

to any settled pastor, who will aid in this very important work), on the condition that they use prayerful judgment as to their proper distribution; and that under no condition money be received for the same.

Respectfully yours,

W. N. BESSEY.

Lanark, Ont., 29th April, 1889.

### THE BRIGHAM CHURCH.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT.

DEAR SIR,—In your issue of May, under the heading, "Pastoral Changes," you state that Brigham is vacant. Such is not the case however, as I am still in charge, though for a short time absent. I expect (D.V.) to return to Brigham immediately after the "Union" meetings. Your paper has been a welcome visitor to the Canadian colony here.

Yours faithfully,

A. PARKER SOLANDT.

Oberlin Theological Seminary,  
Ohio, May 6th, 1889.

### Our Contributors.

#### MISSIONARY SHIPS.

(Concluded).



AFTER the *Camden* was purchased, Mr. Williams returned to Raratonga, taking with him what was especially valuable in his

eyes—5,000 Testaments in the language of that Island. He was welcomed among them with much delight, but his work was nearing its end. After leaving his wife and son among friends, he set out to visit some of the other islands; but at

Erromanga, he was stabbed by a chief in revenge for the murder of his son by a white man. The *Camden* bore the sad news to Sydney, Australia, and also to the islands where he had labored, where the distress of the people knew no bounds. However, though the cause of missions in those islands had lost one of its noblest and bravest, the work went on. Nor was the memory of his labors suffered to be forgotten; for shortly after this the *Camden*, having to return to England for repairs, it was decided that the better plan would be to buy a new ship, which should be known as the *John Williams*. The appeal for help was enthusiastically responded to; the children even, seeming to feel for the first time that they could help on the work. One little girl sold her favorite doll for 4s. (a dollar in our money), and two other Irish girls, who had saved up \$2.50 for toys, willingly sent it to help. The ship was purchased in 1844, and launched amid general rejoicings; and also on her arrival at the islands, the much-loved name she bore secured her a warm welcome. At Samoa, the children, having learned that much of the money for her had been raised by children, were fired with a desire to imitate them; and as a number of native teachers were soon to leave home for work in Western Polynesia, to whom canoes would be a great help, they, by their united efforts, raised between £300 and £400, with which 29 canoes were purchased.

For twenty years the *John Williams* continued her annual trip between England and the Islands, carrying fresh workers, Bibles, supplies, etc., till in 1864 she was wrecked on Danger Island, her crew happily escaping. A second ship of the same name was purchased, only to be wrecked three years later. Then *John Williams III.* was secured, not to proceed to England, but to connect the various islands; at which work she is still engaged. On one side of the boat, in gold letters on a blue ground, are the words, "Peace on earth, and good will to men."

But other Missionary Societies have also sent out ships to the work; one of the first being the *Active*, sent to New Zealand by the Church Missionary Society, which was of great use. But the necessity for such a ship has long passed away; as in 1847 we find a New Zealand Bishop undertaking a mission to the New Hebrides in a small ship,