

half-starved donkeys, or to sell us their wares, and to polish our boots, act as guides, carry our umbrellas, great-coats and sticks, or do anything else whether within their power or not. We saw the small public gardens, and returned by small waterman's boats to the John Elder, the boatmen abusing each other in the most boisterous manner.

While the ship anchored at Naples a party of us went ashore in a small tender and after visiting the Palace inside and out for an hour, where Mrs. R. and I sat on the Throne, we walked through some of the best streets slowly to see the buildings and people, to admire, reflect, to pray that many more men like the hero of Italy may be raised up and that the men of sin may soon become weaker and weaker until Popish countries be made free through the Word of God, and the labors of devoted Ministers and laymen be aided by wise and pure government.

I must now close somewhat abruptly. Hoping before very long to see you.

I am, yours truly,

H. A. ROBERTSON.

Letter from Rev. Dr. Steel.

To Dr. McGregor.

Sydney, N. S. W., 24th Jan., 1883.

The "Dayspring" arrived on Jan. 1st, a few days after I wrote you last. The Rev. Mr. Neilson and family were on board and now retire from the mission. Mr. Neilson proposes to enter the church in Victoria, as the climate there seems to suit him best. The Rev. H. A. Robertson also came. They are all very spare and requiring change, though their health has kept up. I paid Mr. Robertson £175 as you authorized. He and family sailed on the 20th inst, per Orient Steamer, "John Elder," for London. They hope to arrive by the beginning of March, a trying time of the year in Britain; after visiting Scotland they propose to sail from Glasgow to Halifax. Mr. Robertson's success in Eromanga has been very marked, and last year greatest of all. A large number were baptized last year. There are now 195 communicants on the island, and *mirabile dictu!* 33 males of those are employed as Christian teachers on their native island! What a large proportion of Christian workers out of a little flock in a barbarous isle! "The blood of the martyrs has been the seed of the church." In addition to this, I am to have the privilege next Sabbath of baptizing a native of this island of Eromanga, in Sydney; This

man has been employed by a dentist in Sydney for some time and has regularly attended my church. He has been carefully watched over by one of my elders, and his employer gives him an excellent character? We had the advantage of Mr. Robertson's presence among us to examine him, and I am glad to state that Mr. Robertson thought that we were warranted to admit him to the fellowship of the Church. Along with him a native of New Caledonia, employed by a medical man, in Sydney, is to be baptised. Thus we reap the fruits of missionary work, where we scarcely expected it. To God be the praise.

R. S.

Letter from Mr. Lawrie.

Anane, Aneityum,
New Hebrides, Nov. 29th 1882.

Rev. Dr. G. Patterson.

My Dear Sir:—

When the Rev. J. W. McKenzie returned to the Islands last month, he handed me the handsome volume which you kindly sent. I have to thank you very much for this kind gift, the life of Dr. Geddie has a peculiar charm for us as being the first missionary on Aneityum, and when we compare his earliest experience as detailed in your book, with what we find now, we can say from our hearts truly what hath God wrought.

In labouring among the second generation of Aneityum Christians, we have peculiar difficulties to contend against, but these are as nothing compared to the pioneer work of the father of the mission.

Mrs Lawrie and I have been highly delighted with the reading of the book. I trust and pray that its publication may deepen the Church's interest in the New Hebrides mission, and that ere long we may see the Standard of the Cross planted in every island of the group, and sinners being brought out of heathen darkness into marvelous light.

Our work on this island still continues to prosper, the attendance at Divine Worship is good, and many of the young men who used to be very careless about their souls have within the present year become among our most attentive listeners. The work is carried on much in the same way as during Mr. Inglis' time, with some differences perhaps but these of an immaterial nature.

The Free Church of Scotland is at present sending out a medical missionary for this field. He is appointed to succeed Mr. Copeland on Futuna.