

the recent death of a chief had been due to medicine given by Mr. Gordon, and that they had no sickness till the Gordons had come. He tried to induce the natives to massacre the little band of Christians at Dillon's Bay. He was held to be at least morally guilty of the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon.

The years 1861, 1862 marked a most trying crisis in the history of the New Hebrides mission. Measles and diphtheria swept the islands. Dr. Geddie's church was burnt. Terrible hurricanes produced desolation. Mr. Johnston died suddenly. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon were killed. Mr. and Mrs. Matheson died. Of eight missionaries sent from Nova Scotia only three were living. Mr. Paton was compelled to leave his station and to seek a change of air for the benefit of his health. But the supporters of the mission were not discouraged. Mr. Paton, by his advocacy of the mission, in Australia, secured £5,000 for a mission vessel; and paved the way effectively for the active co-operation of the Australasian churches in the mission. The Church in Nova Scotia asked for volunteers to fill the places rendered vacant by death. Rev. Donald Morrison, Rev. James D. Gordon, Rev. William McCullagh offered and were accepted. Meanwhile a vessel for the use of the mission was built at New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. She was 115 tons burthen, and named *The Dayspring*. In this vessel our newly appointed missionaries set sail on a sunny October morning in 1863. Messrs. Morrison and McCullagh were married men; Mr. Gordon was unmarried. *The Dayspring*, having visited the usual Australian points, performed her mission among the isles of the Pacific. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison were placed on Efaté. Mr. and Mrs. McCullagh occupied for a time Dr. Geddie's station on Aneityum, and soon, on the ground of health, retired from the mission. REV. J. D. GORDON was a brother of REV. GEORGE