

New Hebrides.**LETTER FROM MRS. ANNAND.**

SANTO, New Hebrides, March 26, '90.

My Dear Mrs. Burns.—You kind and interesting letter reached us on the 17th of this month. The receiving of letters so quickly after they have been dispatched is a new experience to us. The steamer was three days late owing to a hurricane which prevailed over most of the group, though not here in force.

The hurricane passed through the group on the 6th of this month. It did no damage here, but was heavy on Malekula. There was a very sad shipwreck there. The *Eliza Mary* was wrecked on the reef between Mr. Morton's and Mr. Gillan's stations. Of those on board 52 are missing, five of whom were white men, the rest natives, some were drowned and others killed by the natives. Had they obeyed orders and stayed on the ship all might have been saved. One Tanna man succeeded in reaching Mr. Morton's, but was wounded on the head and chin, and he reported that he had killed two Malekula men in self-defence. The steamer had the captain of the *Eliza Mary* on board, also the mate, government agent, and some of the crew and natives. The captain, whose name is Campbell, is a native of Belfast, Prince Edward Island. There was a small vessel lost at Saneoon Bay, Malekula, and one native drowned. Four others were heard of being drowned off a cutter in the group. The heavy sea did some damage to Mr. Morton's station. Their house is too near the sea.

We were expecting at least two new missionaries down this year, but by last mail we got the news from Scotland that Mr. Shanks, who is a nephew of Mr. Watt, lost his young wife. They were married on a Thursday evening, and that night fortnight they laid her in her coffin, once more wearing her bridal veil and orange blossoms. Their passage was taken and their goods all ready for shipping. They went visiting, but she was taken ill on the second day, and on the seventh day returned to her widowed mother; and after a week of terrible suffering from pleurisy died. She is said to have been a very fine young woman and fitted in every way for the mission field, and was looking forward to her work and the meeting with some she knew in the mission with joy. Are not the Lord's ways very hard for us to understand at times? Her poor young husband does not know what to do. If he could come to the mission unmarried he would do so at once, but that cannot be.

If it be the Lord's will we expect Mr. A. H. Macdonald and his bride down in May

or June.

I am thankful to say that we are both well and busy. Mr. McKenzie sent us another teacher and his wife by the last trip of the *Truganine*, so that now we have two teachers and their wives. The one who has been with us seven months addressed the people briefly for the first time in the Tongoan language last Sabbath and did fairly well. He will be a help to Mr. Annand now in carrying on the work in the regions beyond.

We have only two of the Santo lads with us now. We had to send the little boy away some time ago, he was so very disobedient and sulky that we could do nothing with him. He had a very bad leg which required dressing twice a day to which poor Ute was much opposed, and we could not have him about unless it was dressed, it being so offensive. Mr. Annand worked with it for over three months, and it was nearly well when he left. Bani also left last week. He is the lad who was turned from the village for breaking taboo ten months ago. We feel sorry that he has left the premises, he was doing so well and always so bright and cheerful. The reason he has left is that there are so many heathen dances going on once a week at one of mainland villages near by, and the temptation to attend them is too great for him. He went off once to one of them unknown to us, and stayed away all the next day. Mr. Annand told him that he did not wish him to attend heathen dances and feasts, so he said he would not go again, however, when the next came he could not resist, so off he went, and two days after came back and asked for his wages as he wished to return to the village. Poor lad, I do not think that he feels quite happy. He promised to attend school as usual, but has been away two or three days this week. So it is with our work here hopeful at one time then cast down.

How little we can do unless it pleases the Lord to open the hearts of these poor people. They are so deeply wedded to their heathen worship. Do not cease to pray for us dear friends.

ALICE M. ANNAND.

Trinidad.

For the Maritime.

LETTER FROM REV. W. MACRAE.

PRINCETOWN, May 14, 1890.

Dear Mr. Scott:—Some time ago I saw by the *Witness* that the ladies had resolved to write regularly to each of the Foreign Missionaries and teachers.