

THE NEW HERALDES MISSION.

Mr. Annand's Report.

Anseiyum, New Hebrides.
Dec. 5th 1882.

Rev. Dr. McGregor.

Dear Sir:—

You will please submit to the Board the following Report of the work being done on Anseiyum and the state of matters here at the present.

During the past year the Lord's cause has been making encouraging progress among us. The average attendance at the various religious services has been higher than for some years previous; and a greater desire to do what is right and consistent with their profession manifested by many. There has been less open wickedness than on some past years, and the young people are showing more inclination to become members of the Church. The Kava question, which threatened at one time to materially hinder the work, has been satisfactorily settled.

Our statistics are now as follows:—

Total population on our side of the island 523, which is exactly the same number there were last year at this date. Church members in full communion 174, Morning Schools 18 attended by a large majority of the people. Schools for children 4. Three of these at the out stations are taught by native teachers, and have a total of 44 scholars, the other one is taught by Mrs. Annand and a native assistant, 28 are attending it. Thus in the four schools we have 70 pupils which includes all the children of school age in our charge with a very few exceptions. Mrs. A. has also a sewing class of 13 girls. My training school for teachers and advanced scholars is now attended by 16 young men and women. A candidates class for intending communicants is held every Wednesday at which 24 now attend. While above 50 come regularly to the Sabbath afternoon Bible class at the station.

We began this year by observing "the week of prayer" for the first time with encouraging results. Also, as another innovation introduced this year, we have had regular monthly meetings of session, at which the work of the past month is reviewed, and new work assigned to each member thereof. In the afternoon of the same day on which the Session meets, a public lecture on mission work in some other country is given by the missionary.

This year two only were admitted to

church fellowship for the first time, and two others were restored who had been under discipline for a time. But on the other hand no less than eleven have been put out of the church—One of them suspended for a time, and the other ten excommunicated.

A word of explanation is in place here. The facts relative to these ten are these. Five of them, though church members for many years, had been living in gross sin for upwards of ten years at least, and it was only when the life of the church became somewhat healthy that their wickedness was made known. The other five have been considered doubtful characters for some years; they have been warned and intreated, but instead of improving they became worse and openly defiant, hence the result.

The usual amount of free labour has been contributed by the people in keeping up all their schoolhouses and churches, as well as, putting a new grass roof on our dwellinghouse and store. 1200 pounds of arrowroot are prepared and contributed by them, all of which had to go in payment for books, about which you were fully informed in my past letters.

Your missionary on Anseiyum, has had the labor, pleasure and honor of assisting to erect two new mission-houses and settle two new missionaries this year.

In conclusion I must tender my thanks through you to all who have aided us in our work here, whether by contributions of mission goods, or by that of money for the teachers of the children's schools, or by their cheering words.

Yours faithfully.

J. ANNAND.

P. S. In August last an election of four new Elders and six Deacons was held. We have now a Session of fourteen elders and six deacons.

The total population of the whole island is now about 1070, of this number about 63 per cent are males, and 37 females.

J. A.

Letter from Rev. J. Annand.

Anseiyum, New Hebrides,
Dec. 9th, 1882.

Dear Brother Scott:—

Your favor of May 30th was duly received, and so was the package of "The Maritime Presbyterian" being the set complete from the first number. You have placed us under obligation to you by this gift, but I presume that a long letter from us on every opportunity will