

to each Missionary of his own account, as soon as practicable after the close of each year, (Dec. 31st.) Also, that the salaries be paid as heretofore, in advance, £120 per annum, (with the additional allowance of £5 for each child under 18 years of age on the Islands, and £10 for each of the same class elsewhere, for educational purposes,) but that no allowance for contingencies be granted, or for the Mission crew, unless sanctioned by the Mission Council on the Island, or Managing Committee of the *Dayspring*. With such instructions in the hand of the General agent it is anticipated that nothing remains for this Church but to furnish him with sufficient funds to meet all legitimate demands.

DAYSPRING.

From the most reliable accounts the annual cost of this branch of the Mission service will reach £1200 stg. per annum yielding a proportion for this Church of £375 currency. Your Board had Synodical authority from last session for assenting to one-fourth of £1000 stg. as their proportion, but on the suggestion of Mr. Geddie they limited the ordinary expenditure to £800 stg. This, with other matters of a financial nature, will be satisfactorily adjusted when Mr. Geddie has made proper enquiry, and taken counsel with the general agent. Under date Sydney, Feb. 19th, 1866, Captain Frazer writes, after alluding to necessary repairs in rigging, masts and sails, "I have had the vessel in dock to inspect her bottom, and found all right with the exception of a few pieces of copper-off. I have had application from our old, or rather last crew to take them back, but as they are not christian men, I have decided to keep changing till I get the right kind. I still have the same articles, or rules rather, and find no difficulty in getting men of good character, and I hope in time to get men to sail more from principle than for money." He speaks highly of McDonald, who was second officer when the vessel left Nova Scotia, and has been first officer since the first voyage was completed by her return to Sydney. "I hope, he says, McDonald will remain long in the *Dayspring*." "As to sailing a vessel with a native crew, I do not think it will suit at all. Natives of these islands will never make able seamen, and to have any thing else on board is a useless expense. This is the opinion of all the ship-masters I have seen here. Out of all the natives I have had, not one of them could be taught the compass." The captain, while expressing thus decidedly his opinion as to the incompetency of native seamen, acknowledges "that in fair weather they are quite serviceable, and that if they could be induced to remain steadily for some years on board, he has no doubt

they would become good seamen for all purposes." It may be anticipated then, that when christianity has produced the same zeal and perseverance in the native character with respect to this branch of mission service, which we well know it has produced so happily in the department of mission teaching, the *Dayspring* will be readily manned with a crew, not inferior in skill, and much superior in character, to the great bulk of British seamen. It is very satisfactory to find that from the testimony of all who have come in contact with Capt. Frazer, he has won everywhere golden opinions for his thorough seamanship, gentlemanly conduct, and missionary spirit. He has rendered excellent service to the London Missionary Society's Samoan Agents, who would otherwise have been reduced to great straits. A few extracts from minutes passed at a special meeting of the Samoan mission, held at Apia, Oct. 18th, 1865, will prove interesting to Synod and the church at large. "We record with gratitude to God," say these missionaries, "the arrival of the *Dayspring*. Her arrival at the present time is especially opportune, and will, we doubt not, exert a very beneficial influence. The service she has rendered, in bringing home our teachers from the Loyalty islands, calls for our best thanks. It is in no small degree gratifying to us that a vessel so admirably adapted for missionary service has been procured, and we heartily congratulate our brethren in the Westward Islands, and christian friends in Nova Scotia, and the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Scotland, that so valuable an auxiliary has been obtained, for carrying forward their evangelistic efforts in these seas. We rejoice in the important services already rendered by the vessel, and pray, that for many years she may be preserved, and that, by the divine blessing, she may become a *Dayspring* to regions now sitting in darkness and the shadow of death."

"II. Resolved, That the thanks of this mission be expressed to Captain Frazer for his kindness to our Samoan teachers, their wives and children, in all 35 persons, who have just been brought from the Loyalty islands in the *Dayspring*. These worthy men speak with one voice of the unusually kind and respectful treatment they have received on board the *Dayspring*, and, owing to their late cruel usage at the hands of the French authorities, Captain Frazer's minute attention to their comfort while under his care is all the more appreciated by them, and grateful to ourselves.

"Resolved further, That we express our gratitude to Captain Frazer, and through him to the managing committee of the *Dayspring*, for the further valuable help now afforded us in visiting our out-stations. The manifest sympathy which Capt. Frazer