

letter this week but cannot finish it in time to go by this opportunity. It will be sent without delay.

I have just heard of Mr. Goodwill's appointment. This is cheering news to us, as I had almost begun to despair of more Nova Scotia missionaries. I fear that our Church is becoming luke-warm in the New Hebrides Mission. We never had greater need of help than at present. I wish you could send a missionary along with Mr. Goodwill. I have not time to write to Mr. McLean at present, but I have no doubt you will do all you can to aid them in their first mission. I have just written to Dr. Steel, requesting him to do everything in his power to assist him.

I have not heard from any of the missionaries except Mr. Neilson since the departure of the *Dayspring*. I enclose his letter to my daughter. She will let you have a reading of it if you ask her. It will give you some idea of matters on that island.

Ever yours, &c.,

JOHN GEDDIE.

REV. P. G. MCGREGOR.

### Latest News from Tanna.

PORT RESOLUTION, TANNA, N. HEBRIDES, 1  
January: '869.

*Rev. and Dear Sir,*—The natives are still continuing to fight a good deal here; the white men supply them with plenty of muskets, powder and bullets. The last established people here have taken about ninety tons of sulphur within less than three months, and it has been almost all paid for in the shape of muskets and ammunition, the possession of which seems to act upon the Tannamen as a direct incentive to war. I have been kept very busy attending upon the wounded about every second day. I have a walk of eight, ten or fifteen miles over the hills to dress their wounds, which work in this hot weather is rather fatiguing. I have got pretty well used to it now, and like it very much, as it affords me an opportunity of seeing the country, and of visiting villages to which otherwise I might not obtain access. I have been attending in all seven men severely wounded; only one of them has died, and he was a little boy of about six years of age, son of a chief who lives near the volcano. A bullet had passed through his left breast, just missing the heart by about an inch, and going out under the shoulder blade. He lived for nine days, and I was in hopes he was going to recover, when he fevered and died. Of the other six, three are now quite recovered, and three the most recently wounded have still to be visited every second day. Yesterday I was away

seeing one of them, who had been carried home to his native village, further inland on Tanna than I have ever been before, about five miles beyond the volcano, along side of the river that supplies the lake. I had Numteeman, Nuarad, and Nasoot with me besides a large escort of armed men most of the way,—they all belonged to Yaacarubla, who is a very powerful chief in that fertile valley just beyond the volcano. I tried to count them two or three times as we were going through the woods, but from the length of the line I could not manage it, till we got out into the open ground beside the big fire, when I found there were sixty-eight Tannamen, we ourselves were four, making seventy-two—and as we were going round the crest of the hill we were met by twenty-seven more, making in all ninety-nine. All the Tannamen were armed, three-fourths of them with loaded muskets, the rest with clubs and kamases.—When we got down the hill under the shade of the large trees at the foot of the lake, we met the old chief himself and a number of his principal men. I got Numteeman to interpret while I gave them an address. They said that the word was good, that they did not wish to fight, and would give it up if others would. I said that bye-and-bye, if they wished it, I would come and put up a small house in their village, and live there occasionally and teach them, they said that also was "noumason."

The ground seems very fertile, the villages close together, and the population large, and they compare very favourably in their manners, especially the young men and boys, with those we live among here. There is a fine large meadow at the foot of the lake, with abundance of rich green grass and clumps of trees interspersed, reminding one of an English park. Along the stream which supplies the lake, (and which is at least as large as the Incaje one) there is a fine strath of level ground, on which acres and acres of bananas grow.

We were well received everywhere, and as there are two wounded men away in that direction, I will have to visit them pretty frequently, and will endeavour to establish as friendly a feeling with them as possible, and if I can gain a footing for a teacher.—The natives continue all friendly to us however hostile they may be to one another. The attendance at church is rather improving; last Sabbath was the largest, with fourteen Tannamen and nine women.—Naua attends very regularly. I mean to begin going out with the teachers on Sabbath. I have not so hitherto, as I wished them to feel the way and ascertain the state of feeling. Could you send me by our friend Tom, who takes this letter, a box of books of mine which you will find in the store—it is a square deal box nailed up;