

when he thus devotes himself to the mission at the urgent call of the Church. He has already made a very successful tour of missionary visitation in Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton. He is now by special direction in attendance on Synod, and will be ready to communicate to the Court any information he may possess and receive any instructions they may see fit to give.

It is but the expression of what is due to Mr Morrison, to add that the Board are fully convinced that in offering himself to the service of the Church in the foreign field, he has manifested no ordinary degree of self-denial, thus parting with all home attachments, and severing that tie which bound him to his flock with all the ardor and strength of a first love, whose power became fully known only when his demission had been effected.

The second candidate accepted by the Board was Mr Charles B. Pitblado. Here, as in the former application, the Board saw nothing but what was most inviting. Nor did Mr Pitblado at all anticipate any thing in the way of his acceptance by us until he made application for the requisite medical certificate. A missionary life had been the fond dream of his youth, and the full grown hope of his manhood. But two competent surgeons in active practice, on careful examination, agreed in the declaration that his constitution was not adapted to a tropical climate. On this ground alone he withdrew his offer of service, and the Board could only, though with great regret, approve his decision,—and at the same time intimate to him, their sincere sympathy with him in his painful disappointment, and their solicitude that he may find that opportunity for the "Master's service" in some more congenial sphere, which he has been constrained to forego in Polynesia.

The third accepted candidate is Mr James D. Gordon, brother of our late missionary on Erromanga. The Board, on view of this tender of service, experienced that thrill of grateful emotion which they doubt not has already been felt throughout the church. It was known to some of the members of the Board that Mr Gordon was possessed of true missionary spirit, but they scarcely dared to hope, much less to express to one another, the expectation that he would offer to take the place of his fallen brother. Who will not breathe the prayer that when the mantle of the ascended prophet has been thus taken up, a double portion of the Holy Spirit may rest upon his successor?

The Board had every reason to accept the proffered service, without designating, however, the particular Island or district, considering that the proper parties to decide the locality of each outgoing missionary are the Missionaries, when met in General Committee. Mr Gordon has obtained and forwarded a satisfactory medical certificate of constitutional adaptation to the South Sea climate. He has been notified to attend the meetings of the Board, during the present session of this Court, so that should there be any desire on the part of the Brethren to have intercourse with him, they may have an opportunity of so doing. Both of the accepted missionaries will address the public missionary meeting held under the supervision of synod.

ACCEPTED MISSIONARIES' DEPARTURE.

The period of departure for the Islands is as yet quite uncertain. At one time it was thought that Mr Inglis' departure from Scotland would be the most opportune season for our missionaries also, and that his company would be so valuable for them that any additional expenditure for their passage via Scotland, would be more than recompensed thereby. Later events, however, have transpired to modify this opinion. The missionaries on Aneiteum have united in the request for a larger vessel to ply between the various islands. The idea of building such a vessel, say of 100 tons, in this country, has been entertained by the Board, with the farther design of sending the outgoing missionaries and their freight by her direct to the Islands. This arrangement would effect great economy in passage and freight. Mr Inglis says that the "Southern Cross" in which Bishop Selwyn and his Lady, and other members of the Episcopalian mission, went out to New Zealand, was only 70 tons register, and it is generally allowed by seagoing persons, that a small vessel is fully as safe, thought it may be less comfortable on a lengthy voyage than a large one. Should the Synod see fit to comply with the urgent appeal of the missionaries, thus recommended, the period of the vessel's "readiness for sea," would be the date of our missionaries' embarkation.