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NEW HEBRIDES MISSION—MISSIONARY WANTED.

For upwards of eighteen years, the Church of Nova Scotia has carried on a very successful mission in the South Seas. The New Hebrides group of Islands which have formed the scene of their labours lie N. N. W., and S. S. E. between 21 degrees and 15 degrees, S. Latitude, and 171 degrees, and 166 degrees East Longitude. They extend some 400 miles in length, are between 20 and 30 in number, (10 of which are of considerable size,) and contain a population of about 150,000, chiefly of the Papuan race.

The Group was discovered by the Spaniard Quiros Major Pilot to Mendana, in 1606, who thought it part of the great Southern Continent and called it Terra del Espiritu Sancto. In 1773 the celebrated Captain Cook explored the entire group, and, considering them to be the most Western islands of the Pacific, called them the New Hebrides. They lie due North of New Zealand, at a distance of some 1500 miles, and about 1200 miles from the nearest part of Australia. For over 60 years thereafter they lay unnoticed, but the sandal wood trade directed attention to them. In 1839 the benevolent sympathies of the devoted John Williams were drawn out towards them. He succeeded in landing Samoan Teachers at Tanna, but, on the following day, when making a similar attempt at Erromanga, he and his faithful young companion Harris fell victims to the fury of the superstitious natives.

In 1842 the next attempt was made to establish a mission at Tanna by Messrs. Turner, and Henry Nisbet, the brother of our own devoted Red River Missionary, but after labouring for seven months, an epidemic arose, war broke out, and they had to flee for their lives. The third attempt was made by the Rev. John Geddie, whose sympathetic soul had, for years, gone out in that direction, and who landed at Anciteum in 1843 as the Pioneer Missionary of the Nova Scotian Church.

For three years he and his excellent wife (a true yoke fellow) laboured alone. In 1852 the Rev. John Inglis arrived from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

In 1857 Mr. and Mrs. Gordon arrived from Nova Scotia—and in 1858, Mr. Matheson from N. S., and Messrs. Paton, and Copeland, from Scotland. Then in 1860, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston followed from Nova Scotia. During the first ten years of its history, the mission had a career of unexampled prosperity. Mr. Geddie found the natives sunk in the lowest depths of barbarism. Idolatry, polygamy, infanticide, and cannibalism prevailed in their most repulsive forms. Within that short period they all disappeared, and in their place appeared, "whatsoever things were true, honest, lovely, and of a good report." Churches were built—schools were planted—the family altar was set up—the Sabbath was observed—all the institutions of a thoroughly Christian people were set in operation. Idolatry was so completely weeded out that Mr. Geddie on leaving for home, could not find an idol to bring with him as a specimen.