

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS, 1868.

In presenting their Annual statement, the Board are not in a position to entertain the Synod with anything very new or very striking—with nothing very new because nearly all the facts communicated to the Board have been published in the 39 letters and Reports, covering 84 pages of the *Record*, which have appeared within the year,—and with nothing very striking, for no new islands have been evangelized or even visited by our New Hebrides Missionaries, and because no very marked progress on any part of the Mission field claims notice.

And yet the Board feel thankful that they meet the Synod under circumstances which they have not occupied since the return of the Rev. Petros Constantinides from the East. Since that event, our only Mission ground beyond the seas, has been in the New Hebrides. Now, however, we are represented in the work of Missions in the Western or new world, and much nearer home, and in an island in the very high-way to the very bosom of the great South American continent, on which there is a great work to be done; while we have sent the gospel to people who having come from India and China, may possibly, if brought to Jesus, become heralds of salvation to the crowded millions of the Orient. And the Board and Synod equally have the pleasing conviction that we were led to occupy this field under the providential and gracious guidance of Him who while he gives the world as the field, gives direction by the leading of His providence, to vigilant observers, respecting the particular part which they are to occupy.

TRINIDAD MISSION.

Referring first to the New Mission, the Synod will remember that at their last meeting in New Glasgow, they unanimously agreed to authorize the Board to establish a Mission to Trinidad for the special benefit of the Coolies? It was pretty well understood then, that the Rev. John Morton would be the Synod's first Missionary, and at a meeting of the Board, held immediately after the adjournment of Synod, the offer of that brother to carry the Gospel to the Coolies was at once and most cordially accepted, and the Presbytery of Halifax requested to take immediate steps to place him at the disposal of the Board. The steps which he had taken being brought officially to the notice of his congregation, they offered no opposition, saying "The will of the Lord be done."

VISITING OF CONGREGATIONS.

From the first of August, the Pastoral connection ceased, and during that month

Mr. Morton visited our congregations on the Western Shore, from Lunenburg to Yarmouth. Early in September he joined the Synods deputation to New Brunswick, at St. John, and proceeding direct to St. Stephens, spoke on the condition and character of the Coolies and their need of the Gospel of Christ, to attentive congregations at St. Stephens, Scotch Ridge, Wa-weig, Bocabec, Harvey, in different localities of Prince William, at Fredericton, and in St. John. In all these places good meetings were held, and a deep interest in the Mission and in the Missionary evinced.

Mr. Morton's inability to extend his visits was regretted in New Brunswick, East and North, but by none more than by our Missionary himself. Resting for a short space, he spent a few weeks in the more central portions of Pictou Presbytery.—Designation services were held in John Knox Church, Mr. Morton's "alma mater," if I may be allowed the expression, the Church in which his father is an elder, and in which, at an early age he dedicated himself openly to serve the Lord. The Rev. Chairman of the Board presided, and all the services were solemn, suitable and impressive.

DEPARTURE OF MR. MORTON.

Having next visited Truro and Upper Stewiacke Congregations, a farewell meeting attended by members of the three City Congregations was held in Polar Grove Church, when Mr. and Mrs. Morton returned to Bridgewater, whence amidst the tears and prayers of a loved and loving flock, they embarked in the sailing ship "The Aurora," and were soon wafted from the LaHave and from their native shore.

STORM AT SEA.

The ship was staunch and strong, and all her strength was needed, for she was soon overtaken by a terrific storm, her decks swept, and laid under water, and her spars had at length to be cut, and we might almost add that "all hope that they should be saved was taken away." But it pleased the Ruler of winds and seas to spare our Missionary, and all who sailed with him, though with much loss to the tackling of the ship, and with the aid of gear improvised to meet the exigency, they arrived in safety, first in Barbadoes and next in Port of Spain.

WELCOME.

Our Missionary and family have been received with great kindness, having had a social, an ecclesiastical, and a public welcome; the first from personal friends, the second, from the Presbytery made up of two U. P. members and one Free, with their respective elders, and the third at a Public Social Meeting, at which a collection was