

ANEITYUM.

ANEITYUM and Geddie are the two names that stand most prominently forward in the van of our mission history. The one was our first missionary, the other was the scene of his toils and triumphs. Though full of such tender memories and associations, particularly to the eastern section of our church, Mr. and Mrs. Annand, our Missionaries there, in view of the fact that the population had decreased from the four thousand of forty years ago, to about nine hundred, and that one Missionary could do the work of the whole island, nobly volunteered to leave this old and comparatively comfortable and Christian field of labor, to Mr. Laurie, the Missionary of the Free Church of Scotland who was settled on the other side of the island, and to go north to open up a new Mission on Santo, the largest and most northerly island of the group. Since that time the interest of our church in Aneityum and its Missionaries has been indirect, but by no means small, and we regret to state that Mr. Laurie is now compelled to resign. Under the strain of anxiety and care, and the exclusion from society, which bears so heavily upon the wives of the missionaries in the South Seas, and which some are less able than others to bear, Mrs. Laurie's mind gave way more than a year ago, and Mr. Laurie, taking her to a place of care in Australia, has since then labored on alone. He is to resign, and Aneityum will be placed in charge of Rev. Dr. Gunn, a Medical missionary on the neighboring island of Futuna, who will work both the islands, making his head quarters at Aneityum.

LETTER FROM REV. J. W. MACKENZIE.

SYDNEY, Australia,

Aug. 4th, 1892.

MY DEAR MR. MORRISON :—Possibly you may have heard that we have come to Sydney. We came up sooner than we intended. This was partly on account of our health and partly on our children's account. We felt that a change was necessary, but we hoped to be able to remain at our station until towards the end of the year.

Hearing, however, that three of our children were ill, and that we would require to get a new home for our boys, that they might attend a more advanced school, we felt it to be our duty to come up at once. At their age, five years is too long a time to be separated from them, especially as they are living among strangers.

My throat, which has been troubling me for some time, and with which I was laid aside from work for a month or more before leaving Erakor, is, owing to the complete rest I am taking, much better, and the cold bracing weather here, is restoring Mrs. MacKenzie to much of her wanted vigor.

It is our intention to remain here till about the end of the year, and we trust that by that time we shall be able to make satisfactory arrangements for our children, and that our health will be fully re-established.

We hear every month from our poor natives. It is very touching to hear how they long for our return. I wish you could have seen the chief of Fila as he bade us "good bye" when we were leaving. He wept like a child. It was quite a contrast to his behaviour towards me some years ago, when he came down to the beach to prevent our landing, telling me if I went ashore I would be murdered.

I am not by any means idle, however, as I have a good deal of translating on hand, which I am anxious to get printed before our return. I am preparing a Scripture history, a hymn book, and probably a catechism.

The Scripture history will be a book of considerable size. At one time I thought of making a translation of the "Line upon Line," and my training class translated about two-thirds of it. But as the population of Efate is not large, it is not at all likely that we shall attempt a translation of the whole Bible, so I wish to have a book much fuller than the Line upon Line. Our hymn book will contain between 70 and 80 hymns.

I have now before me a receipt from the B. and F. B. Society for the balance of our share of the expense of printing our Efatese New Testament, the whole cost was £500. If we only could get a market for our arrowroot, we would have no difficulty in meeting most of our expenditure.

The deputation from the church here in Australia, which has been visiting the New Hebrides, has just returned. I have seen them for a little and they seem much pleased with the reception they met with at our station, Erakor, even though we were not there. They said the natives made a feast for them. The bell was rung and when the people gathered the members of the deputation addressed them.

Of course we are pleased in our absence to hear from eye witnesses about our poor people and of the progress of the work.

Yours sincerely,

J. W. MACKENZIE

Mission College Indore.

The report of the Government Inspector of schools for the Central Provinces and Central India, is now before us, telling of his visit to the Canadian Mission College at Indore and of its work during the past year. In the College department he reports 8 students as against 15 last year, while the school department shows a grand total enrolled of 176 as against 157 last year. The increase is chiefly in the high school classes, where such increase is most desirable. The average attendance was 75 per cent. in the school department, and 81 per cent in the college.