

that body that they have engaged the whole four, doubting not that if necessary their own Church would provide the means of their support. Should this be done, that body, consisting of forty congregations, will have seven missionaries. Our Church cannot rest where she is, with only the number of missionaries that the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia had before the Union. There is no lack of means. At the close of Synod there was more than sufficient in the Foreign Mission Fund to defray the ordinary expenses of the New Hebrides for two years; and now the appeal is to the young men in the ministry and preparing for the ministry—"whom shall we send and who will go for us?" The Foreign Mission Board are prepared at once to engage any duly qualified person who might offer, and we believe that we may say for them that they would engage as many as may offer. We would say for them that if any of our young brethren should be contemplating such a mission, it is most desirable that they should come forward at once. For their own interests and their success in the work, it is important that they should be ready to go out in company with Mr. Geddie next year. During the voyage they would be able to gain an amount of information regarding mission work which would be invaluable afterward. In one day, in the company of Mr. Geddie, we obtained more vivid ideas of the natives, and the actual working of missions among them, than we could have had in a year by correspondence. In order that missionaries should be ready to go out with Mr. Geddie, they should make their mind known this fall, so that they might during next winter study medicine, and, previous to the time of departure, make such preparations as may be considered advisable.

To return, however, to Mr. Geddie. In the vessel in which Mr. Geddie came, there were, besides his family, Lathella and his wife, and some natives he had brought to help to man the *Day Spring*. The passage of the whole party would in ordinary cases have cost about £70 sterling; but when Mr. Geddie called on Captain Burns,

the owner of the vessel, he resolutely refused to receive a farthing, saying he was more indebted to the mission than the mission was to him. It was a vessel which belonged to the same gentleman which removed Messrs. Paton and Matheson from Tanna. His vessels have carried goods to the missionaries free of expense, and his orders to those under him are at all times to render any assistance in their power to the mission.

When the missionaries wrote home for a mission vessel, they stated that if a captain and mate were provided, the rest of the crew might be natives. Our Nova Scotian seamen had not confidence in the seamanship of the natives, and hence not only was a picked crew engaged, but a crew somewhat larger than usual, to provide against sickness. From Mr. Geddie's account it would appear that many of the natives are excellent sailors. In the vessel in which he came to Sydney all the crew, with the exception of the captain and mate, belonged to the islands. The *John Williams* is largely manned by natives, and Mr. Geddie had engaged six good native sailors for the *Day Spring*. Not only are their wages much less, but they subsist on native food, which is easily obtained on the islands. When the terms for which the present crew of the *Day Spring* are engaged terminate, it is therefore likely that their places will, to a considerable extent, be occupied by seamen from some of those islands.

Mr. Geddie as our readers are aware, met the *Day Spring* in Melbourne. It was there agreed that a deck-house should be built on her. The principal reason for this was, that the crew having been sleeping below, found it in hot latitudes not only extremely uncomfortable, but dangerous to health.

Mr. Geddie, on his arrival in England, paid a short visit to London and also to Scotland, where he had some most agreeable intercourse with the F. M. Committee of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland. He arrived in Halifax by the *R. M. S. Africa* on the 3d ult. After spending a few days there, and preaching