

# THE MARITIME PRESBYTERIAN

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Let the New Year be more fully consecrated to Christ than any which has gone before. Let its hopes centre in Him. Let its aims and efforts be directed to Him. Let its anxieties and cares be committed to Him. Let its sorrows be cast upon Him. Let its joys be sought from Him. Let its pleasures be enjoyed in Him. Let its life be copied after Him. Let its sins be laid upon Him. Thus will be fulfilled that which friend wishes to friend, and which the MARITIME wishes to all its readers, a good and glad New Year.

Very important, though brief, are Dr. Steele's letters in this issue. Instead of the Dayspring making semi annual voyages to the islands, there is now a monthly steamer calling at one or two of the islands, and the government of New South Wales is subsidizing a steamer to sail constantly in the group. This will bring our missionaries more into touch with each other, and with civilization, and will lessen the loneliness and isolation that has hitherto been a factor in the life of the New Hebrides missionary. Write now to the missionaries any time of the year that you choose and the letter will go direct. Further, address your letters, not to the care of Dr. Steele but direct to the missionary, *via*. Australia.

Mr. and Mrs. Morton, with Mr. Coffin and the Misses Archibald and Graham, have arrived safely in Trinidad, bearing with them, ringing in their ears and resting in their hearts the words of cheer that at their farewell meetings were so plentifully given, and carrying with them gladness to weary and worn workers in the field, whose numbers had been for some time few, and whose burdens of work and care had been correspondingly heavy. In one sad heart and home however, the sadness will still linger, and only the presence and power Divine can give peace, *viz*, in the Mission house at Princetown, which was but lately brightened by that gentle presence which now is there no more.

The cheering letter of Mr. Burgeoin in the present issue speaks for itself. The solution of the French Roman Catholic problem in Quebec is the gospel. Let its light shine in and slavish submission to a priesthood that takes its bidding from Rome will be flung aside, and a free people, free in body, in mind and in spirit, taking their orders from the Word of God only, will make our Dominion united, happy, and prosperous.

Rev. J. Wilkie, speaking of mission work in India, quotes from Hindoo papers to show that Caste is being completely overthrown. He says that Caste rules have of late been broken through frequently, to meet the demands of the people. The priests, in the endeavour to keep their power from decay, are giving a great deal of money for the printing of infidel publications, which are being scattered broadcast among the people, so that at present one of the greatest difficulties to be met is infidelity.

Many people find it hard to give, and consequently the work being hard they do not perhaps try it so often or do so much of it as they otherwise would. The great cure is more of the Spirit of Christ in the heart and more of order and system in the work. Just as with every other thing, swinging an axe, a scythe, wielding a pen or playing a violin or piano, regular practice makes it easy and pleasant. Read carefully the article "The Christian Giving Union" in the Presbyterian Church of England given on another page.

A Rome despatch to the *Catholic News* says: The Pope has ordered that the property of all cardinals who die and leave no relations is to be bequeathed to the Propaganda. Those having relatives must make generous provision in wills for the same institution. These and all other funds devoted to the use of the Propaganda will be invested in foreign countries. This last regulation is to prevent seizure of the Papal revenues by the Italian Government.