

dance with the Synod's resolution. they are now in correspondence with other bodies on the subject of re-establishing the Mission there. We may also mention that sufficient information has been already received to show that the sum claimed at Synod as necessary for establishing and maintaining a Mission there was altogether extravagant. For example, it was then stated that two teachers would be necessary at a cost of £200 sterling, while, in an appeal of the American Missionaries in Turkey, it is stated that the average amount of aid required for a common school is not more than £30. The Board wish however to be able to have full information to lay before Synod, so as to enable our highest court to come to a wise decision on the subject.

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### REV. G. N. GORDON.

In the *Record* for January, we gave a brief account of Mr. Gordon's career up to the time of his leaving Nova Scotia for the Foreign field. We proceed to sketch still more briefly the most interesting portion of his life, having reason to believe that ere long a MEMOIR will be published in which ampler justice can be done to his labours and his valuable correspondence, than can with propriety be attempted in the pages of the *Record*. Not a few of his private letters, as well as those published in the late *Register* and in the *Witness* will, no doubt, be re-published; and the connecting links will be furnished by his private journal which has not yet reached Nova Scotia.

It was expected that the *John Williams* would sail from England for the South Seas in the fall of 1855; and it was with the intention of taking passage in this vessel at that time that Mr. Gordon left Nova Scotia so early. She was delayed, however, for about nine months; and this precious interval Mr. Gordon devoted to earnest preparation for his life-work among the heathen. He arrived at Liverpool on the 22nd October, and proceeded at once to London, where through the kindness of influential friends he obtained the privilege of prosecuting his Medical Studies in connexion with the London Hospital and College. Here he studied descriptive and practical anatomy and other departments of the science, seldom within the reach of ordinary Missionaries.

Of the manner in which he spent his time in Britain, the Board of Foreign Missions say in their Report for 1855-6, that "they have observed with much satisfaction his ardent pursuit of Medical knowledge, under the most eminent instructors, both by attendance on Lectures and by Hospital practice,—his zealous efforts to act as Home Missionary in the vast City of London, where heathenism of the worst type is so prevalent,—his familiar acquaintance with the returned Missionaries of the London Society,—his visit to Scotland his free intercourse with the Ministers and Members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, by whom he was received as a brother,—in a word, his evident purpose to make every day of his sojourn in Britain subserve the great work to which he has been set apart." That this flattering testimony was richly merited we have abundant proof both from his own private letters and from other sources.

He took a lively interest in the wonderful sights and scenes that usually attract the attention of strangers,—the thronging monuments of the wealth and grandeur of the world's great Capital. But the claims of suffering and perishing humanity lay ever nearest his kindly and sensitive heart, which