

1869, in New Zealand, whither he had gone for the benefit of his health. Mr. Morrison was a faithful and devoted missionary, and his name will be long remembered by the Efate, whom he laboured to convert to Christ, and under his instrumentality some, we have reason to believe, were brought to a knowledge of the truth. His missionary career was short, but long enough to endure him to his brethren. We grieve for our dear brother, whose life has been, in the mysterious providence of God, brought, as it seems to man, to a premature close; but we, at the same time, desire to cherish a spirit of submission to Him who does all things well. We would likewise express our warmest sympathy with Mrs. Morrison and her two children. May our beloved sister enjoy all needful consolation from Him who has been, and will be, a husband to the widow, and a father to the fatherless. We would also sympathize with the Church which sent him to the Mission field, and which had previously found a burying place on these islands for five of its missionaries. But we trust that that Church, instead of being discouraged, will be stimulated to more earnest and enlarged exertions in the Missionary cause, knowing that they who sow in tears shall reap in joy.

The Clerk is instructed to forward a copy of this Minute to Mrs. Morrison, and also to the Church in Nova Scotia, with which Mr. Morrison was connected.

Extracted by

JOHN INGLIS, Clerk of Meeting.

Letter from Dr. Steel.

SYDNEY, Sept. 7th, 1870.

Rev. and Dear Sir,—I have just heard from the Islands. The Missionary Conference was held in June, when all were present except Mr. Gordon. Mr. Goodwill has been appointed to Espirito Santo, and the *Dayspring* sailed with him, intending to take Mr. Gordon also, as he knew the language. Meantime, however, the Rev. James McNair, who had been poorly for some time, took very ill, and departed this life on the 16th July. This is a heavy blow to your Mission. Mr. Neilson and Mr. Paton were sent for, and came as soon as possible to wind up Mr. McNair's affairs. Mrs. McNair and her son went with Mr. Paton, and will, in all likelihood, return to the Colonies by the *Dayspring*. I trust the God of the widow may be her support, and that the Lord of the Harvest may send forth labourers into His harvest.

By these losses of Messrs. Morrison and McNair, and Dr. Geddie's services, after so long a period, scarcely to be expected to continue, your Church is almost left without a representative in a field so much

your own, and endeared by so many lives freely given to the Lord's cause as the New Hebrides. I trust new Missionaries of good bodily constitution, and of sincere piety, may be found soon.

The *Dayspring* was to go to New Zealand with Mr. and Mrs. Cosh, who have got a year's leave of absence. You will doubtless receive a copy of the Minutes of the Conference.

I am, yours very sincerely,

ROBERT STEEL.

Rev. P. G. MACGREGOR.

Letter of Mr. H. A. Robertson.

Among other papers crowded out of our December number, was a letter from Mr. Robertson. The beginning of the year finds us with the same superabundance of matter, and though the letter is interesting we feel constrained to omit details and present in a condensed form the leading ideas.

In the first part of the letter Mr. R. promises a continuation of New Hebridean Sketches, more particularly now on mission work, remarking that "unless the former had been given these could not be so well understood. To get a correct idea of the work of our Missionaries, we must have a thorough knowledge of native character with the peculiarities of soil, climate and scenery; and to give this information was the object of my former sketches."

The second part of the letter gives a full account of Mr. Robertson's visits to different parts of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and of the addresses delivered in, and collections received from congregations, to which he had been invited. In the course of these excursions he visited after the close of the Theological Hall and Medical Classes, Truro, Pictou, Charlottetown, Belfast, Woodville, Georgetown, Cardigan, Newport, Parrsboro', Londonderry, Maitland, Noel, Selmah, Five Mile River, Economy and Saltsprings. Some of these localities were twice visited and Prince Edward Island four times. He also visited other localities and friends according to invitation, giving all the information he could on missionary subjects. He was received with equal kindness by both churches. He kindly offers to take charge of Mission Goods next summer when he expects to leave for the New Hebrides. He urges the immediate preparation of goods, as time slips away so quickly, and the time for making up the boxes will soon arrive: "The mission goods should all be thoroughly packed in zinc lined cases, water-tight, and about three feet in length, two in depth, and two in width, and the missionary's name and address legibly printed in large letters on the cover, and numbered. Then it would be well to have them all