

The Tunapuna Church is proceeding rapidly. We think it will aid our work very much. The Communion was dispensed three weeks ago and bags distributed for the savings of the converts for this object. Probably you have heard of the death of Mr. Wright's little boy, he died of water on the brain. Miss Sample has been quite ill, and though better now is not yet fully recovered.

Since I wrote you last, we gave an entertainment in aid of the church fund by which we cleared sixty dollars. Our three lady teachers gave valuable assistance in reading and music, and several others helped us greatly to make it successful. I hope to write you again shortly, after the arrival of our young missionaries which is expected with a great deal of pleasure. With kind wishes for all.

S. E. MORTON.

#### NEW HEBRIDES.

EXTRACTS OF LETTER FROM REV. H. A. ROBERTSON.

DILLON'S BAY, ERROMANGA,  
April 30th, 1886.

The *Dayspring* is just now at Efate, or should be and as we expect her here in a few days, I will write a brief note and send by Capt. Braithwaite in the hope that he may be able to forward it to New Caledonia by some trading vessel which the *Dayspring* may fall in with about Efate.

I wish first to express my regret that no report was sent from Erromanga when the *Dayspring* sailed for Sydney about the end of last year. We had just gone overland to our East Station in November when Mrs. Robertson became suddenly very ill, we think brought on by a rough walk of twelve miles where we could not take the horses, and what with her sickness, and our little girl suffering from fever and ague, the packing of six casks of arrowroot, and attending to many duties connected with our work proper, I only managed to get our own and our teachers orders made out before the *Dayspring* arrived, November 30, from the Northern Islands for our letters and the arrow root. This was the only time she had come before the 7th or 8th of December, which, with other reasons stated, rendered it simply impossible for me to send my Annual Statement to the Board through our worthy Secretary Dr. MacGregor, (I pray we may receive good

news of his state of health by the Mission vessel.)

#### SINCE OUR RETURN.

We have been back just twelve months, and during that time we have visited North and South of Dillon's Bay and East and West of Potnaroven (Cooks landing). We have spent three months at the East Station.—Potnaroven in Potnuma Bay, known to foreigners as Portinia or Polimia Bay; and nine months at Dillon's Bay.

#### THE SACRAMENTS.

We have dispensed the Sacrament of the Supper twice: first at Dillon's Bay on the 28th of June 1855, and again at Potnaroven on the 17th of January, 1886. We baptized and thereafter admitted thirty-seven adults to the Lord's Supper in June and on the same day we baptized 26 infants, all of whose parents were members of the Church in full communion. At the June Communion 610 Erromangans were present including 170 church members. In January of this year we met at Potnaroven where there were present 712 Erromangans, including 166 at the Lord's table.

#### TERMS OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

We baptized only one adult between the Communion in June and the one in January for reasons which I consider sufficiently strong.

1. One condition for any adult desirous of becoming a member of the Church is that he (or she) attend regularly, once a week, for twelve months, a candidates class conducted always by myself.

2. If young and able to acquire the art of reading he must be able to read fairly well any book printed in Erromangan.

3. He must attend with average regularity all services on Sabbath, week-day school and weekly prayer meeting and engage to have morning and evening family worship, (if a married man or a single man having friends living in the same house with himself).

4. He must have nothing to do with heathen customs (i. e. not engage in any heathen, or superstitious custom,) though to forbid him to have faith in sorcery, witch-craft and ghosts or ghost stories, and in dreams—born of too much cocoanut oil in his puddings—would be putting new wine into old bottles or asking him to pledge himself solemnly to do what may be attained by his great-grand children, but which is too much to expect of the pres-