

APPEAL FOR MISSION SCHOONER.

The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church have authorized their Committee to become responsible for one fourth the expense of build and outfit, provided the Church in Nova Scotia undertake another fourth, and the remaining half be secured, as the missionaries seem quite confident it shall be, in Australia and New Zealand. An estimate has been received from Sydney, Australia, which amounts to £3000 stg.; but this is deemed on all hands as altogether extravagant. In Nova Scotia, and also in Scotland, this estimate would be reduced fully one-half. By late correspondence too, from our friends in Scotland, it appears quite probable that commercial relations may be formed that would greatly aid, if not wholly maintain the expenditure which would be incurred by "the wear and tear" of such a vessel, or "working expenses." The Mission however, will in no way be complicated with this trading connection, while the natives will enjoy unwonted facilities for acquiring rapidly such worldly independence as will enable them to support their missionaries, and send the Gospel to the isles around. Your Board have ventured to intimate their approval of the scheme of building a new Missionary Schooner, in the proportion above named, viz., one fourth of the entire expense. It may be proper here to state that shortly after last meeting of Synod, circumstances occurred which led the Board to defer their authorized appeal to the children of the Church for a collection, to aid the "John Williams," and as the successive reverses overtook the mission, and finally the urgent application of the missionaries for a new vessel, came to their knowledge, the wisdom of this course became still more manifest. Should the Synod authorize or confirm the action of the Board in offering to build the vessel in Nova Scotia, and becoming responsible for one fourth expense of first cost and future maintenance, it is proposed to issue the same appeal to the children of our church that has been issued to the churches in New Zealand and Australia.

GREEK MISSION.

Another subject for deliberation of Synod is the action which the Board have taken with regard to the Greek Mission in Turkey. By remit of last meeting, at which the resignation of Mr Constantinedes was accepted, the Board were instructed to correspond with other churches or societies engaged in missionary operations in the East, or that may be likely to join in such a mission, with the view of co-operation, either in establishing a mission on an adequate scale, or tendering our efforts to support some other mission already established. At a meeting of the Board held in September, the Board on view of this remit, instructed their Secretary to correspond with the Foreign Mission Committee of the Canadian Presbyterian Church, with a view to solicit their co-operation, and also authorized their Chairman to correspond in the same way with the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick. Under date February, 1862, a reply was obtained from Rev Robert Burns, Sec. Canadian Presbyterian Church, expressing deep interest in the missionary operations of our Church, and ardent sympathy with us in our recent trials, but intimating also, as the deliverance of the Committee in the application to co-operate in Turkey "that while appreciating highly the missionary spirit of our beloved brethren in the Lower Provinces, they could not, as a Committee, take any direct action on the important matter referred to, but that it be submitted to our Synod at its next meeting." It was farther intimated that they had already engaged in two expensive missions, one in British Columbia and another in Red River. The necessity of enlarging as soon as practicable these missions, and special claim for home efforts, are specified as further hindrances in the way of uniting with us. Still, the Secretary adds, there exists a strong desire to embark in a mission more purely foreign, and I feel persuaded that your appeal will meet with prayerful and mature consideration. The reply from New Brunswick is of a similar character. It may be also mentioned that in correspondence with the Reformed Presbyterian Committee of Scotland, our coadjutors in the New Hebrides, this subject of co-operation in Turkey was brought to their notice. Their response was to the effect, that while heartily sympathizing with the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, in their desire to carry on that interesting mission, they do not feel themselves at liberty to enter upon any other field at present than that which they have now in hand.