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REPORT

of the Board of Foreign Missions, for 1851-52.

IN submitting their eighth Annual Report to Synod, the Board of Foreign Missions have to tell both of mercy and of judgment. They have to express great gratitude to the God of Missions for the cheering tidings they are called to communicate; and at the same time they have to unfold, what appears to them matter of deep concern and painful anxiety.

ACTION OF THE BOARD.

At a meeting which was held immediately after last Synod, the Board proceeded to carry into effect the instructions which they had received. These affected two points of the highest importance,—the resignation of Mr Archibald, and the filling up of the vacancy, which his resignation had created.

The Board appointed their former Sec. Rev James Waddell, to make full enquiry as to the cause of Mr Archibald's resignation and instructed the Editors of the Register to prepare and insert an advertisement therein, inviting applications for the vacancy from any of the ministers or licentiates of the Church in Nova Scotia, or of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, or any of its branches in the Colonies.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board, the Sec. was instructed to write to the London Missionary Society, proffering to support any agent whom they might appoint to co-operate with Mr Geddie,—disclaiming all pretension to the exclusive occupancy of Aneiteum as the Mission field of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, and stating the great destitution of ministerial supply, now prevalent in our *own and sister churches.*

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters from Aneiteum were received of date Sept. 11th 1851, last March, by way of China, which appears to be the most expeditious route.

The publication of this correspondence, was, after grave deliberation, authorized by the Board; but unhappily the vague terms in which the cause of Mr Archibald's resignation is alluded to, has not contributed to allay, but rather excite the prevailing anxiety on that subject. A memorial from the immediate friends, and others, of Mr Archibald, has been transmitted to your Board, "earnestly requesting, that in the first letter to Mr Geddie, the Board would request him to state the case as it is for the satisfaction of the Church, the relief of the petitioners, and as an act of bare justice to Mr Archibald himself." This memorial was entertained