

tion satisfactorily, shall, if sent out as a teacher, receive a salary of £6 (\$30) a year, if under his own missionary, and £10 (\$50) a year, if placed under another missionary. 11. No teacher shall be sent out without the approval of his own missionary. 12. The Principal shall be entitled to receive mission boxes for the use of the institution. 13. The Synod instructed the Principal to begin work as soon as convenient, especially to erect suitable buildings for the immediate needs of the institution. 14. The Synod applies to churches, societies and individuals for help in erecting buildings and paying the salary of the assistant and other expenses. Payments to be made to the Principal, he to render an account to the Synod. All the missionaries engage to do their best to provide students.

A hoped for result is that not only will a better class of teachers be provided, but that it will tend to the diffusion of the English language, thus facilitating missionary work and commerce, and also binding the islands more closely to the Australian colonies, and perhaps leading to a larger immigration of English-speaking settlers as the future occupants of the New Hebrides.

False Charges. In a blue book prepared some months ago in Australia for the Imperial Parliament, grave charges were made, based upon statements of a Mr. Douglas Rannie, against some New Hebrides missionaries, (not our own) accusing them, among other things, of trafficking with the natives for gain, and especially of keeping and selling to them liquor and firearms contrary to law. The charges made quite a sensation in South Sea circles.

The Synod on examining into the matter found the charges entirely false. Furthermore they were highly gratified by the attitude taken on the subject by His Excellency, The High Commissioner for Pacific affairs, as expressed in the following extract of his letter to the clerk of Synod:—"Mr. Rannie's report is, in some respects, contradictory of the High Commissioner's own knowledge of matters in the New Hebrides. In some others his statements are contradicted by persons in positions to know, and of whom His Excellency has made enquiry. This being so, and in view of the evident animus against the Presbyterian mission, the High Commissioner has officially informed the Secretary of State, that, in his opinion, Mr. Rannie's statements are not worthy of credence. This expression of the High Commissioner's opinion will doubtless be included in the next Blue book published on Western Pacific affairs and presented to Imperial Parliament, and in the meantime you are at liberty to make any use of this communication you may think fit."

It is merely one of Satan's ways of trying to hinder and injure the work, but like all his other

efforts will but bring confusion and shame upon those who lend themselves as his agents.

Obituaries. The N. Hebrides Synod had the sad duty of placing on its minutes an obituary notice of three of its tried, true workers, Mrs. Michelson who for twelve years had labored with her husband in Tongoa; Mrs. Mackenzie, who had with her partner borne the burden and heat of the day for twenty-one years in Efate; and Mrs. Watt, who for twenty-five years had toiled side by side with Mr. Watt on dark Tanna. All were admirably fitted for the work and were most successful in it, and in the case of all, the messenger came in haste to summon them to their eternal reward. Noble lives, nobly lived.

SURVEY OF WORK IN NEW HEBRIDES.

BY A COMMITTEE OF THE N. H. MISSION SYNOD.

IN THE reports before us (from the different islands of the group) there is a good deal to sadden, for death has been removing honored workers and loved children, while hurricane and fire have wrought destruction on mission premises; yet there is much to cheer us, and we have enough before us to show that the work of evangelization makes steady progress throughout the group, and the reports from some stations more especially gladden our hearts and fill us with thankfulness to God for the evident tokens of His Gracious working.

Apart from the considerable numbers who on some islands have professed themselves followers of Jesus, we would note the following signs of progress:

At South Santo (Mr. Annand's station) the Gospel of John has been translated and printed, and women are now freely allowed to attend church.

At Malo we note a handsome new church erected, and an increased number of teachers.

At Uripio, on the island of Malekula, mercy drops have fallen, one baptism, two women in or near the kingdom, and a dying cripple praying.

At Pangkumu, Malekula, we find the number of teachers increased, and, notwithstanding great opposition, and losses by the labor traffic, the number who attend the preaching of the Gospel gradually increases and some are breaking caste.

At Aulua, Malekula, there is indeed a stirring among the dry bones, evidenced by large attendances at the services, some of the young men preaching in villages around, new villages being formed by worshipping people and the Gospel of Matthew translated and printed in their dialect.

On the island of Ambim, notwithstanding disastrous losses by hurricane and fire, there is to cheer us the rapid establishment of seven schools and preaching stations, and the earnestness displayed by a few Christianized natives in bringing the Gospel to their fellow islanders.