

of their most cruel practices had been broken in upon. War had prevailed, but peace had been restored when Mr Geddie wrote. Aneiteum had been visited by one of the missionaries sent out by the Reformed Presbyterian Synod of Scotland, and there was some hope of his returning to labor on the island. Part of the supplies of clothing sent from Nova Scotia &c, had arrived, and had proved most acceptable. We publish part of Mr Geddie's letter this month, and will give the remainder next month.]

ANEITEUM, New Hebrides Group,
S. P. Ocean, Oct. 2, 1850.

DEAR BRETHREN:—My letters of date Dec. last will inform you of our progress and welfare up to that time. An opportunity of again writing to you occurred in April, but as I was an invalid at that time, I could not avail myself of it. Since my arrival on this island, I have looked anxiously but in vain for something in the shape of a communication from you, and now I can only say that "hope deferred maketh the heart sick." An occasional word of counsel, encouragement or sympathy from you would be to us as "a tree of life" in this region of darkness and spiritual dearth. In the absence of that fraternal correspondence which we have reason to expect, our mission, I believe, has enjoyed some measure of His gracious presence who says, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee;" and whose promise is, "lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

SICKNESS IN THE MISSION.

Since the date of my last communication to you, the mission has suffered much from sickness. Mr and Mrs Archibald were laid up with fever and ague early in January last. The attack of Mr A. was a very serious one, and for a time it was considered doubtful of his recovery, while that of Mrs A. was comparatively slight. All our native teachers and their wives have suffered more or less severely from the same disease. I was last of all laid up myself with an attack of the island fever. Before I had sufficiently regained my health I was obliged to visit some of the more distant out stations in order to resettle teachers who had been removed from them on account of sickness. The expense and fatigue caused by these journeys while my health was in a debilitated

state, brought on fever and ague. As all my attacks, however, have been mild and not very frequent, my general health has been but slightly impaired by them. They have entirely ceased for some time; and I feel as well now as at any former period since my arrival on this island. Though I have spent more than two years on Aneiteum, I have been disabled from public duty only two Sabbaths during this time. Let me ask you to unite with us in gratitude to God for the measure of goodness which he has shown to your infant mission; though for wise but mysterious purposes his afflicting hand has been laid on us, yet no breaches have been made in our number. May we, with whom he has so tenderly dealt, be enabled more than ever to devote our souls, our bodies—our all to the service of our blessed Redeemer in this dark land.

VISIT FROM BISHOP SELWYN.

During the month of April last, we had a visit from our excellent friend, Bishop Selwyn, of New Zealand. He came in his little schooner, the *Undine*, a vessel about 18 tons burthen. He was on his way to the New Caledonia group, which he now regards as his special sphere of labor. As soon as he can procure the men, he designs to station European missionaries on some of the islands of that group. In the mean time he will visit the islands, and endeavor to cultivate such a friendly correspondence with the natives as will enable him the more successfully to carry out his plans for their evangelization. Missionaries without risk might settle on some of the New Caledonian isles, even at the present time. About 6 months ago, I had a request from the chief of Uca, who entreated that a missionary might be sent to his island without delay. The Bishop promises to become a powerful auxiliary to the work of evangelization in these islands. He is a man of piety, evangelical views, and ardent missionary spirit, and therefore we can cheerfully bid him God speed in the work which he has undertaken. His views in reference to other communions are enlightened and liberal. As a man, we find the Bishop most amicable, and the more that we know him the more do we love him. This is our second visit from him, and his chief object in calling at this island has been to enquire after our welfare. He promises to visit us as often as practicable.