

Tanese are a people who have hitherto offered a most determined opposition to the introduction of the gospel among them; and a terror to foreigners—(not *one* of whom dare to reside on the island at present) and live in continual warfare with each other. But let continual prayer ascend from the Church for this mission, and you will soon hear glad tidings of the wonderful doings of the Lord on dark, cruel, gospel-hating Tanna.

We are now passing a few weeks with Mr. Geddie, getting some lessons on Mission life, and mission labour, and in making preparation for our final settlement.

I cannot conclude this Journal, without expressing my gratitude to the God of missions for the kind and tender manner in which He has brought us to these Islands; that He has now assigned us a work; provided for us a *present* home, and placed us in company with a most kind, pious, and devoted missionary, from whom we will get great assistance in acquiring the language. May our gratitude and usefulness correspond with the favour we have received from our Heavenly Father. Brethren pray for us.

Yours sincerely,

S. F. JOHNSON.

OUR CHURCH NEWS.

PRESBYTERY OF VICTORIA—The Presbytery of Victoria met according to appointment at St. Ann's, on Wednesday, 20th inst. A commission consisting of Kenneth McLeod, Esq., and Mr. John McDonald, from the congregation of Middle River, appeared before the Presbytery, requesting them to appoint one of their number to moderate in a call as soon as possible to the Rev. Abraham McIntosh, St. Ann's. The Presbytery appointed the Rev. Kenneth McKenzie to moderate in said call on Monday, 11th day of March next.

The convener of the Committee on Presbyterial visitation, reported that the Committee had visited, since the last meeting of Presbytery, the stations at North Shore, St. Ann's, Middle River and Lake Ainslie. The Committee were glad to find that the building fund at North Shore stations was in a satisfactory condition, considering that two churches had been built within a short time; the one at French River finished, and the outside of the one at North Shore. The debt on both churches is only four pounds. The sustentation fund there also, they found, on the whole, in a satisfactory state. With regard to St. Ann's, they regret to state matters were not so satisfactory, there being a great deficiency in the sustentation fund.

At Middle River they found the Missionary's salary for last summer's services nearly all paid, and also at Lake Ainslie, but the annual collections for the schemes of the church were neglected except at Middle River, when a collection was made for the "Theological Education" fund. The Committee exhorted them as to their duty. The Committee were appointed to visit the congregations of Baddeck and Whyeocomah and other stations within their bounds, before next ordinary meeting of Presbytery.

The Presbytery were happy on the accession to their number of an additional labourer, and would take the opportunity to tender thanks to the Home Mission Committee for transferring to this Presbytery the Rev. Alexander McDonald, who has been for a time labouring within the bounds of the Presbytery of Pictou. Mr. McDonald is appointed in the meantime to labour at Mabou and adjacencies. The Rev. J. L. Ross was appointed moderator of the kirk-session at Mabou.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet at Baddeck on Wednesday, 8th day of May next.

K. MCKENZIE, *P. Clerk.*

Baddeck, Feb. 28, 1861.

A *pro re nata* meeting of the Presbytery was held at Whyeocomah on the 4th of March. In compliance with the earnest desire of the Mabou congregation, the Presbytery appointed one of their number (Rev. K. McKenzie) to moderate in a call from Mabou to the Rev. Alexander McDonald—on the 24th of March.