

THE MISSIONARY REGISTER.

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

LORD, bless and pity us, shine on us with thy face,
That the earth thy way, and nations all, may know thy saving grace.—*Psalms lxxvii. 1, 2*

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FOREIGN MISSIONS.

SECOND YEARLY REPORT

OF THE MISSION ON ERUMANGA, JUNE, '59.

Another year has just ended of the mission on this dark island—a year of hard trials, dangers, and bitter sorrow from various sources, such as we never before experienced. Mrs. G. has suffered much more than I have from the climate. In July she had fever, and again in February and March was in a low state for six weeks, but has now prospects of enjoying excellent health. Hitherto the Lord has helped us, and in the retr spect of another year we have much, very much, reason to call to grateful remembrance very merciful deliverances from sickness, death, and numerous evils which surrounded us.

The change of the mission premises to the mountain on the south side of Williams' river cost us no little labour and toil among ungrateful heathen, who in their awful darkness can have no sympathy whatever with us in such labours. Having early seen the absolute necessity of this change of premises, I sent to our tried friend, Mr. S. Thomson of Sydney, for a thousand feet of grooved and tongued boards, and some scantling, by which we have now comfortable houses—fit to live in. I would not have as a gift the

crooked, unworkable scantling of these islands, while it can be had from any other source. I hope that the next missionary who may come out here will attend to this in Sydney. The mission premises is half a mile from the harbor, and the Church, which is now being built, is about one mile, all commanding a fine view of the Bay. We will try and send sketches of them by the "John Williams." There is a small house built in Portinia Bay and materials for a better. Portions of the word of God have been printed and several taught to read and write. Such has been the mechanical labors of the mission during the past year. But what is the chaff to the wheat?—What is the mechanical to the spiritual in missions? Any person, European or Polynesian, who has a little skill in housebuilding can, if willing, do the showy part of missionary work out here, which for the most part consists of posts placed in the ground united at the top in some kind of a frame-work—worked in with rods plastered, and then covered with thatch; and stone fence buildings such as a man with a hammer and a trowel would make with you, one of which has lately fallen on Mare, if I am correctly informed. At the Hirvey Islands there is one wooden