

was able to accept a situation offered to her in a Christian family, she was, during my absence from town, baptized by Dr. W——.

"Several other enquirers have been recently instructed by me, with a view to baptism. To one of them, I had the privilege of administering baptism yesterday, 16th November, in Clapton Presbyterian Church, Rev. Matthew Davison's.

MISSIONS OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES.

NEW HEBRIDES.—The Rev. J. D. Murray, Missionary at Aneityum, gives the following review of the work there during the preceding thirteen months.

It is now thirteen months since we took up our abode in Aneityum. Time, during this period, has seemed to us to have slipped away with unusual speed. No doubt that observation of Seneca is true, viz., that the *velocitas temporis* is best realized by us after it fled. I never, I think, felt the force of this saying more than I have recently. Thus the whole of life will seem to us all soon, but as a tale that is told, a dream in the night, or as a vapor that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

The year just elapsed has been an exceedingly busy one with us, a fact which no doubt has had much to do with our experience of the quick flight of time. We have had more than two ordinary years' amount of house-building, house-repairing, house-cleaning, and other needful improvements to accomplish during the past twelve months; first, in consequence of the neglected and dilapidated state in which we found the premises on our arrival here, and afterwards, in consequence of the great desolation to which the place was reduced by the hurricane. At present I am glad to say, our entire establishment is in first rate order.

ANEITYUMESE.

As regards the moral and religious state of the natives here, I am inclined to believe that it is, on the whole, improving. A better spirit seems to be gaining ground among them. We are much less troubled now than formerly with tribal feuds and private revenge, which unhappily prevailed among them before and after we took charge of this station, a state of affairs which was attended with much inconvenience to us, and which was doing injury to the cause of Christianity. We have never yet been able to ascertain the origin of their quarrels and jealousies. Very likely it was something quite trifling or absurd. Of course we did all in our power to make peace. But whether it was our interposition that was the means of effecting the desirable change or not, one thing is evident, that they are now more pacific and amicable in their intercourse with each other than they were a year ago. And for this we feel sincerely thankful, for we know that where envying and strife are, there is confusion and every evil work.

RUM.

We feared at one time that drunkenness was going to come in among the natives like a flood, and ruin especially most of our young men. But I am thankful to say that matters in these respects are continuing better than our fears. Strong drink may be had on the island, and there are those who watch every opportunity of vending it to the poor unsuspecting natives, but our admonitions seem to be remembered by these, so that they are, in a strength above their own, I trust, nobly resisting the siren voice of the tempter. But, I confess, I have little confidence in their steadfastness in this respect, if they are not the subject of a saving change.