

they must do what he told them." The person pursuing them appears to have been a humane man, for instead of maltreating them and compelling them to return he accompanied them and conducted them to Melbourne. There the three men were put on board a steamer and brought to Sydney. Afterwards they were put on board a sandal-wood vessel, and brought to their own island. Mr Boyd's speculation for obtaining labourers from these islands did not, I believe, succeed. What steps were taken to send the natives back I know not, but many of them have never reached their homes. A number of them, I understand, have been living on the island of Rotumah for many years, and are not likely ever to see their own land.

When we came to this station, Talip and his wife were among the most advanced of the natives in Christian knowledge, and they have been diligent in learning and exemplary in conduct ever since. The first time that I was particularly struck with Talip's capacity for thinking was when I was translating the eighth chapter of Genesis. I was reading the last verse, "While the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night, shall not cease." "Yes," said Talip, "God made this promise because he had accepted the sacrifice of Noah." From this and other remarks, I found that he had a clear conception of the substitutionary character of sacrifice, and of the sufferings or doings of one being the reason why God remitted punishment or communicated favours to others, and the sacrifice of Noah gave me an apt and well-understood illustration for ex-

plaining to him and to others the substitutionary character of the sacrifice of Christ, and the safety of all who trust in him.

PORT RESOLUTION.—From all that we can learn, our teachers have been well received and well treated at Anckareke. Yaresi and the most of his people have renounced heathenism, and professed Christianity. They observed the Sabbath, worship the true God morning and evening, ask a blessing on their food, and evince a desire to know and do the will of God. At Port Resolution, Quawan, the old chief with whom Pita resided, and a portion at least of his people, remain steadfast in their adherence to the gospel, and were very desirous for Pita's return. Pita found all the articles of property he had left among them to be quite safe. Miake, the principal chief at Port Resolution, although not professedly a Christian, is yet very favourable to the new religion, and was inquiring if a missionary was not coming to live among them. We do not consider it would be expedient to settle teachers either from this island or from Samoa at Port Resolution; but we are fully of opinion that the sooner two missionaries can be stationed there so much the better for the cause. May the Lord give the word, may the company be great of those who publish the same, and may the word itself spread abroad among these dark and benighted islands!—I remain, my dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

JOHN INGLIS.

To the Rev Dr Bates. Sec. of the Reformed Presbyterian Synod's Com. on Foreign Missions.

## News of the Church.

### MEETING OF SYNOD.

This Court met at New Glasgow on the 24th inst., and was opened by a sermon by Rev John Cameron, Moderator, from Exodus xiv. 15, "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward." The first ground taken by the preacher was the great work of the Church. By a few striking facts of a statistical character he showed how vast the undertaking was and how great were the motives and obligations to activity. He next adverted to the nature and amount of

evangelistic and reformatory work to be accomplished in Nova Scotia and to the duty of the Presbyterian Churches. The speaker next pointed out some great evils, the removal of which was essential to the moral and material prosperity of the people of Nova Scotia, dwelling particularly on ignorance and intemperance. In reference to the former the preacher maintained that religious people should bring their influence to bear upon the Legislature of the country, and persevere until education was within reach of