

came directly or indirectly under his influence. His works led to a reform movement in Bohemia, and paved the way for the work of Luther and Calvin. He was a Calvinist before Calvin; a Puritan before the Puritans—a patriotic Englishman instinct with the modern spirit of progress and reform. He delighted in the Word of God, and acknowledged its supreme authority. His translation of the Bible into the newly-formed English tongue marked an epoch in our literature. He thus sowed seed which sprang up into a goodly harvest. Five hundred years ago he and his disciples did much to evangelize England, and to make the bondage of Rome appear in its true light. He has stood forth a personage in history whose name and fame can never perish, and the results of whose work but increases as the years roll by. Millions know of Wiclif and revere his name who know little of the kings and warriors, the Popes and princes who were his contemporaries. He lived in advance of his age. Indeed his views of truth were in many respects clearer and more Scriptural than those of Luther himself. His zeal and enterprise in translating the Scriptures, making copies of them, and sending forth men to read and explain the Word, were an example to all subsequent reformers. The lesson of his life may well be coned in our own day where spiritual darkness still remains to be dispelled by the light of the Divine Word.

### **The Dayspring.**

*(Continued from last month.)*

THE "Dayspring" is to our mission what steamboats, railways, telegraphs, roads, and conveyances are to Britain. She is our only regular means of communication with the outer world, and with each other on the islands. By her we send and get our letters, and fresh provisions twice yearly, and without her we could not possibly remain on the islands, so that a mission vessel is absolutely necessary to the very existence of the New Hebrides Mission. In it the "Dayspring" has done good service. Since we got her, island after island going north has been taken in, till now that, by missionaries and native teachers, we occupy sixteen islands on which life and property are comparatively

safe, and have prepared the whole group to receive the gospel. But as she is only 160 tons register, since our mission staff has become so increased, she is far too small for the work and accommodation required, though she does nothing in trading, and carries only the provisions and supplies of the missionaries and teachers. Of late she has been unable to take all that was needed, and things left have put the mission families to great inconvenience. From the nearest island to Sydney the group extends some 350 miles north-west, so that yearly the "Dayspring" has more work to do than she can overtake in the mission.

Besides, the "Dayspring" is a sailing vessel, and when amongst the islands always occupied in visiting the missionaries and the native teachers, and in extending the work of the mission. Yet much precious time is lost to her and the missionaries on board when she gets under the lee of some island, or into a calm, or weather-bound in a harbour, which is often the case in the tropics, and the lives of all on board are sometimes placed in great danger, if near land, by her drifting on shore in calms as many vessels have done.

For such reasons our last Mission Synod on the islands was led to make an earnest appeal to all the friends of Christian missions for money to help to get a new mission vessel, with steam auxiliary power, and fully a third larger than our present one, for the New Hebrides Mission, which would greatly facilitate the work, and add much to the comfort of the mission families on the islands.

Since I entered the work 26 years ago, I may say since we got the "Dayspring" 18 years ago, for except on Aneityum up till that time the work was preparatory, in a terrible struggle between death and life, the mission has been extended to 16 islands. The Bible in part or in whole has been translated and printed, and is now read in nine different languages, and about 8,000 natives are under Christian instruction; while 70,000 more heathen now plead for the missionary and the gospel. Out of the savage cannibals among whom we were at first placed we have educated over 150 native teachers and evangelists to help us in our work; indeed, every convert in a sense becomes a missionary and helps to tell others of Jesus and his salvation.