was a blot and much to be deplored, was not the reconciliation both in the mode and completeness of its accomplishment creditable to all concerned, and honourable to that name by which they are called?

ANOTHER EPIDEMIC.

The dark shadows of disease have also fallen on Aneiteum during the year, and the ravages of whooping cough will long be remembered by bereaved parents. Both missionaries and people have been severely tried, and have betimes been much dispirited. The Providence is mysterious, and the special design of God may be partially hidden from us. But we may rest assured that the judge of all the earth will do right, and that He has important ends to serve by these visitations of His providence. We have glimpses of sunshine in the faith, and peace, and patience of young Selwyn and others who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

Education still advances—50 schools being open on the island every morning at sunrise, and three-fourths of the natives can read. Two schools of a higher order are conducted by the two missionaries at their respective stations, and the Orphan school, begun by Mrs. Copeland, and now conducted by Mrs. Geddie and two native assistants, has an attendance of 50, who all have to be clothed, and about one-half fed from the mission premises. The Orphan school is, therefore, becoming to some extent an industrial school, the children being taught to work for their own support. This must be regarded as an admirable arrangement. But while it meets the difficulty to some extent, some aid in support of the school in clothing or money would materially add to its efficiency, and enable Mr. and Mrs. Geddie to increase the num-

ber, for it is questionable if there be a people on the globe with so large a proportion of Orphans.

The Sabbath services are well attended, 1. The church members prayer-meeting in the morning; 2. Public worship; 3. Sabbath evening schools through the island; 4. Religious services conducted by the elders at the out-stations. Week day Bible classes and prayer-meetings are also held with encouraging success.

THE "DAYSRING."

As the report of the *Dayspring* will be published before the Synod rises, we will not follow her in her five voyages among the islands of the New Hebrides, and three among the Loyalty islands. We have constantly recurring testimonies as to the necessity of the vessel to the safety and comfort of the missionaries, and the advancement of the work. Rev. Mr. Gordon complains that she has done little toward opening up new islands or even stations, and Dr. Geddie concedes that in this respect less has been done than was anticipated. But there are explanations such as, the work thrown upon her by the loss, in succession, of the first and second *John Williams*, time occupied in visits to Australia and necessary detention there, whence comes her chief support. Missionaries and others testify to the good management of Captain Fraser, and the Mission Council gave expression to their feelings by presenting to the Captain an elegantly bound Bible. The vessel's expenses, though far beyond what had been anticipated, have been fully met through the continued liberality of the churches—the chief burthen, if so it should be termed, being borne by the Victorian church.

During the past season she has been thoroughly overhauled. She has been, as Rev. Mr. McDonald writes, "re-coppered, re-masted, re-ruddered, re-painted, and re-upholstered." She is now as good as new, (he adds) and will not need another touch for several years."

Mr. Morrison writes—"The *Dayspring* left Melbourne on the 12th April, eighteen days later than her appointed time. Some how it is hard to get her off as early as we could wish. She is going to the Loyalty islands first, and consequently it will be late in May or early in June before she can reach Aneiteum. She left clear of debt. The churches came nobly to her help. Upwards of £2,200 were paid for her in all. Nor was the reserve fund touched, but rather increased.

We remitted, in due time, the children's quota from Nova Scotia of \$1250, £250 sterling, and the Board, from the ordinary fund, voted £200 to meet our proportion of the expense of re-coppering, from which Dr. Steel paid £150. £100 were paid by