

Synod to authorize the movement little doubt could be entertained of its success.

IV. Some permanent arrangement for the support and education of the children of our missionaries. It is neither desirable nor dutiful to allow matters to remain in their present state. The multiplying of schemes for providing funds, sufficient to meet every source of expenditure, is neither wise nor safe. Any new claim meets with favour to be in its turn supplanted by something more novel and inviting. Let the salary of the missionary be increased according to the number and position of his family, or give some stated allowance from the general fund in any other form that may be deemed more prudent.

All which is respectfully submitted by order of the B. F. M.,

JAMES LAYNE, *Secretary*.

P.S.—The Synod, on the several subjects of reference, decided as follows:— Having accepted the resignation of Mr. Constantinides they directed the Board to correspond with other Evangelical Bodies, and, if possible, secure their co-operation to an extent that will justify our prosecution of the mission with ample resources.

The Board were fully authorized to appoint an additional missionary to the New Hebrides, provided they found that the state of the funds would warrant the additional expenditure.

They were also empowered to issue an appeal to the children of the Church for a contribution to the Foreign Mission Society with a special view to the support of the John Williams Mission ship

The following scale of support for the children of our missionaries was adopted:

For children under 18 years of age resident on the islands £5 sterling each; for children under 18 years of age resident elsewhere, £10 sterling each per annum.

J. B.

#### SAD TIDINGS FROM TANNA—ILLNESS AND DEATH OF MR JOHN-STON—RAVAGES OF DEATH AMONG THE NATIVES.

The first August steamer brought from the Rev. John G. Paton the following deeply affecting letter, which will be read with intense and melancholy interest throughout the whole church.

NEW HEBRIDES, PORT RESOLUTION, TANNA, 15th Feby., 1861.

*Rev. and Dear Sir,—*

I am sorry to inform you that death has again entered our infant Mission on Tanna.

*Mr. Johnston died on the 21st January at 2 o'clock, P.M.*

On the first of January, when as usual Mr and Mrs Johnston were retiring from family worship in my room, he turned back to say that two Tanna men were at the window with huge clubs &c. I went and asked what they wanted, when one answered, medicine for a boy; so with much difficulty I got them urged to come into the house, when I saw from their agitated appearance, that they did not want medicine, but were about some ill. As Mr Johnston was leaving, I said they must all leave as I was going to sleep, and if they came in daylight, I would give them all the medicine they wanted. Outside, Mr Johnston bent down to lift a kitten that had got out, when one of the savages got behind him and aimed a blow with his huge club, which however Mr J. evaded, and the ground received. He drew a second blow, but my two dogs observing, sprang between them, and so saved Mr. J's life. On hearing Mr J. call out, I ran out of the house and called the two men to me, not knowing what they had done. Again they turned and both ran at me with their ponderous clubs, but when about to inflict the deadly blows, again my two dogs sprang between us, so one dog was struck with a club and the other club struck the ground, and I was saved, for now the dogs had them running from us as fast as possible. As they fled down the path, I reproved their sinful conduct, and entreated them to give up hating Jehovah, his worship and