

### Mission to the Australian Aborigines.

Rev. Dr. Steel, Sydney, N.S.W., writes Sept. 30; it has been proposed to establish a mission among the aborigines in northern Queensland by the Federal Assembly of the Presbyterian churches of Australia and Tasmania. A deputation from the Mission Committee, consisting of the Rev. Professor Rentoul, D.D., of Ormond College, Melbourne; the Rev. Samuel Robinson of St. Kitto, Melbourne, the Rev. F. A. Hagenauer, Superintendent of the Aborigines in the Colony of Victoria, and for more than thirty years a missionary among them, along with the Rev. Robert Steel, D.D., of Sydney, went to Brisbane, Queensland, in July. They were there joined with the Committee on Missions to the Heathen appointed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland, and had an interview with the Premier of the Government respecting reserves for the mission. The Premier promised all that was required, and as already given to the Lutheran Mission among the Aborigines. The deputies preached in various Presbyterian churches in Brisbane and Ipswich, and held a public meeting on the mission. They also lectured in different churches. A meeting was held in Sydney on their return. It is expected that two Moravian brethren will be secured from Germany to undertake this mission on behalf of the Presbyterian Church. It has always been a difficult work to carry on missions among so migratory a people. The most successful has been when the Aborigines were induced to settle on reserves granted by the Government. In the course of a year it is hoped that this mission may be commenced. J. J.

**The New Hebrides Mission.**—A deputation from the Federal Assembly of the Presbyterian churches of Australia and Tasmania visited the New Hebrides in May and June last. It consisted of the Moderator, the Rev. James Lyall, of Adelaide, the Rev. Andrew Hardie, Convener of the Committee on Foreign Missions, Melbourne, and Mr. M. McGilivray, an elder. Professor Drummond, of Glasgow, also joined the party. They all went round the group, visited the different stations, and addressed the Synod at Ancityam. They were much gratified with the progress of the mission everywhere. The Synod resolved to begin a new mission on *Espiritu Santo*, the largest and most northerly island in the group, and appointed three missionaries to the work. The Rev. D. Macdonald, who has

been eighteen years at Havannah Harbor, Fate, was appointed to pioneer the new work. He has left the islands for Melbourne, where he is to make necessary arrangements, and it is hoped to get a steam launch to be of service to the new enterprise. Mr. Macdonald is married to a daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Geddie, the first Presbyterian missionary in the New Hebrides. The Rev. Joseph Armand, M.A., missionary of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, has already established a station on a small island to the south of Sauto, and from which he operates on the larger island. A new edition of the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles in the Erromangan language has just been printed in Sydney, at the expense of the British and Foreign Bible Society. A thousand copies, bound, have been sent to the island, where the Rev. H. A. Robertson, who superintended the printing, lately returned to resume his work. J. J.

**Dr. Edith Pechey-Phipson.**—In January, at a Convocation of the Bombay University, Mr. Justice Birdwood, the Vice-Chancellor, announced the appointment of this distinguished lady physician as a member of the Senate. He remarked that, although for six centuries ladies had held the office of Professor of Medicine at the Cologne University, he believed this to be the first instance of a lady being appointed a member of the governing body of any University. He added that the Senate would recognize the propriety of appointing a lady who had bravely fought woman's cause in the face of much opposition and obloquy. J. J.

From a letter sent by a student volunteer to the *Missionary Echo* we gather the following items:

"Miss Lucy E. Guinness has been working in colleges in this country for three months under the direction of the Student Volunteer movement. She has recently returned to London. Miss Guinness is the daughter of Hon. H. Grattan Guinness, F.R.S., who superintends three missionary training schools in England.

"Miss Guinness visited many of our western colleges, and through her direct instrumentality over 200 names were added to the volunteer list.

"She expressed herself as greatly surprised at finding many Christian girls in our colleges without the habit of daily Bible reading and unfamiliar with Scripture. Things are not so in England, she says. She has been the means of awakening fresh interest in Bible study among many college girls."