

therings of men of all shades of sentiment in matters civil and religious, cannot be called society and cannot be expected to act in concert in providing the ordinances of religion, and the gospel must be sent to them and in some measure maintained among them, if they have it at all.

And shall either strangers come among us, or our own people go from home, without finding that our churches care for their souls, and distribute to them the bread of life? Cherished for a time in their loose and unsettled state they may come to be consolidated and eventually provide for themselves. This done, they will seek outlets for their own beneficence thus called into action like the woman of Samaria they will say "come see the man"—like Andrew—"We have found the Messiah"—and like the emancipated and evangelized negroes of Jamaica—"Tell these things to our relatives and friends and we will bear the expense."

"Cast thy bread upon the waters for thou shalt find it after many days."

Our Foreign Missions.

Arrival of the "Dayspring" at Melbourne, Australia: Mr. Geddie meets our outgoing Missionaries at Melbourne.

Tidings have reached us of the arrival of the "DAYSPRING" at Port Philip, Melbourne, Australia. All on board were well. The voyage from Cape Town to Melbourne was performed in about six weeks. Our Missionaries met a most cordial welcome from all, but especially from the Presbyterian ministers and congregations of Melbourne and vicinity. Rev. Mr. Geddie, Mrs. Geddie, and the Chief LATH-ELLA met them there, and such a meeting must surely have been very delightful to

parts of the church were offered a large advance of wages to prosecute on the Sabbath the business of *River-driving* in which they were engaged. They not only resisted the bribe but nobly chose rather to suffer to be dismissed from service than so profane the Lord's day.

both parties. A meeting was held in Chalmers' Church, Melbourne, on Tuesday, the 15th March, to welcome the Missionaries. Dr. Cairns presided; Messrs. Geddie, Morrison, McCullagh, and Gordon addressed the meeting. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That this meeting gives thanks to God for his preserving care over the missionaries and all on board the *Dayspring*, and tenders a hearty welcome to the missionaries and their wives now on their way to the New Hebrides. This meeting would also record with gratitude the success which had attended the labours of the Rev. J. Geddie on Aneiteum, and prays that the change which has been necessitated by a residence of sixteen years on the island of Aneiteum may be beneficial in the restoration of Mr. and Mrs. Geddie's health, and that in due time they may return to the missionary work in the New Hebrides."

We give the speeches of MR. GEDDIE and LATH-ELLA as reported by the *Melbourne Age* of the 16th March:—

The Rev. J. GEDDIE said he rose with some degree of diffidence to address them. He had been so long accustomed to speak in another language, that he could not address them with the same degree of freedom they might expect. He was expected to give some account of the New Hebrides group. It had a population of about 150,000 souls. Coconut, arrowroot, and breadfruit were the chief products of the islands; and the climate was, doubtless, well adapted to most tropical productions. They had one of the natives before them that evening. The first attempt to introduce the Gospel into the New Hebrides was made by the lamented Rev. Mr. Williams, in 1839. In 1842, an epidemic broke out in the islands, for which the missionaries were blamed, and they had to return from Aneiteum to Samoa. In 1848, he (Mr. Geddie) landed with a friend, who had returned from the Navigators' group. He was thus for a long time at Aneiteum. Human nature there appeared in its most humble and degraded form, and all the abominations of the heathen were practised without scruple or remorse. The men there were naked and painted, often with the sides of the face differently coloured; and even some of the women went without anything in the way of clothing. The inhabitants of Aneiteum knew of no other part of the world than the neighbouring island; and indeed they were shrouded in the deepest darkness. They knew nothing of the Gospel or religion. But they were a most superstitious people. They worshipped the sun and the moon. They supposed that the highest order of chiefs were invested