

The One Talent.

In a napkin smooth and white,
Hidden from all mortal sight,
My one talent lies to-night.

Mine to hoard, or mine to use,
Mine to keep, or mine to lose :
May not I do what I choose ?

Ah ! the gift was only lent,
With the Giver's known intent
That it should be wisely spent.

And I know he will demand
Every farthing at my hand,
When I in his presence stand.

What will be my grief and shame
When I hear my humble name
And cannot repay his claim ?

Some will double what they hold :
Others add to it ten fold,
And pay back in shining gold.

Lord, oh teach me what to do !
Make me faithful, make me true,
And the sacred trust renew.

Help me, ere too late it be,
Something now to do for thee—
Thou who hast done all for me !

The New Hebrides Mission.

WE are indebted to the Rev. Dr. Steel of Sydney, New South Wales, for the following items of information respecting the progress of Mission work in this most interesting field where the Missionaries of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, have been for many years cooperating with those of other Churches. We quote from an article written by Dr. Steel for the *Australian Witness* :

We are glad to receive good news from all the islands. The Rev. P. Milne reports that the work is encouraging in the islands of Metaso, Makuru, and Tongoa, in each of which he spent some time during the year.

On the island of Fate, Mr. McDonald reports that at Havannah Harbour his work continues to be interesting; and Mr. McKenzie of the same island, states, "he has had the happiness of seeing the village

of Eratap throw off heathenism. There are now three Christian villages under his care. He has established regular services at Bufa, an inland village, and has been cheered by seeing one after another leave the place and join the Christian people at Erakor, until there are nine such. These are chiefly young men. He hopes that the whole village will surrender to Christ ere long. The Rev. H. A. Robertson gives a very encouraging view of Eromanga—so long celebrated for antipathy to the gospel. The whole island is now covered by a network of Christian teachers, natives of the island. The natives of Cook's Bay, have built a cottage for the missionary. Mr. Robertson and his wife resided there for some weeks, and were very kindly received by chief and people, who brought them freely a supply of yams and taro.

At Aniwa, the Rev. Mr. Watt has resided for a short time to see how the work was prospering in the absence of the Rev. J. G. Paton. He reports favourably, but says there is want of reading matter, which it is hoped will be speedily supplied by Mr. Paton, who was authorised to print a Gospel.

On Tanna there has been an epidemic of typhoid fever, which has carried off a number of people. Mr. Watt is engaged in revising the translations of the gospels of St. Matthew and St. Mark, that one or the other may be printed when he visits New Zealand at the end of the year.

Latest Intelligence.

LETTER FROM REV. DR. STEEL.

Sydney, 28th October, 1876.

The "Dayspring" arrived here on the 10th instant, bringing the Rev. Jos. Copeland and his two motherless children. His health has not been good for some time, The vessel got some repairs and improvements, and sailed again yesterday, the 27th, with stores for the Missionaries. After a very short visit to the Islands, the "Dayspring" goes to New Zealand, and will not return here till September, 1877.

The three cases you sent were received after long delay, arising from the misdirection to one Robert Steel, Esq., Newcastle.

Mr. Annand writes in good spirits in his new position, and Mr. McKenzie regarding his success. Mr. Robertson is also doing very well, and is working Eromanga happily and effectually.

I have sent the Memorial Tablet for the martyrs of Eromanga, and as I had some funds over, I proposed to get one for Dr. Geddie. This I have been enabled to do by the kindness of one of my elders, who gave