

thought, great searchings of heart and prolonged prayer for Divine direction. Still it was definitely accepted, and the Presbytery relieved when otherwise they would have found themselves placed in a "strait betwixt two." At this juncture the scene was of the most affecting character, many being moved deeply, and the words of Paul being thought of, though not spoken, "what mean ye to weep and to break mine heart. For I am willing not to be bound only to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

Notwithstanding the resolute pleadings of the Commissioners, one of them rose, on hearing Mr. Grant's decision, and read a paper adopted at a public meeting of the congregation, in anticipation of this result, submitting in the most Christian spirit to their beloved Pastor's decision, withdrawing all claims, committing him to God and the mission cause; and in effect saying with Paul's friends when they could not persuade him to stay, "The will of the Lord be done."

We know not whether the conduct of Mr. Grant in this matter, or of his attached flock is most to be admired. Both have given to the church a fine display of christian principle approaching as we humbly judge to true heroism. Had the one been unsuccessful and unappreciated, his decision might have been easily reached, but when in fact he has been eminently successful and was tenderly loved, and yet has decided to go and labour among a people who may never appreciate or reciprocate his love for their souls, how manifestly is this the decision of pure faith, conferring not with flesh and blood.

On the other hand, had the inmost feeling of the people been "let him go if he will, we shall soon get his equal or superior," then their submission had been easy and cheap; but when the whisperings of their affectionate hearts were, "we shall wait long ere his place will be filled," then we say how exemplary and truly noble was their submission to loss from devotion to the blessed cause of missions.

Mr. Grant's example is an eloquent sermon published and read by the whole

ministry and students of the Church of the Lower Provinces. He has been honoured in elevating this great work of Foreign Missions before one hundred and twenty congregations. His congregation too has been honoured to give a minister whom they valued and loved, to carry the Gospel of the Grace of God to men held fast in Satan's chain.

We believe the Head of the church will accept these services as done to Himself, that his servant will be owned and blessed in turning blinded Hindoos from their idolatry to the worship and service of the living God; and that the congregation will ere long be furnished with another faithful pastor to lead them to living fountains. He who has raised up suitable and faithful labourers for Cavendish, New London and Strathalbyn, can and we believe will do the same for Merigomish, so that this now sorely tried people will not be real losers by their self-denial for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause. "Our God will supply all their need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

EARLIER YEARS OF REV. DONALD MORRISON.

The Rev. MURDOCH STEWART, late of West Bay, now of Whyecomah, writes as follows with regard to the earlier years of our lamented Missionary's life:

The parents of the Rev. D. Morrison were a pious couple from the island of Lewis, who settled at the Points, West Bay, Cape Breton, many years ago. On my arrival in that settlement in the autumn of 1843, the first sick bed I visited was that of his father. It proved to be his death-bed. Though a death-bed is a saddening scene in any case, how consoling to find the occupant of that bed manifesting a clear understanding of the gospel way of salvation, and expressing a firm trust in Jesus as his Saviour. That was the case with Alexander Morrison.

It is just twenty-six years ago since Donald Morrison first attracted my notice as a tall school-boy of fifteen, with a serious and mild cast of countenance even then.—