

grateful to you I know. We had letters the other day, and were rejoiced to hear from them and know that they are well. I was anxious to know how they had got through the long cold winter, and am thankful to learn that they had not suffered from the cold. It is a great change to go from Aneiteum to Nova Scotia; here it is all summer. Our dear children here are well. Ella is very stout since she recovered from the measles, and our little boy is growing very fast. We call him Alexander, after my dear father. The natives are very fond of him, and say that Ella and the babe have been given to us that we may not be too sad at being separated from our other children, and that we may remain among them and teach them, and not leave them. Greet our friends by name. I do not forget those that were so kind to us when we were leaving, nor those who are so mindful of us since. Do write often—I seldom get letters—I do not know how it is, but all the other Missionaries get so many letters and we so few; still we write by every opportunity.

MISSION BOXES.

MRS. INGLIS has written to the *Reformed Presbyterian Magazine* describing the articles most useful to the Missionaries. Her letter will be read with equal interest by friends in these Provinces:—

Although there is scarcely anything in the shape of clothing that cannot be turned to use, yet there is some things much more useful to us than others. For men's clothing, the most useful articles are shirts and trousers, of small and middle size, a small portion only of large size. In our climate, with a shirt and a pair of trousers, a man is decently and comfortably clothed. The shirts may be made of cotton stripe, of any quality. Serge shirts are much esteemed, but the price is a serious drawback. The trousers may be made of strong cotton stripe, or blue tweeled cotton, or any similar material. One or two dozen pairs of trousers, made from some woolen fabric, for the natives who go in the *John Knox* as sailors, would be a great boon. In our climate, all clothes require to be somewhat soft and pliable; strong, stiff cloth is very uncomfortable to the wearer. Braces for trousers, cloth caps, and straw hats will be very

acceptable. Light waistcoats and light loose coats can also be turned to good account. Of *unmade cloth for men* cheap narrow calico, or blue dungaree are among the most useful.

For the women and girls, all kinds of prints (especially navy blue), gingham, muslins, and something, also, of heavier material, as winceys, druggets, de-laines and coarse merinoes, will be very useful. It does not matter in the least about their being out of fashion. Woolen or cotton blankets will be highly prized. Cotton handkerchiefs, remnants, too, of all kinds, especially red fents, can be worked up to advantage. Scissors, needles, thimbles, pins, buttons, thread tapes, &c., are always needed. The most useful size of needles are from No. 4 to 7, and of thread, from No. 14 to No. 20; also, linen thread. Formerly, I preferred women's clothing unmade, as I could cut it out to more advantage on the spot; but a number of my best sewers are dead, and the women will be very much occupied, for a long time to come, in preparing thatch for their own houses, for the churches, school-houses, and other mission buildings; and they will have much labour of various kinds, in repairing the desolations of the island. I will, therefore, be very thankful if the ladies connected with Dorcas societies, or others willing to help the mission, will make clothing for women and children, as well as for men. The dresses of the women and children are very simple. In our climate, with a short gown and a petticoat, a woman is fully dressed; and as they make a very good petticoat of native materials, and which is still the staple article of female dress, even a short-gown goes far to render them decent. The most useful and comfortable short-gowns, for full-grown women of the average size, are made of two breadths of yard-wide print, three-quarters of a yard in length, with a set-in piece at the shoulders, like a night-gown, sewed up at the sides, but with no goring, to open in the breast, and with two buttons at the neck; for girls, smaller, but in the same proportions. Loose jackets would also do very well; anything that sits loose and easy. For children, till they are about six years of age, we make dresses like little night-gowns or pinafores, tied or buttoned at the neck, and either loose or fastened at the waist.

For bonnets, the women plait a fine