

I wish now to refund you the balance of the sum you paid to Dr. Steel, on behalf of the Erakor people, for their land. I think it is fifteen pounds, four shillings and sixpence (£15 4s. 6d.) sterling. Please keep this amount out of my salary for next year. It comes out of the proceeds of arrowroot contributed by our natives.

Some months ago I spoke to our little flock of christian natives about giving a contribution to the F. M. Fund of our church, explaining to them how christians at home do, how missionaries are sent to the heathen, how you pitied them being without the Gospel, and sent to them, first Mr. Morrison and then myself. I also told them how that many are still without the Word of Life in other lands, and that missionaries are willing to go and teach them, but that all who wish to go cannot be sent for want of funds. Ther. I asked them if they were not willing to do what they could to help you, as now you and they are all servants of the same Master, and that thus they may show their gratitude to God for sending them the Bread of Life.

It is generally true that "Where there is a will there is a way." They had the will and they managed to find the way. When the collection was taken it was much larger than I expected it to be. The amount is thirty-four pounds, twelve shillings and eight pence (£34, 12. 8.) sterling. This sum I am sending to Dr. Steele, so you can keep it out of my salary for next year.

They have also done well at the arrowroot this year. It is by far the largest quantity made any year hitherto. I think we will have about 3000 lbs.

The proceeds are to go to the B. & F. B. Society, to refund them in part for printing our New Testament, which is now in the hands of our natives.

My letter is now too long, but I must say say a word about the Mission Goods sent. And first of all I wish to thank most sincerely the W. F. M. Society of Prince St. Church, Pictou, for the case of made up garments they kindly sent us. I wish to say, however, about mission goods in general that to my mind the very great expense of sending them all the way from Canada makes it doubtful as to the advisability of doing so. Dr. Steel informs me that those sent by you this year to the New Hebrides cost for freight £20. I hope no one will infer that I do not wish Mission good or that I am ungrateful for them, I merely state the fact that they cost too much for carriage, and I would suggest that any congregation wishing to send goods should if at all convenient to them, send the money to Dr. Steel instead of purchasing the articles in Canada. Of course

I do not speak for my brethren Robertson and Annand.

The specials sent to Dr. Steel have come to hand. I can assure you the Societies from which they have come have our warmest thanks.

The kind offer of Mr. Hingley, Oxford, who supported a young man at the training class for three years, to undertake the support of another, is very cheering to us.

Aug. 12th.—Had the pleasure yesterday, of baptising and admitting to the church three natives brought in and instructed by the teacher supported by the Sabbath School of Knox Church, Shediac.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,
J. W. MACKENZIE.

LETTER FROM MR. ANNAND.

Aug. 12, 1889.

SANTO, NEW HEBRIDES,

MR. EDITOR.—I may assume that your readers are not familiar with this one of the "Sunny Southern Lands," one of the fairest of the "summer isles of Eden." This is not a newly discovered region; it is what was once thought to be the north end of the great southern continent, needed, in the opinion of geographers of that period, to balance the great northern territories. While Canada was still a wilderness, two years before Quebec was founded, and 188 years previous to the rise of your own beautiful city, Quiros, the Spanish navigator was here. He attempted to establish a colony and build a city on the north side of this island. So far as we know, not a vestige of that enterprise remains visible. His description of the newly discovered continent was either highly imaginative or there has been great deterioration since then. He might have admitted that the ancient garden of Eden was at the north pole, but he maintained that the modern one was on "Tierra del Espiritu Santo." It was, he said, to be the inexhaustible source of glory, riches and power to Spain. Millions of birds announced the rising of the sun, the air was perfumed with flowers, the climate was perfect, nobody would know fatigue here, no crocodiles were in the rivers and no mosquitoes were in the land, etc. The source of fiction is fact, so even in the above extravagant language there is some truth. There are certainly no crocodiles. As for mosquitoes, they are doubtless here. Possibly they may have been introduced at a later day. It is affirmed that mosquitoes were unknown in Oahu until a certain foreign vessel visited the port, and now Honolulu swarms with the pested insects. What-