

spiritual good of many. In conducting these services, Mr. Davidson has availed himself of the help of Christian brethren of all evangelical denominations. Even several of the most eminent Evangelical Episcopalian clergy of London have given him their aid. Of late he has introduced a new feature into the conducting of these meetings. He has got several God-fearing noblemen, such as the Duke of Argyll and Earl Dalhousie, and some of our most influential statesmen and members of Parliament, to preside at them, and deliver addresses to those attending on the claims and doctrines or revealed religion.

The Synod of the English Presbyterian Church is now in session, and its proceedings will possess unusual interest on account of the Union question and the Sustentation Fund. Last year the experiment was boldly ventured upon of introducing the Sustentation plan of the Free Church. If it should succeed the foundation will have been laid for safe and rapid church extension in the country. The project of Union will succeed without doubt. The Foreign Missions of the English Presbyterians are of great interest,—being among the most successful of the day.

DR. GEDDIE.

(From the *Australia Christian Review*.)

Our readers will remember that on the last voyage of the "Dayspring" from the islands, Dr. Geddie came up from the mission field in a very feeble state of health. He was attacked with partial paralysis at Aneityum during the session of the Mission Conference in June last, and thenceforward it became apparent that he was a dying man. His son-in-law, Mr. Neilson, was charged by the conference to accompany the "Dayspring" to Australia, that every attention might be paid to the father of the mission on the passage up, and in due time the mission vessel arrived, with Dr. Geddie and Mr. Neilson on board. Every possible attention was of course paid to the patient in the ship, and in the colony after he landed, but his strength never rallied, and after lingering for a time, he quietly passed away on Saturday, the 14th December.

The following tribute to Dr. Geddie's memory was paid by Dr. Macdonald,

Emerald Hill, at the close of the forenoon service on Sabbath, the 22nd Dec. :—

Some thirty years ago, the Rev. John Geddie was pastor of a quiet rural district in Prince Edward's Island, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, British North America. He had given himself to the Lord from his youth, and he was thought to be in every way fitted for the sphere of labour in which he was placed. I have heard it said that there many still living on Prince Edward's Island who testify to Mr. Geddie's devotedness and usefulness as a minister, as well as to the surprise and consternation of his people, when it was announced that their young minister and wife (valued equally with her husband) were about to go the South Seas to labour among the heathen. The islands of the Pacific were then as little known as the centre of New Guinea is to day, but somehow an irrepressible desire had seized the mind of Mr. Geddie to go to the South Seas as a servant of Christ, and believing that he was called of God, he went forth, scarcely knowing whither he went. Few would suspect Mr. Geddie of having any romantic turn of mind, and yet his whole life was a romance, and there is not in the whole history of missions a more marvellous chapter than the life story of the humble missionary who has just been removed from us. Not that Mr. Geddie threw himself and his young family on the winds, without making any inquiry or arrangement for their support. He was too good and too wise a man to act so foolishly. He took time and collected all the information he could get. He corresponded with the London Missionary Society, which had been conducting operations in Polynesia for half a century before; and having made what arrangements he could, he took ship in a whaling vessel for the only place in the Pacific with which there was then any communication from America, and after an eight months voyage round the Horn he landed at the Sandwich Islands. Staying there a few months with the American missionaries, and learning all he could about mission work, he sailed thence for Samoa, where he knew there was a mission station of the London Missionary Society, and where he knew he could get much information about mission fields and mission work. The Samoan missionaries told him that there was a large group of islands far to the westward, over which their hearts yearned. The New Hebrides islands, one of the largest group in the South Seas, was densely inhabited by a race, the darkest and the wildest in all Polynesia, and they had already a sad mission history. Williams and Harris had been murdered on Erromanga. Turner and Nesbit had been driven from Tanna, and now there was no man caring for the