

an one might come and go, and be forgotten. So far, however, from this being the case, Mr. Mackenzie, in his own way, has really done us a great deal of good, and has left behind him such a favorable impression respecting himself and the New Hebrides mission as will not soon be effaced. For one thing, he has created in the minds of not a few a desire to co-operate in the work in which he is engaged, and, growing out of that, there have not been wanting expressions of a desire also that all the foreign mission work of the Church might be consolidated, and and its claims presented to the Church as belonging to one interest, in which the sympathies of the whole Church might be centred, without any reference to East or West, or any other sectional boundaries. It is due to Mr. Mackenzie to say that he is in no way responsible for this idea, which, though enunciated by Mayor McMurrich, of Toronto, for the first time, perhaps, in public at these meetings, has been growing ever since the Union.

Mr. Mackenzie is thirty-six years of age. He is not tall; slightly built; of dark complexion. You can see that fever has left its mark upon him. At first sight there is a want of animation in his otherwise pleasant countenance; but the moment you engage in conversation, his dark eyes begin to sparkle, and presently his face beams with benevolence, and before you take leave of him, you find that you have been speaking to an enthusiast—a missionary of the first water. He is a native of Pictou county, where his father and mother still reside. He was brought up under the ministry of the Rev. Dr. Patterson, of Green Hill, went through his Arts course at Dalhousie College, and received his theological training in the Hall of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces. Before his curriculum was finished there, he had offered his services to the Foreign Mission Committee, and his offer had been accepted. He was licensed by the Presbytery of Halifax in 1871, and was ordained in the same year by the Presbytery of Pictou, with a view to his joining the New Hebrides mission. Having studied medicine during that summer, he sailed from Halifax in October, for Liverpool, and thence to Melbourne. The Rev. J. D. Murray, now of Paramatta, and the Rev. Hugh Robertson, of Erromanga, and their wives, had accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie all the way from Nova Scotia, and it was a great joy to them all to find that not only was the "Dayspring" waiting to receive them on board at Melbourne, but that both Dr. Geddie and Mr. Inglis were to be their fellow passengers in the voyage to the New Hebrides. In about three weeks after leaving Melbourne they landed upon Aneityum, in May, 1872. The first news they heard was the sad intelligence of the murder of the

Rev. James D. Gordon upon Erromanga, which speedily dispelled whatever of pleasing romance had been associated in their minds with missions to the heathen. The situation, and the dangers connected with it, thenceforth became a solemn reality. They found that although the good work had been interrupted, and even retarded, by the absence of the missionaries, yet there was abundant cause for gratitude to God for the results of their labours, which were at once apparent in the quiet, orderly, and comfortable appearance of the natives. After spending a few days upon the island, they all embarked and made a tour of the group. They then returned to Aneityum, where the annual meeting of the Synod was held. At that meeting Dr. Geddie was seized with a stroke of paralysis from which he never recovered. He was shortly afterwards taken to Geelong, where he died, 14 Dec., 1872. Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. McDonald were sent by the Synod to the Island of Efate, near the centre of the group, about 60 miles north of Erromanga; population, about 2,000. They have continued to labour there ever since—the former on the southern part of the island, his headquarters being at Erakor; the latter at Havannah Harbour, in the north. They are separated by an almost impassable wilderness, so that they never meet more than once a year, if so often, the only means of communication being by means of an open sail boat. Mr. Mackenzie has six stations where he preaches and visits regularly. Mr. McDonald has three or four. Both are making inroads on the heathenism that lies between them. By and by they hope to meet in what is now forbidden ground. What a joyful meeting it will be when the whole island shall have been conquered for Christ!

But, *how* did the people of Montreal shew their appreciation of Mr. Mackenzie and his work? Well, they were not very demonstrative, but in a quiet way they made the missionary feel that they sympathized with him. He did not ask them for a dollar, but simply told them what he had been doing in the New Hebrides during the past nine years, and what he proposed doing when he should return. *Inter alia*—it was mentioned one Sabbath morning to the Erskine Church congregation (Rev. J. S. Black's) that Mr. Mackenzie intended to take some native lads into his own house for the purpose of training them as teachers and evangelists. It was stated that the course of study would extend over four or five years, and that the cost of boarding each student would be about \$25 a year. *Seven* members of that congregation immediately volunteered each to support a young man in this embryo college for five years. The Sabbath-school children of the same church became good