

tried man, who has had some experience at home. Let us look to God for help, and he will send the man we need."

Mr. Copeland transmits papers from the Mission Council. Mr. and Mrs. McNair are at their post and well, having entertained successive parties of native chiefs and people who visited them, from distant parts of the island, whether with friendly or unfriendly designs, was not easily determined. They were treated with kindness, and departed apparently pleased. Mr. McNair acknowledges with thanks, goods from Rev. Mr. McKivnon's congregation, Hopewell, stating that they were reasonable and suitable.

The Records of Presbyterian proceedings will shew that the call from the Board of Missions is in the hands of Rev. M. G. Henry. Let the example of the Presbytery in offering special prayer for direction to Mr. Henry and his people be followed by the Church generally, and we may hopefully await the issue.

Dr Steel's letter of August 11th, gives an account of his examination before a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into "alleged cases of kidnapping of natives of the Loyalty islands, and into the state and probable results of Polynesian immigration." From it we make the following extract:—

"The *Dayspring* arrived at Auckland on the 3rd July, having on board the Rev D. Morrison and wife, and Rev J. Cosh and wife. Mr Morrison is to stay at New Zealand for some time. Mr and Mrs Cosh were to return in the vessel which was to leave on the 5th inst. The missionaries' families were all well. Mr and Mrs Watt had been settled on Tanna, at the station formerly occupied by the Mathesons'. Mr and Mrs Milne were at Auckland, ready to go by the vessel to their sphere of labour."

Mr. Morton and family were well at latest date, though some inconvenience had been experienced from contact with centipedes and scorpions. A season of great drought has been followed by torrents of rain. The drought led to fires very destructive on some estates, and the rainy season brought more fever than common, and of a worse type, as well as the minor evil of venomous reptiles. The school was

prospering under Sindeen the new Coolie teacher, and Mr. Morton was, in connection with his own work, assisting in the supply of Mr. Lambert's congregation, Rev. Mr. Brodie of Port of Spain, having been absent for some time in Grenada. We will publish a letter from Mr. Morton in our next number.

"Dayspring."

The *Southern Cross*, published in New Zealand, contains the following account of the recent movements of the mission vessel.

The mission brigantine *Dayspring*, after leaving this port in March last, sailed direct for Aneiteum, arriving there after a splendid run of seven days. Having discharged part of her cargo there, she then made the round of the islands, calling at Futuna, Aniwa, Tana, Erromanga, and Fate, and landing at all these the missionaries' annual supplies of stores. The most of the mission families were in good health, and had not suffered more than the average amount of sickness during the rainy season. At all the stations the work of the mission was found to be making gratifying progress.—Returning from Fate, the "*Dayspring*" again called at all the islands on the way south, taking the missionaries to Aneiteum, to their annual conference there. The business of the conference having been brought to a close, the vessel again proceeded northward, landing the missionaries at their respective stations, settling the Rev William Watt on Tanna, and removing the Rev J. D. Gordon from Erromanga to Santo for the winter months. Mr Watt, it will be remembered, is the missionary of the Presbyterian church of this Colony; and it will be gratifying to the friends of the mission here to learn that this settlement on Tanna has been effected under very favourable circumstances. When he went there the Rev John Inglis accompanied him with a band of Aneiteumese to assist in the erection of his house, and remained with him until that object was accomplished. These things being done, the vessel then, according to previous arrangement, returned to this port for the purpose of taking the Rev Peter Milne, who has recently arrived here from Scotland, to his destination on the New Hebrides. She left Aneiteum on the 17th, and arrived here yesterday morning early.

Letter from Rev. Dr. Steel.

SYDNEY, 14th July, 1869.

Rev. and Dear Sir,—The trial of the Proprietors of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and myself for the contempt of Court, came off on