

6. Have you a competent number of elders, and are they district, or general?

7. Have you a Book in which are recorded the proceedings of Session, and if so produce it?

8. Have managers been appointed to transact the general business of the congregation, and if so name them?

IV. TO THE MANAGERS.

1. What salary do you give your minister?

2. Do you deem that a competent support?

3. How have your obligations to your pastor been fulfilled?

4. What is the degree of liberality and promptitude with which the congregation meets its liabilities?

5. What system is pursued in raising the salary?

6. How often do the managers meet

for business, and when does your ecclesiastical year terminate?

The 2nd question to managers may be put or not, as circumstances may warrant.

The following is the minute of Synod on the report now printed:—

“Truro, June 27th, 9 o'clock, A.M.

“Mr McCulloch read report of Committee appointed to revise questions put at Presbyterian visitations. It was agreed that the revised questions be printed and sent down to Sessions to examine and report upon, at next meeting of Synod.”

By publication in the *Register* they are hereby transmitted to all Sessions and their attention to the subject requested.

P. G. MCGREGOR, *Synod Clerk.*

Foreign Missions.

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE FOURTH VOYAGE OF THE “JOHN WILLIAMS”

To the Australian Colonies and to Mission Stations in Eastern and Western Polynesia—1856—7—

BY GEORGE N. GORDON, MISSIONARY
TO WESTERN POLYNESIA.

Having been requested by a minister of the gospel in London, before I left that city, to write something in the form of a tract on our voyage in the “John Williams” through Polynesia, especially in relation to the Mission stations which in the providence of God we might be permitted to visit, which was in accordance with the wishes of other esteemed friends, after due consideration of the subject since I came to the Pacific, I feel, at least, the force of some of the reasons urged for doing so, and although I am assured that I possess but little talent for writing to the edification of others, yet I feel that it is my duty to make some effort to give my friends a little more information about the Mission stations which I have visited than I could cram into the space of a common letter sheet. I trust that I may be guided by the Spirit of truth and wisdom in writing of persons and things as I have seen them in Oceanica, and that what I may write may be acceptable to my friends.

As I have previously written an account of our voyage to Cape Town and the Australian Colonies, I shall only give these places a passing notice in this communication and confine myself to a notice of missionary operations in this “Island world,” giving, at least, a little information on some of those features of Polynesian missions on which information has been solicited.

The “John Williams” on her fourth voyage to Polynesia left on 23rd July the busy Thames, on which gallant ships, richly laden with the world’s commerce, are continually going and coming, and arrived at South Africa on the 1st of October, where we remained five days, during which time I had some favoured opportunities for gaining some important information relative to the Cape Colony, both politically and religiously, which has enjoyed some advantages by British rule and the abolition of slavery. The climate of this thriving Colony seems favourable to Europeans in general, although, it is said, but few of the Anglo-Saxon natives live to an advanced age. Some of the missionaries sent to this Colony labour among the Dutch farmers, while others penetrate into the interior far beyond the bounds of the Colony, preaching the gospel to the heathen.—The Dutch and Episcopal Churches are supported by grants from the Govern-