

less here. Keep all the men you can spare at home, and send those whom you find it most difficult to part with. They will find ample scope here for all their talents, attainments and energies. May I cherish the hope that you have now one or more messengers of mercy on the way to these dark and distant isles of the sea.

I send this letter by our excellent friend the Bishop of New Zealand. He has paid us a passing visit, on his return from visiting the New Caledonia and Solomon Islands. He has just been telling me that he thinks he could within the space of 5 years safely locate 80 missionaries on the islands visited by him during his present voyage. If all Bishops and all ministers were men of the same stamp as Bishop Selwyn, the world would be evangelized within a reasonable period. I regard him as a model Bishop, and he has more of the apostolic spirit than any man I know.

I think, that either Synodically, or as a Board, you should take some notice of the kind attention of the Samoan missionaries and the Bishop of New Zealand, to us, your agents.

I am yours, &c.,

JOHN GEDDIE.

*Letter from the Secretary of the Committee F. M. Reformed Presbyterian Church in Scotland, to the Secretary Board For. Miss., Presbyterian Church, N. S.*

1 Cornhill St., Glasgow, March 31, 1853.  
MY DEAR SIR,

Your esteemed letter of the 15th February reached me in the beginning of the present month. I deferred writing in reply in the hope that a meeting of our Synod's Committee on Foreign Missions should have taken place soon, that I might present your letter. That meeting has not yet been held, however, and I think it incumbent on me to acknowledge your letter without farther delay. The printed, documents of which you speak, have not yet come to hand. I doubt not they will prove interesting, and that the publication of them on this side, in whole or in part, will contribute to awaken and extend an interest on behalf of the New Hebrides Mission. I rejoice that the Lord has put it into the hearts of your brethren and the people, comparatively few in number, and of limited resources, to institute a mission among the heathen, and that the Lord has mercifully sustained your devoted missionary, and crowned his labors with so much success. My hope and

prayer are that Mr. Inglis and he will be enabled to co-operate very harmoniously—that the good work may prosper more and more, and that the cheering tidings communicated by them respectively may not only draw out adequate support, but encourage other labourers to follow them. The Reformed Presbyterian Church in Scotland, is no much larger I presume, than your own, and its members, generally speaking, are in the humbler walks of life. We have at present only 35 ministers, and some seven or eight licentiates. There is a hopeful number of students at the university, and were the mission field becoming more full of promise, than it has been with our missionaries in New Zealand, there is good reason to expect that laborers would offer for the work. In New Zealand, the efforts of our missionaries were sorely counteracted by the predominant influence of the Episcopal Church of England Mission. One of our missionaries is there still, and within a comparatively limited sphere has seen excellent fruit of his labors. But there is scarcely room for much extension. As soon as our Committee meets, I hope to have occasion to write to you again. Our Synod also holds its annual meeting in the beginning of the month of May. Meanwhile I wait for the papers you kindly promised to send. I should also be glad to learn of you what the regular terms of your church are, as regards allowances to your missionary, both in regard to salary and incidental expenses. Some years ago, we corresponded with the Directors of the London Missionary Society about taking up a position in the South Seas, and were warmly encouraged to do so. It was, I presume, mainly through Mr. Murray, one of their missionaries in the Samoan group that our missionaries became acquainted with Mr. Geddie. We stated to the Directors of the London Missy. Soc. that we wished to do as they do in the matter of allowances, to follow their example, "*ceteris paribus*." It is still more needful to have a distinct understanding with the Directors of your Society, inasmuch as the missionaries are to be in such close juxtaposition. Therefore we have paid just one hundred pounds sterling in the form of salary. At times the incidental expenses have been considerable. I am sure our Committee would feel greatly obliged to you, to explain to us frankly what you have done, and what you think right to be done hereafter. Poor Churches are compelled to