

**THE NEW HEBRIDES MISSION.**

*Question.*—What is the oldest mission field of our church?

*Answer.*—The New Hebrides, a group of about thirty inhabited islands, in the South Pacific Ocean, 1400 miles from Australia, and extending 400 miles from north to south.

*Q.* What are the ten largest islands?

*A.* Beginning at the south, there is Aneityum, pop. 700, once 4000. Fifty miles N. W. lies Tanna, about 12x30 miles, pop. 6000? Eighteen miles N. of Tanna is Erromanga, 20x30 miles, pop. 2000? Sixty miles from Erromanga is Efate, 20x30 miles, pop. 2000? Farther north is Epi, 15x20 miles; Ambrim, 15x20 miles; Malekula, 30x60 miles, pop. 4000? Santo, the largest, 40x70 miles; Aurora, 7x30 miles; and Pentecost.

*Q.* What are the ten next in size?

*A.* Futuna, pop. 400; Aniwa, pop. 170; Nguna, Emau, Mataso, Mai, Tongoa, Paama, Malo, and Oba.

*Q.* What are the ten smallest?

*A.* Chiefly small islets lying off the larger ones, with 50 to 100 people.

*Q.* What do the islands look like?

*A.* They are beautiful, evergreen, with high mountains and deep valleys, and are rich and fertile bearing coconut, bread-fruit, banana, and other tropical fruits.

*Q.* What kind of people live there?

*A.* In their heathen state, naked, savage cannibals.

*Q.* Who was the first white missionary to remain on the islands?

*A.* Rev. John Geddie, who sailed from Nova Scotia 30th November, 1846, and reached Aneityum in 1848.

*Q.* Had any of them ever heard the Gospel before?

*A.* Native teachers from Samoa had been placed on some of the islands as early as 1840.

*Q.* Had any white missionary been there?

*A.* Williams and Harris were killed when visiting Erromanga, 26th November, 1839, and Messrs. Turner and Nisbett labored for seven months on Tanna in 1842, but were driven away.

*Q.* When did Mr. Geddie form his first church?

*A.* In May, 1852, when fifteen natives were baptized.

*Q.* What help came to him?

*A.* Rev. John Inglis, from Scotland, 1st July, 1852.

*Q.* When did the last heathen district of the island yield?

*A.* In 1854.

*Q.* How long did Dr. Geddie labor?

*A.* He died at Geelong, Australia, 14th December, 1872. Mrs. Geddie is still living.

*Q.* What churches have now missionaries in the group?

*A.* Our own church, 3; the Free Church of Scotland, 2; the two Presbyterian churches of New Zealand, 5; and the four Presbyterian churches in the different parts of Australia, 8.

*Q.* In how many islands is mission work carried on?

*A.* In 13 islands.

*Q.* What are the names of our own missionaries and their islands?

*A.* Mr. McKenzie and family on Efate, Mr. Robertson and family on Erromanga, and Mr. Annand and family on Santo.

*Q.* On what other islands did our church carry on work?

*A.* On Aneityum and Tanna.

*Q.* Why did she leave Aneityum?

*A.* The population grew less, and did not need two missionaries, and Mr. Annand went to Santo, leaving the whole island to the missionary of the Free Church of Scotland.

*Q.* Why did our church leave Tanna?

*A.* Our first missionaries were driven away or died, and afterward another church took up the work.

*Q.* On what islands is mission work carried on besides those five where our church has labored?

*A.* On Futuna, Aniwa, Tongoa, Nguna, Epi, Malo, Ambrim, and Malekula, besides some smaller islets.

*Q.* What is the present condition of Efate?

*A.* Two missionaries, our Mr. McKenzie and another, labor there. Most of the people