

was a mighty boon to this mission. With our kind regards to you and Mrs. McGregor, I remain yours very truly,

JOHN INGLIS.

P. S.—Best thanks for the *Record*, which I have received regularly for the last two or three years.

J. I.

An Appeal for Missionaries to the Heathen.

ADDRESSED TO THE YOUTH OF THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

BY THE REV. JOSEPH COPELAND.

My reasons for making this appeal are these:—First. At the meeting of the New Hebrides Mission Synod in the middle of last year, the missionaries then purposing going to the colonies were appointed to make an appeal for more missionaries. What I am doing has thus the sanction of all the missionary brethren.

Second. More missionaries are required if the New Hebrides group is all to be evangelised. At the present time we number twelve ordained European missionaries. We have assisting us nearly one hundred native teachers, but these combined are far from being sufficient to overtake the whole group. Only about one fourth of it is occupied. Of the eight islands now having missionaries, only four are fully occupied. For the other heathen and partially heathen islands, constituting three-fourths of the group, we must have more missionaries, that they all may know the joyful sound.

Third. The heathen can only be evangelised through human instrumentality. The gospel was not introduced into Europe by purely supernatural means. Paul took ship at Traos, and went over into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called him to preach the gospel there. So now-a-days, men must propagate the gospel. If we would have the heathen in the New Hebrides evangelised, men must take the gospel to them. In this work men must co-operate with God; when they plant He will water. Some of these co-workers with God are to be found in Australasia. The command has come to these colonies as well as to other lands, "Go into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Unless we can suppose that Christ has miscalculated, we must believe that missionaries can be raised up in New South Wales, and in all the sister colonies, as well as squatters, miners, merchants, engineers, seamen, lawyers, &c. When the proper means are used to secure missionaries, I believe that the Holy Ghost will separate some of the Australasian youth to this important work.

Fourth. We have a vessel large enough to attend to double the present number of missionaries. As you are aware, the Para-

gon, of 160 tons register, has been purchased for the mission, and her cabin is now being fitted up for the carrying of missionaries and teachers. If the number of missionaries is not increased, so large a vessel cannot be fully utilized.

Fifth. Mission work in the New Hebrides is not without its attractions. Had there not been some pleasure and satisfaction connected with the work, some of us had not remained so long in it as we have done. Dr. Geddie, the father of the mission, was connected with it for twenty-two years; Mr. Inglis has been twenty-one years, and others of us have been for shorter periods. The most of us since beginning our missionary labours have visited the colonies, and some of us have also gone to Britain and America and returned, although we might have found spheres of labour in these places. It is a work in which we have not been without success. We went to heathen islands, and we have reduced some of the languages to a written form; we have taught the natives to read, we have seen them abandoning some of their heathen practices, brought to wear clothing, and to be more honest, industrious, cleanly, and peaceable. When our work and converts are tried by the proper standard, it will be seen that we have accomplished something. And what is the proper standard? Why, the heathen, not professing Christians in civilized lands. The man who, by the blessing of God, lifts natives from the depths of heathenism up to the platform of native Christians does a great and laudable work, and this is the work I would have you to assist in.

Perhaps you may meet me with this objection—What's the use of evangelising the New Hebrides native? What will the gospel ever do for them? How few will receive it? And these are questions that may be put regarding every land where the gospel is preached. If because only a few will take the gospel in the New Hebrides, it ought not to be preached there, for the very same reason it ought not to be preached in the Australasian colonies or any other land. We must preach whether men will bear, or whether they will forbear.

Tell me, how shall the heathen hear without a preacher?—*Australian Witness.*

THE Superintendent of Stonework, at the East End of the Souris Branch Line of Railway, waited last week upon the Rev. J. G. Cameron, and in the name of the Protestant workmen employed under him, six in number, presented to the Rev. gentlemen the handsome gift of \$20, together with an address, expressing their high appreciation of his services as a minister of the gospel and as kind friend.