



THE NEW CHAPEL, MONTROSE, DEMERARA.

THE

JUVENILE MISSIONARY MAGAZINE.

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THE HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THE custom of offering congratulations, expressing good wishes, and making presents on New Year's Day is very ancient. It prevailed among the Romans from the earliest period of their history. Our Saxon ancestors observed the New Year by sending gifts to one another. Good old Latimer sent a present to King Henry the Eighth for a New Year's gift: it was not a purse of gold; but what is more precious than gold, or silver, or rubies—The New Testament. In Paris, presents of sweetmeats (bonbons) are made on New Year's Day, to the extent, it is calculated, of not less than 20,000*l*. The Jews, on their New Year's Day, give splendid entertainments, and wish one another "a happy new year."

Your parents and friends, dear young readers, have, no doubt, wished you the same blessing, and many have earnestly prayed for it. *We* wish you the enjoyment of it too, and will endeavour to make our Magazine one of the means of your happiness all through the year.

How happy it shall be, depends much on yourselves. We cannot *command* the future; but we

must use the means which God has put in our power.

In order to have a happy year, try to *begin* it well, and then,

1. Daily ask God for wisdom and strength, to keep you from evil, and to *make* you happy in *servi*ng Him.

2. Guard your temper carefully. What a beautiful temper Jesus Christ had! Try to imitate it.

3. Think how you can make *others* happy, and as many as possible. Strive to make somebody happier every day.

4. Do all the *good* that you are able. Perhaps you are asking, what good? I reply just now, help the Juvenile Fund for the Jubilee of the Missionary Society. *Begin by giving something to it yourselves.* If 20,000*l.* be spent in Paris in *sweetmeats* on New Year's Day, surely it is worth while to try and raise as much for such a great and good work as that of helping to teach heathen children how they may be happy through eternity!

There are suitable cards provided by the Society for the use of *juvenile collectors*. Ministers, superintendents, and teachers can obtain them for our young friends. Then let our young friends collect as much as they conveniently can, and pay it in by the end of January to their respective ministers or treasurers. This will be *their* Jubilee effort, and it is specially intended to aid the cause of *education among the young* in India, and countries where the Bible is not known.

Dear young friends, you did nobly for the Ship; now then for a noble effort for the Jubilee. Sustain your good character, and it will delight all

your friends. The Jubilee will not come again for fifty years! "*What thine hand findeth to do, do it with thy might!*"

MONTROSE, DEMERARA.

THE Frontispiece for this month presents a view of the new chapel and school-house at the station called Montrose, with part of the dwelling-house on the right hand, and a sugar-plantation in the distance on the left hand.

It is nearly forty years since the Society began its labours in that part of the world, British Guiana. Mr. Wray went there first. He was very successful at the station called Le Resouvenir, eight miles from Georgetown. He afterwards removed to New Amsterdam, in Berbice, and was succeeded by that excellent man, Mr. John Smith. He also met with great success during the six years he laboured there; but very great difficulties arose, and poor Mr. Smith was unjustly charged with promoting an insurrection among the negro slaves, and was sent to prison, where he died. The Mission was renewed after a short time; not, indeed, on the same spot, but at Montrose, an adjoining estate, and to which place the materials of the old chapel were removed. The place of worship was soon found too small, and was enlarged. But that also has proved unsuitable for the numbers attending public worship and the improved condition of the people. At their *own* expense, therefore, they have built a new and commodious chapel: Mr. Watt has been their minister till lately; but his health has failed,

and he has returned with his family to this country. The Directors are now anxious to find another minister for them, and who will prove to the people there *a good minister of Jesus Christ.*

ABRAHAM, THE SAMOAN TEACHER.

THE following simple letter has just come to hand from Abraham, who returned in the "John Williams," addressed to Mr. Freeman:—

"I write to you to say I send my kind love to all you, the Mrs. Freeman and Mary Anna and Fanny. I hope all you very well. God prosper your family, and the word of God, and your preaching to the people, and your prayer for all the people, and your prayer for all nation. I thank you very much for your kind prayer to God for me. I tell you, sir, God will bless me; he makes all my body, all days, very well, Mr. Freeman. If you please, pray to God for my father, and all my brother, and my sister, and my wife, and all my family, and all my people. Now you not see me in the world; suppose I be good man, you see me in Heaven; suppose I be bad man, you not see me in Heaven. Give my love to your servant. Good bye, good bye, my friend, remember me.

FROM ABRAHAM."

LETTERS to the CONTRIBUTORS for the PURCHASE of the "JOHN WILLIAMS."

WE have received six letters, addressed as above, from the Cape of Good Hope, written by the Rev. J. C. Brown, who went out in the new Missionary Ship. They will much gratify our young friends. We insert the first two this month, and hope to insert the rest in the next two months:—

LETTER No. 1.

*On Board the "John Williams." Lat. 33° 30'
W. Long. 18° 8'. July 4th, 1844.*

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,

HAVING done so much to raise the money for the purchase of the Missionary Ship, you will feel interested, no doubt, in all that relates to her voyage to distant lands. I have, therefore, resolved to do all I can to gratify you in this feeling, and I hope that you may thus be led to take a still deeper interest in the work of Missionaries,—to pray for them, to support them, and to imitate them, when God gives you the opportunity.

You have, doubtless, been informed of the delightful meeting held in Finsbury Chapel, London, to commend the Missionaries, their friends, and the crew, to the care and protection of God, and also of the services on board the "Star" steamer when we left London and embarked for our distant stations on Wednesday the 5th of June. That was to us a day of great excitement; but, trying as it was to body and mind, it was highly gratifying to us, as we stood on the deck of the "John Williams" and looked upon the noble steamer as she ploughed the waters by our side, now approaching, now receding, and now sailing round our vessel, to see her deck crowded from stem to stern with friends all interested in the conversion of the nations to the Lord, and manifesting their interest in our welfare by accompanying us on our way as far as they could, responding to our parting song, and cheering us onward, when, at length, it became necessary for them to leave us, and return to the city. As soon as these friends had gone, we set about unpacking some of our clothes and bed-linen, and getting our little cabins (or *state-rooms*,

as they are called) into order. When this was done, we sat down to tea, and then, for the first time, we learned the number of the passengers and their several destinations; for, though most of us had previously met, it had been two or three at one time, and two or three at another, and that in the midst of bustle and confusion; besides, in the course of the day, we had seen so many countenances of old acquaintances and of new friends, that we scarcely yet knew one another, or could remember one another's names. At this you will not be surprised, if you bear in mind, that, including the captain and the first officer (i. e. the mate) of the ship and the children, we form a party of twenty-three, exclusive of the crew and the islanders on board. Amongst the children, there is one little girl who was born on board the "Camden" on her voyage homeward last year.

We were detained a week at Gravesend, which afforded us an opportunity of completing the arrangement of things in our respective cabins, and of gradually accustoming ourselves and the children to the inconveniences of living on ship-board before encountering the tossings of the sea. The friends at Gravesend were exceedingly kind to us all; and during our stay there we were also visited by many friends of Missions from London and places at a still greater distance. We also went frequently on shore, and had the pleasure of intercourse with many who love our Lord.

On the evening of the 12th of June, after a short address to the crew by a Christian friend from Gravesend, the anchor was weighed, the sails were set, and our voyage was commenced; but, the wind being contrary, we had to cast anchor for the night a few miles below the town, and, reaching the Downs the following afternoon, we had there to lie at anchor a few days longer.

There we were again visited by friends from London, which refreshed the spirits not only of their relations on board, but of us all. On Sabbath-morning, the wind became favourable, and one after another of the numerous vessels lying in the Downs weighed anchor and set sail; but He whom we serve having said, "Remember the Sabbath-day, to keep it holy," our captain "rested on the Sabbath according to the Commandment," and, a boat having been sent from Deal, with a request that some of the Missionaries would land and preach there as they had done at Gravesend the Sabbath before, it was arranged that some should remain to preach on board, while others landed and preached on shore. There they were received with very great kindness, and listened to with great attention.

On Monday the 17th June, we again weighed anchor. We moved along very slowly at first, and kept near the shore, so that we had a fine view of Dover as we passed it. In the afternoon, we overtook and passed a great many of the vessels which had left the Downs the day before. In the Channel, we had a smart breeze, almost a gale. The heaving of the vessel then made most of us very unwell, and tossed about our furniture with little ceremony. We had got a chest of drawers fixed in our cabin; but, on awaking in the morning, we found it leaning against our berth or bedstead, and turned upside down; and at breakfast several of our friends had similar tales to tell; but such mishaps we had been told to expect.

On clearing the British Channel, we found we had got so far to the westward, as to render it probable we should pass the Bay of Biscay at a distance sufficient to avoid the unpleasant tossing invariably experienced by vessels sailing within that bay; and, at length, we learned that we were abreast of Cape Finisterre, which

gave us great satisfaction, as till then we could not consider ourselves secure. We are now, after a succession of calms and of gentle breezes, of days of languor, of sickness, and of enjoyment, abreast of Madeira, but about seventy miles to the westward of it. The weather is delightful, the thermometer ranging from 70° to 76° in the shade, with light breezes, which are very refreshing. We desire to thank God, and take courage, for "hitherto the Lord hath helped us."

I shall probably write to you again soon, if anything likely to interest you should occur in the ship. In the meantime I would advise you to get a map, and request some one to point out to you the different places I have mentioned in my letter. I am, my dear children,

Your sincere well-wisher,

JOHN C. BROWN.

LETTER NO. 2, FROM THE SAME.

*On Board the "John Williams," Lat. $26^{\circ} 34'$;
W. Long. $21^{\circ} 0'$. 7th July, 1844.*

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,

THIS is the Sabbath, and the first Sabbath of the month, a day on which many of the followers of Christ meet to commemorate His death; and, perhaps, some of you have been saying, "Well, I wonder what the Missionaries and their friends will be doing this day on board the Missionary Ship! Will they have a chapel? and if so, what kind of a chapel can it be? Will they observe the Lord's Supper to-day? and if so, what will they do for cups?" It has, therefore, been suggested to me by some of the friends on board, that I should write to you a long letter, and tell you all about the proceedings of this day, the first on which the Lord's Supper has been observed on board the vessel.