

There are three or four sources of difficulty to be grappled with in conducting missions to the New Hebrides. There are the climate, the languages, the superstitious and the political condition of the people. On all these points, however, we have gained some valuable experience. The climate is unhealthy. At one time it was supposed to be so unhealthy, that no white man could live permanently on those islands. This idea, however, is now exploded. We have learned that the elevated inland districts are much more healthy than those on the shore. Mission stations to be healthy, should be located on elevated situations; and the floor of the Missionary's house should be boarded and raised some feet above the ground. These two conditions being attended to, the Missionary's dwelling may be reasonably expected to be the abode of health. The great diversity of languages renders Missionary work far more difficult than it would otherwise be, and renders native agency far less efficient than it has been on the eastern groups. The superstitions of the natives raise up a powerful barrier. The belief that disease and death are always occasioned not by natural causes, but by sorcery and witchcraft, requires to be met and combated with great prudence. And the very limited power of the chiefs renders life much less secure than where the chiefs, as in Eastern Polynesia, are fewer in number, but possessed of much greater power. When the Eastern chiefs engaged to protect the life of a Missionary, they could do so effectually; but when chiefs have little power, as in the New Hebrides, however willing they may be, they are unable to protect the Missionary, and hence the necessity for more concentration of effort.

This is a good time to test the spirit and courage of those looking to the Mission field. Where a Mission is prosperous many seek to join it for the honor it will bring to themselves; but in the hour of adversity and danger, to such it has no charms. It is here, however, as it is everywhere else, the cross is before the crown. If we would reign with Christ, we must first suffer with him. But if we aim at the glory of God and the good of men, honour in due time will follow, the honour which cometh from above. If not on earth, certainly in heaven, the commendation will be bestowed. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Praying that God who brings good out of evil, light out of darkness, and order out of confusion; who can make the wrath of man to praise him, while the remainder of that wrath he can restrain, may soon bring these sad calamities to an end, and finally overrule them all for his own glory, and the good both of the Mission and the Churches by which it is carried on, so that Satan and his agents may be confounded, and angels and good men may rejoice with exceeding joy.

I remain, my Dear Sir, yours very truly,

JOHN INGLIS.

To the Rev. I. Bayne, Sec. to the Mission Board of the P. C. of the L. Provinces.

OUR CHURCH NEWS.

PRESBYTERY OF TATAMAGOUCHE.—The Presbytery of Tatamagouche met at New Annan on the 5th of Nov., and was constituted, after an appropriate sermon by the Moderator, Rev. John Munro, from Luke iii. 10.

There were present, Rev. J. Watson, J. Munro, W. McKay and T. Sedgewick, Ministers, and J. I. Bell and J. W. P. Chisholm, Ruling Elders.

The Presbytery proceeded to the visitation of the congregation. The questions of the Formula were put, and satisfactory answers were given. The aspect of affairs was upon the whole encouraging, and, while commended for what they had already accomplished, the people were exhorted to still higher attainments.

The audience at this and subsequent sederunts was large, and seemed deeply interested in the whole proceedings of the day. According to previous notice, the Rev. John Munro addressed the Presbytery on "Revival of Religion" and was followed by the other members of Court. All were agreed as to the desirableness of such a work, and great unanimity of opinion was manifested as to the means by which it should be brought about. It was felt that some special means should