

was next reached on the morning of the 25th April. The natives there were more heathenish, and looked fierce. They were almost entirely naked. About forty attend the religious service held by Mr. Watt on Sabbaths. Others attend the teachers at their stations at some distance. After taking the Rev. H. A. and Mrs. Robertson and their baby on board, the vessel reached Fotuna on the evening of Sabbath the 26th, instead of getting into Port Resolution, fourteen miles north of Mr. Watt's, on Tanna, as had been expected. I landed along with the Rev. Joseph Copeland, amidst a number of fierce looking Fotunese, who received Mr. Copeland in a friendly manner. His native teachers were also there. They had taken charge of his premises. Mr. Copeland has laboured for eight years, but the people are still backward to receive the Gospel. About fifty attend the worship, but none have been baptized.

The small island of Aniwa was reached on Wednesday the 28th April. It is a coral island, rarely rising above a hundred feet above the level of the sea. Mr. and Mrs. Paton received a warm welcome by the people, who have become Christian as the result of eight years' missionary labour. Both Mr. Copeland and Mr. Paton have good missionary premises.

Port Resolution was reached on the evening of the same day. Mr. and Mrs. Neilson had been bereaved of their infant son, named John Geddie, in the early part of the month. Mr. Ross Lewin, a well known settler, had been shot a short time before on Tanna. His widow took the body and put to sea along with her brothers. They were picked up by a passing vessel, and taken to Havannah Harbour in the island of Fate. Before reaching it the body was committed to the deep, and Mrs. Lewin was prematurely confined of a still-born child. After it was reached, one of her brothers died of fever and ague. What a series of tragic occurrences! It is melancholy to trace the effect of such trade as that followed by Lewin. How many lives have been sacrificed to it, both of natives and of Europeans!

The work of the Mission in the New Hebrides needs to be seen to be fully understood, in all its difficulties, dangers, and successes. Amidst so much that is fertile and beautiful in nature, how abject is man! Nothing but the Gospel can elevate and bless him. But how much faith and courage are needed in those who take their lives in their hands and dwell among such a fierce people, and attempt to teach them the love of God! Verily the need the prayers and sympathy and help of Christian people to sustain and cheer them, and they need a large supply of Divine grace and

protection while they endeavour to extend the Gospel among the islands of the New Hebrides.

UNION.

The Presbyterians of the Dominion, when united, will be the largest of the Protestant Churches. Recent Statistics give the number of ministers as 606. This is below the actual number. Congregations, 1003. Average stipend, \$840. Vacant charges, 121. Elders, 3656; Communicants, 89,266; Sabbath School Teachers, 7471; pupils, 73,394. These figures we quote from our valued contemporary, the Montreal Presbyterian, (Kirk), which has all along very earnestly and intelligently advocated Union.

The organs of the Churches in Scotland speak favourably and encouragingly of the Union.

Our own Presbyteries and Congregations so far as we have been able to learn have decided favourably. The difficulties in the way of our Church of Scotland friends appear to be less formidable than had been at one time anticipated.

REPORT OF THE FREE CHURCH DELEGATES.

Rev. J. C. Burns, one of the Delegates from the Free Church who visited us last June, has given an account of the visit in the *Record* for September. We quote the portion relating to the Lower Provinces:

In St. John, N. B., there are six places of Presbyterian worship,—four of the one Church, and two of the other; and in all of them but one we were able to officiate, besides addressing the same night, after evening worship, a "mass meeting," which was said to represent every congregation in the city. My third service that day was in St. Andrew's Kirk, of which (the first place of worship in the colony connected with the Church of Scotland) my venerable relative, Dr. George Burns, became minister in 1817. Some of his elders I found still "remanent," and many others came to welcome me for his sake.

We reached Halifax in good time for the opening of the Synod on the 30th, enjoying a delightful sail across the Bay of Fundy to Digby and Annapolis, and