

have some idea of the Pacific isles. The summer months commence in December and end in April, and the cool months extend from first of May to first of Dec. During the summer months we have the warm north winds and a good deal of rain. During the cool months the south-east trades blow constantly, carrying health and cheerfulness to all.

Any person who has visited the Pacific isles and then attempts to describe them in his best possible style, is almost compelled in sorrow to quit the task as he reads his own description and then compares it with those gardens he dared to picture to the minds of others.

Then, again, the islands are *not unhealthy* if we who go there would be a little more conservative, but the air seems so sweet and balmy that natives of colder climates cannot understand why the old missionaries are constantly annoying them by cautioning them against the night air, exposure, over-exertion and damp clothing. *'Tis no sacrifice to go anywhere as missionaries in the cause of Christ*, and surely no man going to such a field as the isles of the broad Pacific should think of it as a *sacrifice*. Apart from the glory of the work itself, and the distinct command of the great missionary who, while on earth, delighted so much to be about His Heavenly Father's business, and who suffered hunger and thirst, cold and shipwreck, persecution and a even death for the Gospel which He preached. Apart from all this I say, 'tis no sacrifice for any young man, however dear the ties of home and country, to leave all and go as a missionary to the New Hebrides. Now, consider, 1. The islands, well, they are spotless homes for the gods. 2. They are within ten days sail of the Australian and New Zealand cities. 3. Any number of ships are constantly sailing between the Colonies and the islands, and by these you can at all times send or receive mails and supplies if you wish. 4. Letters by overland mail to San Francisco and thence to Australia by steamer frequently arrive at the islands in less than two months from the time they are mailed in Nova Scotia. 5. The time is not distant, it seems to me, when the steamers passing from Australia to China will touch in at the islands, (say New Caledonia) to land

passengers and mails, and take in water fresh fruits, and vegetables for the voyage. When this time comes, persons going to the New Hebrides can purchase a through ticket from Halifax to the islands, and the whole time of passage will not be more than about six weeks, and then we will have excursion pic-nics from Halifax to the New Hebrides, and Botanists will be found taking a trip to the islands for the purpose of collecting rare plants. You laugh at my wild dreams, but wait a few years and you will see that this is not all idle romance. The world is coming together. You can now circumnavigate the world in 80 days, and by taking 120 you can do so and see the sights.

But I must close for the present.

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### Learning and Giving.

"Work and Pray;"—the words run together as if fitted for each other. The man who toils without lifting up his heart to God is a mere drudge; and the man who prays without working is apt to become mere "sounding brass," if not worse.

The lesson from this is that we should always join the outward with the inward, just as man's body is joined with his soul,—any divorce between them being bad for both. But there are many organizations connected with the usual economy of a Christian congregation in which we see the one without the other. Thus we know of Bible-Classes in which the members meet together for years, asking questions, studying, receiving religious knowledge, but never once asking before they separate, "should not we do or give something for Christ's cause at home or abroad?" So, too, people meet from week to week to pray with each other; they exhort, they cry to God to stir them up, they commune with Him, but they rest there. It does not seem to occur to them that there is work to be done, and that the best way for them to become interested in religion is by constantly denying themselves for it, and that there is no more fitting time than when they have been specially professing Christ's name and calling on Him. Is it any wonder that prayer-meetings are