

that shipbuilders were much more free to tender for material and workmanship, which they could secure without importation. From the tenders thus furnished, that of J. W. Carmichael, Esq., was after careful deliberation selected. In this selection your Board were assisted by the unanimous decision of a Committee appointed for the purpose, and consisting of the most competent men that could be found. In like manner the rig as well as model of the vessel was determined. It is proper that the Synod should be made aware, that the tonnage is somewhat greater than was contemplated in their decision. The Missionaries strongly represented the necessity of the enlargement, and our coadjutors in Scotland fully concurred in this opinion. With ample funds at their disposal your Board did not feel at liberty to withhold their consent. The progress which has been made in forwarding the vessel has been in every respect satisfactory. She has been in such a state of forwardness for some time that the builder might have completed his contract after a few weeks notice, but it was considered the better course, to allow the full time specified in the contract, and thus give to material and workmanship the utmost advantage. It is expected that the launch will take place about the end of July, (next month.) Meanwhile the rigging and sails have been imported from the Clyde, free from duty, and landed in good order. Your Board are highly gratified to be able to report the engagement of a Captain altogether competent for the highly responsible duties of the mission vessel. An adherent of our church, with moral character, altogether free from the grosser vices incident to seafaring life, and with missionary zeal, which promises to make his connection with the vessel something more than that of sailing master; along with high qualifications as a navigator which have been acquired by experience as chief officer in Government transport service, and in the larger class of mercantile marine, Captain William A. Frazer promises to be a most valuable acquisition to our Mission Staff. Under the London Missionary Society's standard of salaries, he has been offered and

has accepted £150 stg., per annum. Similar engagements, under his advice are now being successfully made for the remainder of the crew, so that there is every expectation, that when fully equipped for sea, the vessel will be provided with men of excellent habits and suitable attainments. Mr. Frazer's engagement was made and entered upon just in time to avoid the expense and trouble of appointing an inspector, for whom provision had been made in the contract. So far as the inspection of the Hull is concerned—most efficient service has been rendered gratuitously by Mr. Tucker, Lloyd's Agent, St. John, N. B., Your Board feel that the thanks of this Synod are justly due to this gentleman, whose services will result in securing the most favorable insurance on the vessel for seven or eight years.

The departure of the vessel from Nova Scotia will be regulated with a view to one or two months detention in Sydney, during which the Missionaries will be able to visit many of the localities which have liberally contributed towards her build and maintenance, and to interest the Churches in Australia, still more deeply in the evangelization of the South Seas.

The funds of your Board may be pronounced in a very satisfactory condition, the demand for regular missionary salaries being now greatly curtailed by the removal of so many missionaries.

The general Treasurer's account will exhibit details. The attention of Synod will be required to adjust the future scale of salaries. The matter was brought up at the last meeting by the action of the Reformed Presbyterian Church but remitted for further investigation. It may now be considered ripe for judgement.

The London Missionary Society have informed us, that their scale of salaries for Mission service in the South Sea has been raised, and Missionary correspondence has further satisfied your Board that their recommendation of last year should be adopted, which would place the salary of the fully inducted Missionary at £120 stg., without any allowance for extras, in house or boat building, in freight or postage.