

restored to health, and with the child which God has given them, we have intelligence, but can give no particulars of encouragement and progress beyond the facts that he has been well received, has commenced his work, has succeeded in erecting a chapel at one of his stations, and was engaged in the construction of another, both being buildings of considerable size.

SICKNESS AND DEATH OF DR. GEDDIE.

The ministerial gathering at Aneiteum in 1872, will long be memorable as the last at which the Pioneer Missionary of the New Hebrides was present, and during the sittings of which he was struck with paralysis, the sickness which ended in his death. This venerable and beloved father of the Mission, was in delicate health at the commencement of the year, but was constrained, by his own deep interest in the work, to go down in the *Dayspring* to aid in settling the new Missionaries, and to see his own station supplied with one who should break the Bread of Life to his beloved Aneiteumese. He not only went down, but followed the *Dayspring* sailing round the stations and gathering up his brethren. He saw them assembled and aided in their deliberations. He presided at the induction of his successor, and at the ordination of an elder to aid him in the arduous work. He could do no more. He was appointed to preach and preside at the dispensation of the Lord's Supper, on the Lord's day. But his public work was done. His successor was inaugurated, and his session filled up. The four had their stations appointed, and now the work must be conducted and carried on by other hands. His loss of strength was already perceptible to all his brethren, and now paralysis laid him down. He was carefully attended. He wanted for no comforts. Prayers for his recovery were offered, but the Lord's will was that recovery should be only partial and temporary. But this mercy was given. Partially restored, the *Dayspring* carried him, under the care of Mr. Neilson, the husband of his second daughter, to their home on Tana, where he enjoyed all filial attentions and loving care, and was perfectly capable of reciprocating these services of love. From Tana, he was accompanied by Mr. Neilson to Melbourne and Geelong, and placed in charge of Mrs. Geddie, the hope of recovery entertained at the earlier stage of his malady gradually becoming less and less with the progress of the disease.

Dr. Geddie died in peace, at his home in Geelong, worn out by labour cheerfully performed, yet exhausting to mind and body, having, in the evangelization of the New Hebrides group, borne the burthen and heat of the day for 27 years in a climate known to be debilitating to those who have

been brought up in northern latitudes. He died with his heart full of plans for extending the mission, and bringing every tribe on the group to the feet of Jesus. He died while engaged in the great work of translating and publishing the whole Bible in the language of the Aneiteumese.

While this event has awakened universal sorrow, it has also led the church to a review of the past, and to many expressions of thanksgiving to God for what Dr. Geddie has been privileged to do. The Board has appointed a Committee to prepare a minute on the character and work of Dr. Geddie, which will be laid before the Synod.

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THE GEDDIE MEMORIAL FUND.

The Board have been consulted by the projectors of a movement to raise a Geddie Fund, which was at first designed to be a Testimonial to Dr. and Mrs. Geddie from friends in this church, to express regard for their persons and appreciation of their work, but which, since the death of Dr. Geddie, has assumed the form of a Memorial Fund, for the benefit of Mrs. Geddie and her unmarried daughter, in the first place, but of the widows and orphans of other Missionaries of the church, ultimately. This movement received the Board's cordial approval; but the patronage and management of the movement, when offered, were declined, and its prosecution was left in the hands of the friends among whom it originated. Of the \$10,000 proposed to be raised, only \$2500 has yet been paid in to the Treasurer. A great public calamity has, for a time, absorbed attention, and presented a more clamant demand for funds. Still, if all who admire the character and career of Dr. and Mrs. Geddie will give practical expression to their feelings of admiration and gratitude, the movement will prove a success, will cheer the heart of a noble woman in her declining years, and associate her husband's name and memory with additional comforts to widows of faithful missionaries for years, and even generations to come.

THE WRECK OF THE DAYSPRING.

In our own happy land, the announcements of startling and terrible events have this season followed, like the messengers who carried evil tidings to Job, on each other's heels. And so from the Mission field, we have had a series of calamities. Mr. Gordon's death was followed by the paralysis and, more lately, by the death of Dr. Geddie; and then, again, by the total loss of our Mission ship, which 10,000 children loved and cheerfully supported for her work's sake.

When ready to return to the islands last April, it was found that there was more