

The Synod was opened with praise, reading of the Scriptures and prayer by the retiring moderator, Mr. Watt, who delivered an address on some of the standing difficulties of Mission work in the New Hebrides.

2. Mr. Milne was unanimously appointed Moderator for the ensuing year.

3. Mr. Neilson, of Tanna, and Mr. Goodwill, of Santo, were absent, but the reasons assigned by both were accepted as quite satisfactory.

4. The retiring Moderator was unanimously requested to furnish a copy of his opening address for publication in such of the periodicals of the Churches, supporting this Mission, as may afford room for its insertion. Mr. Watt consented to do so, but said that he would omit such parts as were intended for members of this Mission only, and were not of general interest.

5. Messrs. Copeland and Murray were appointed to prepare a minute respecting the late Dr. Geddie.

6. The Rev. Joseph Annand, M.A., was introduced to the Synod as an ordained and a fully accredited Missionary from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces of British North America, for the New Hebrides Mission. The Synod expressed their gratitude to God for this addition to their number, and for the safe arrival of Mr and Mrs. Annand, gave him a cordial welcome, and assured him of their readiness to do everything in their power to promote the usefulness and happiness of both himself and his wife.

7. Reports were given in by those members of the Synod who had been appointed to accompany the *Dyspriny* on deputation work last year, and reasons were assigned by them for some deviation which they had made in the sailing of the vessel. The reports were received, and the deputation thanked for their diligence; the reasons were sustained, as being, on the whole satisfactory, in the circumstances; but it was strongly enjoined, that, unless for grave and weighty reasons, no deviations shall be made from the arrangements made by this Synod.

8. Reports were given in by all those members on whom appointments had been laid at last Synod. These appointments had all been fulfilled, the reports were received and approved of, and the members thanked for their diligence.

9. Mr. Robertson reported, that in accordance with a minute of last Synod, sanctioning an expenditure of £20 stg., in the purchase of yam and other food for the relief of the christian natives who had fled to Dillon's Bay after the murder of Mr. Gordon, he had expended that sum to the best of his ability. The Synod hereby recommended the Presbyterian Church of the

Maritime Provinces to refund that sum to Mr. Robertson.

10. Mr. Robertson, further reported that he had received £10 from Messrs. Gray and Smith, Eromanga, as rent for the portion of Mission ground used by them as a Whaling Station during the past year. The Synod instructed Mr. Robertson to retain this money and use it in paying the natives of Aneityum who have assisted him in the erection of his house, and in other work connected with his station.

11. Messrs. Copeland and Murray gave in the following minute, which was unanimously agreed to :

"This Synod, having heard of the death of Dr. Geddie, would take the present opportunity of putting on record some expression of the loss they have sustained by the removal of him who was the father of this Mission, and the first to make a good footing for the Gospel on the New Hebrides.

"Considering that we are met in this Church, the work of Dr. Geddie's hands, the largest building by far in this group, at his old station among the Aneityumese, and as the New Hebrides Mission Synod, consisting of 12 ordained European Missionaries,—to us who see the work he did and know the place he held in the Mission, and those he has left behind him here to help in carrying on the cause of God, it will be sufficient to say, in view of all these things, as a tribute to his memory and work, *Circumspice*; but, that the public who do not know all that we know, and cannot see all that we see, may be enabled in some measure to join with us, it may be mentioned that Dr. Geddie was brought up and educated for the ministry in Nova Scotia, and had for several years the charge of a congregation in Prince Edward Island, when in that position his thoughts were strongly directed to the condition of the heathen, and he began to agitate for the formation of a Missionary Society in connection with the Church to which he belonged. At length he was appointed the first Missionary of that Church, to labor where Providence might indicate in the South Pacific. By a long and circuitous route, he reached Aneityum in the middle of 1848

"For some years he and his family endured many trials and suffered numerous hardships on that heathen island. In 1852 he formed the first Church in the New Hebrides.

"A few years later, through his efforts and those of his fellow-labourer, Mr. Inglis, the whole then population of 3,500 was professedly Christian.

"In 1863, by their united labors, the Aneityumese were supplied with the complete New Testament.