

and Sandwick, which is four or five miles from the nearest school and church; and what aggravates the evil is, that two long ranges of hills run from north to south of the island, and need to be crossed by the children in going to the parish school. We were, therefore, not surprised to find, on the part of the minister of the parish and of the proprietor of West Yell, an anxiety expressed for a school and teacher there, who should be able to give assistance as catechist. So strongly has the want been felt that the proprietor, Joseph Leask, Esq. of Sands, has now offered to give £100 to build a school, and Dr. Bell's trustees have promised other £50, while the Home Mission are willing to give £10 a-year to the teacher to act as catechist. We hope to hear soon of steps being taken to proceed with the school.

Northmaven was the next parish we visited. We had unfortunately only an hour at the manse, but we were long and wearily detained in skirting the parish. Leaving Fetlar on Monday morning early, we had counted on arriving at the manse of Northmaven late on Monday night. We did not know Shetland then, and particularly its west coast. We beat up against a steady contrary wind from Fetlar to the entrance of Yell Sound. There the wind, which would have been favourable, died away to a gentle breeze, just sufficient to steer us up along the current of the tide. Gradually stealing towards the north, we soon came on the great idle swell of the Northern Ocean, which had not touched land since it left the shores of Greenland. By six o'clock we had got well clear of land, and were some miles to the north of Shetland, where the Atlantic and Northern oceans meet. It was needful to go far north so as to round the northern peak of Northmaven in safety. But out there, beyond the farthest point of *sultima Thule*, the wind wholly ceased, the sails flapped idly on the mast, and the yacht rolled like a log on the long, deep, heavy swell of the Atlantic. The Ramna Stacks, three strange isolated rocks off Northmaven, were there as the darkness closed, as they had been near us for several hours already; the sun died down on the waves, the sails of two far-away ships could just be seen on the horizon, and the lighthouse of Hermanness, in Unst, shot suddenly out its red glare on the waters. So the night closed, as we held our worship on deck, with the great sky and those silent stars above us, our rude psalm mingling with the voice of the mighty sea. So we slept; but next morning, still the cliffs of Unst, still the weary Ramna Stacks, still the peak of Roness Hill! All day it was the same, and, to the disappointment of two friends who were to join us at Hillswick, we arrived there only on Tuesday night. Our long sail, however, round the coast of the parish prepared us for the application of its minister for a missionary to assist him in his labours there.

Northmaven is twenty-one miles long, and from two to five miles broad. Its one parish church and manse are situated near the south end of it, at the village of Hillswick, some seven miles distant from the village of Ollaberry, and about thirteen miles from the village of North Roe. Once a-month its active parish minister has been in the custom of preaching in a warehouse at Ollaberry. But it is obviously impossible that a single man can satisfactorily overtake work in so large a sphere. It is not only the length of the parish, but the fact that its population (2588) have congregated in three centres, too remote from each other to permit of their attending one place of worship; and yet, as a rule, they are all anxious to retain connection with the Church of Scotland. In fact, dissent in Shetland is an exotic. Only necessity seems to drive the people to it, and nowhere, perhaps, within the bounds of our Church is she so generally loved. A missionary, therefore, for the parish of Northmaven seems to us to be a most expedient measure. The Home Mission Committee voted £50 a-year on our report for his support; Henry Cheyne, Esq., W. S., (a native of the parish, and therefore well acquainted with its wants), promised £5 a-year; and the minister of the parish has undertaken to raise at least £5 a-year more. It is proposed that the missionary shall, in the meantime, alternate between Ollaberry and North Roe. It is needful, however, to build a chapel at one of these places, and a house for the missionary. It is incredibly difficult in some parts of Shetland to find a place where a missionary can live; and even if this can be found in Northmaven it will be needful soon to build a manse for him. Meantime it is to the building of a chapel that the efforts of friends must be directed. Those on the spot can do little, save in the way of day's work; but those Christian men throughout the Church who have both money and hearts to spend it in Christ's cause, will surely help. As soon as temporary arrangements can be made, the Home Mission are willing to appoint a labourer; and it is earnestly to be hoped that he will soon have a place to preach in, creditable to the Church, and comfortable to the congregation. — *The Church of Scotland Home and Foreign Missionary Record.*

Gleanings from Foreign Fields.

THE FRUITS OF SIXTY YEARS.

[THE following interesting summary of the fruits of the first sixty years' modern missionary work has evidently been prepared with care, and is published in the organ of the Old School Presbyterian Foreign Missionary Board:—]

What has the Church to show of success, under the blessing of the Divine Head, dur-