

sired, in supporting the *Dayspring*, and that you have given cheerfully and promptly. That you know is the way in which the angels in heaven, and angels on the earth too,—little messengers as well as great ones—do the will of God. They serve with gladness and with a loving readiness, and so we doubt not that as you have heard of those words of the Lord Je us “It is more blessed to give than to receive,” you have also felt their truth. Now we ask you this year to do your work heartily as unto the Lord, and to let us hear from you soon after the New Year.

Perhaps some of the smaller children need to be told or reminded, that there are a good many mission vessels now floating, and that they are all owned and upheld by children. Dr. Geddie saw three riding at anchor together, like three sisters, in Sydney harbour the last time he was there. The *John Williams* was there, built by the money of English children for the London Missionary Society. The *John Wesley* was there, and she was owned by Wesleyan children in England. Our *DAYSPRING* was there, and as you know she is chiefly owned in, and draws her support from, different Colonies of Great Britain; and the little children of the Maritime Provinces do their share as cordially as any. In the *DAYSPRING* you have a bond of union with little Australians and New Zealanders, as well as Scottish children whom you have never seen and may never see on earth. These three vessels visit every year a great many islands in the Samoas, Friendly and Society groups, as well as the Fijis, the New Hebrides and Loyalty islands, carrying missionaries to some, native teachers to others, and a message of peace to all. A few years ago there were two others, one called the *Southern Cross*, sailed by Bishop Selwyn and afterwards by Bishop Pattison, and the other the *Morning Star*, under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions. Both of these were lost, but the former has probably been replaced, and the blank left by the loss of the second will soon be filled up. For a few years the American Board paused, to try if they could do as well by

hiring other vessels. The result of the trial is an appeal to the children to collect *ten thousand dollars* on the second Sabbath of January to build another *Morning Star*.

We have pleasure also in telling you that there was a church schooner called the *Star*, built last year in Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia, in which the Bishop of Newfoundland visits the shores of the old Colony, and of the Labrador seldom cheered by the footprints of the messengers of peace. Last summer she proved herself a good sailing craft. The *Dayspring* has sailed for another year without the loss of sailor, passenger or property, although on her outward trip to the New Hebrides, she was loaded down not only beyond comfort and sailing trim, but beyond safety. She has since made several voyages taking Messrs. Goodwill and Milne to Esperito Santo, and you may in six weeks or two months expect to hear of her arrival in Melbourne with Dr. Geddie and family.

In looking back we feel thankful, and trust that you will give thanks to God for all His goodness to all who have sailed in her. We look forward with hope to her continued employment in mission work. We are sorry indeed that she will carry no missionary from these Provinces in returning to the New Hebrides, but we hope she may carry two on her next voyage.

For our share of her support (\$1250 a year) we look to you. You have already provided the half but we want \$500 as quickly as possible after the New Year. We wish you all to give something, and to feel that you are giving to the Lord; and we ask you to follow your gifts with prayer that the Lord may accept and use them for His glory. Pray also that He may send the Holy Spirit on the Mariners, the Passengers, the Missionaries and the people, so that the Isles may wait for His Law.

P. G. MCGREGOR, Sec'y. B. F. M.
Halifax, Dec. 15th, 1870.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

In another part of this number will be found the Report of the Committee of Synod on an Aged and Infirm Ministers'