

tion, as to salary, with the other missionaries labouring there. The salary now given to the missionaries of the sister church, is £150 sterling, with such increase in after years as any change of circumstances may reasonably demand. Your committee feel assured that this synod would not approve of any proposal to place our missionary in a less favorable position than his fellow-labourers in the same field. Your committee would record, with much satisfaction, the statement made by Mr. Goodwill, that the medical professors in Philadelphia expressed the interest felt by them in the mission by remitting, in his case, the usual medical fees, which virtually amounted to a donation of \$140. The committee feel that this truly christian liberality, which we could not have looked for, should be acknowledged by conveying to these gentlemen the cordial thanks of this synod.

In reference to the young man, Mr. Cummings, who was last year brought under the notice of the synod, as desirous of engaging in missionary labour, your committee have to report that after a few months in the town of Pictou, attending school, under the special charge of the Rev. Mr. Herdman, as directed by the synod, he was examined at a meeting of the committee held there in October last, the result of which was, that your committee felt it their duty not to advise him to prosecute his studies.

At the meeting above referred to, the Rev. Mr. Herdman read a letter from Mr. Robertson, a young man then residing in Aneiteum, offering his services to this synod as a lay agent, or as willing, if desired, to go through a course of training, with the view of ordination as a fully equipped missionary. Your committee considered this offer as one worthy of the most favourable consideration, and as Mr. Robertson intimated his intention shortly to return to Nova Scotia, Mr. Herdman was requested to instruct him, immediately on his arrival, to put himself in communication with the convener. The committee have much pleasure in informing this synod that that gentleman has lately arrived, and is now present. He has expressed to us his desire to return to the New Hebrides to labor wherever and in whatever capacity this synod may deem best. If the synod feel disposed favourably to regard the services thus placed at our disposal, the committee will be happy to confer with Mr. Robertson, and report further in the matter.

Your committee have further only to add, that with sincere joy and unfeigned thankfulness to God, they hope in a few weeks to see the first missionary from this church prepared to take his departure for the far distant islands of the South Seas, to preach there the unsearchable riches and love of Christ. Thus far the Lord has prospered us. Last year your committee, in giving in their report, were obliged to repeat the same sad tale that no missionary had offered his services. For six years this was our painful task. Thanks be to God, we are now differently situated, and the sadness of our report is exchanged for joy. We now find that while we were discouraged and almost ready to despond, our Blessed Master was silently preparing a labourer for His own work, and, when we least looked for it, help came. Here a lesson has been taught us which is well fitted to strengthen our confidence in every future difficulty. Our God will never forge the cause that is His own. When His people are made willing to work for Him, He will assuredly provide the means, and make the final result of their labours a glorious and sure success. We cannot doubt that as certainly as He provided a labourer for this work, is He willing abundantly to bless and to prosper it. If the humble and earnest prayers of our people and of this church will follow the missionary, the result is certain. We have the sure promise, and to cherish doubts would be greatly to dishonor our Lord and Master. If this mission fail, it will be because we may lose sight of that arm that can throw out of the way every obstacle and lay every enemy prostrate. Your committee would humbly suggest that this court recommend to all the