

in a few months. He should, by all means, be on the ground in January, 1874. The prospect of a full support from the proprietors of that district, should lead to the most energetic measures to secure a suitable man.

The bequests of the late Thos. McLean and Mrs. James McDonald have already been expended by us. From want of means we did not floor the church; but the McLean legacy has been spent in paving it with pitch, which makes a good floor in this climate. The bequest of Mrs. McDonald has enabled us to provide a neat pulpit or reading desk. Through these bequests, we have materially improved the appearance of the church, and rendered it more comfortable as a place of worship.

Our Sabbath-school is doing very well. The actual attendance is now about 80. Of these 65 are Asiatics. The abundant supply of suitable papers, tracts, cards, &c., gratuitously furnished by the Book and Tract Society, Halifax, has done much to secure the present efficiency of the school.

Our week-day schools, in every respect, are much in advance of last year. The attendance is larger and more regular, and we have retained nearly all of the more advanced pupils. In April and May, the San Fernando school began to fall off. We saw that it was largely due to neglect of active duty on the part of Aziz, who allowed his taste for study to interfere with his duties as teacher. Finding our urgency unavailing, we resolved on making a change. Mr. Morton had been seriously contemplating the suspension of the Iere school as the attendance had been greatly reduced by deaths from small pox, removals to India and to other Estates, and by the appointment of two of his young men as teachers. Seeing that Thomas Cockey would be available as a Catechist, or as a teacher for San Fernando school, we had less hesitation in relieving Aziz.

Dr. Mitchell, Agent General of Immigrants, required an Interpreter, and Aziz is now in his office in Port of Spain, under good tuition and discipline, and attends regularly the means of grace, and is a member in full communion with Mr. Brodie's congregation. Though removed from us in the meantime, he may yet be in the service of the Mission. Under Thomas, the school is doing better; the daily average is 38.

The word is preached daily by your Missionaries to a people who, on the whole, listen with interest; but our hope is in the young men who are not yet initiated into the Hindu faith, and in the children of our schools.

Yours faithfully,

K. J. GRANT.

REV. P. G. MCGREGOR, Sec'y B. F. M.

NEW HEBRIDES MISSION.

Letter from Dr. Steel.

77 Macleay St., Sydney, N. S. Wales, }
18th May, 1873. }

REV. P. G. MCGREGOR,

My Dear Sir,—I have now the pleasure of informing you that we have chartered a vessel for four months for the New Hebrides mission work. She is the "Paragon," a three masted schooner of 160 tons. This vessel is new and is in good order. The cost is £80 per month, to man and store and insure the vessel besides. The insurance is for £3000, and we cannot get it done at present under 15 per cent., except £1200 at 12 per cent. The recent wrecks in the New Hebrides have had the effect of raising the rates. We have chartered for a short period to save expense, and we hope that for this year at least the one trip of four or five months may suffice. We have appointed the master of the *Dayspring* to the command. We have also secured the first and second officers who were in the *Dayspring*. Capt. Jenkins and the first officer, Mr. McArthur seem excellent and pious men, and are well reported of by the missionaries. Thus the vessel will be under good management, and conducted on temperance principles. She will take the stores, collect the missionaries to their Synod and take them back, then return to Sydney. The brethren will thus give us the benefit of their deliberations for our future guidance. We hope to get the insurance of the vessel £2000, less salvage say £60. The Reserve Insurance Fund is £3223. The interest from the latter will help to pay insurance on the chartered vessel.

Mrs. Goodwill is much improved in health by her visit. Mr. and Mrs. Annand are in good health.

The *Paragon* will sail (D. V.) on Wednesday, the 21st, and we hope they may arrive at Aneityum in the early part of June.

I have engaged to pay the £80 per month of charter money in Sydney, and will have funds to do it for a time.

I hope all may go well in our new circumstance, where the risk is so much greater, and that God will over-rule all disasters for the good of His cause.

I am yours very sincerely,

ROBERT STEEL.

Ninth Annual Report of the Mission Vessel "Dayspring."

After undergoing a thorough overhaul, and being pronounced by competent judges to be perfectly seaworthy, the "Dayspring" left Williamstown for these islands on the 12th of April, and after a favourable passage arrived in Aneighat harbor, Aneityum, on the 1st of May.