

in abundance the very things which she needs for her school, as well as give our missionaries themselves changes of flannel garments, which the state of the weather in the cold season seems to make desirable if not necessary.

6. The energy, activity, and zeal displayed by Mrs Geldie in her arduous undertakings, while they illustrate her admirable fitness for the work in which she is engaged, should operate as a stimulus to persons more favorably situated, to greater devotedness in the service of the Lord; and her counsels and admonitions coming so far back should be received with peculiar interest and attention. How affecting is it that, while we are sending the gospel to heathen lands, these lands are sending back to us the admonition to profit by the privileges which we enjoy. Let us not have to say—"they made me keeper of the vineyards, but mine own vineyard have I not kept."

7. The self denial of our missionaries in parting with their child in order to give her an education, should excite our sympathies, and induce us to do what we can to mitigate to the utmost the trial of their separation. It will no doubt be most gratifying to the parents to find friends at home endeavoring to promote the interests of the child; and to the child herself it

will be a source of cheering encouragement, that she is thought of and cared for by others when her father and mother are far away. "Feed my lambs."

*Belle Vue, March 13th, 1851.*

MY DEAR MISS GEDDIE.—This note accompanies a contribution to your little fund for the maintenance of your niece at Walthamstow. It was collected soon after we heard of the sacrifices of personal property by our missionaries, to pay in part for their passage from Sandwich Islands to Samoa. It was intended to replace a watch which Mr. Geddie sold for that purpose, and was retained in fund for the coming of the John Williams. In the mean time, I wrote to Mr. Geddie that we had it for that object and he declines receiving it that way. Having consulted with the donors I am directed to hand it to you as above stated. It is made up of Juvenile contribution in my own congregation to the amount of £2 11s. 1½d., a similar collection at Carriboo Meadows 14s. 5d., and a contribution from Mr. Geddie's former congregation, in Cavendish and New London forwarded by Mr. John McNeil £5 7s. 5½d.

I am my dear Miss G.

very sincerely yours,

JAMES WADDELL.

### Miscellaneous.

#### THE NESTORIANS OF KOORDIS-TAN.

There is much in the religious condition of the Nestorians to awaken our interest. They possess the Scriptures in the ancient Syriac, in which all the books they have are written, and in which, though a dead language, the best educated among them conduct their epistolary correspondence, and are able to converse with fluency. Their vernacular language, it may be remarked, is a modern dialect of the ancient Syriac, much modified and corrupted by the admixture of Persian, Turkish and Koordish words,—these corruptions varying with the locality in which they occur. It is an interesting fact that the only portions of scriptures which are wanting in their copies are the book of Revelation and two or three of the shorter epistles, which do not appear to have reached them when their canonical books were completed.—These they were furnished with by the American missionaries; and upon the tes-

timony of other christians, and the internal evidence of their authenticity, they readily received them. Their most ancient copies of the scriptures they regard with much veneration, and preserve with much care; being kept in envelopes, and reverently kissed when taken into the hand, as very hallowed treasures. There are copies of the New Testament among them, written some on parchment and some on paper, which date as far back as six hundred years. Besides the canonical books, they have the apocryphal book of *Ecclesiasticus* or the *Wisdom of Sirach*; and a work purporting to be *The Revelation of Paul*, consisting of an account of what he is supposed to have seen when he was caught up to the third heaven. In addition to the books which relate to the services and the laws of their church, they have some of the writings of the fathers, traditions, books of martyrs, and commentaries on all portions of the scriptures, some of