

Resolutions. It would I think be an improvement on the third Resolution to invest the Board of Foreign Missions with power to call persons whom they may deem qualified to engage in the missionary work. Such a call would in all probability bring some into the foreign field who find it difficult to decide between the claims of the heathen and the claims of the destitute at home.

I have also read somewhere that one of the Synods in the United States has passed a Resolution to make every effort to raise the number of its missionaries abroad until they equal the settled pastors at home. I am not without hope that the time is coming when even single congregations in our own Church will support their missionary abroad as well as minister at home. May such a time speedily come. Had any congregation the courage to make the effort the noble example would be followed by others.

We long to hear about the "John Knox." All the information we have about her is comprised in two or three sentences in a letter which Mr Inglis received last year. We hope that she is in Sydney by this time, and hence we have given Dr Ross such advice as we could about her transmission to this island. She will be an invaluable appendage to the Mission when she comes — We almost regret that she is so small, but we are truly thankful for her, small as she is. If the missionary work extends on these islands, as I hope it will, it is quite probable that the "John Knox" will be superseded by a schooner of larger size. Such a vessel might be built in Nova Scotia, and I am sure she would be an object of interest to the friends of the cause. But in the meantime the "John Knox" will answer our

purpose, and it seems vain to open up new islands for missionary enterprise unless men can be found to occupy them.

I may mention that the Committee of Missions of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Scotland, have agreed to give Dr Ross some expression of their gratitude for his kindness to their missionary. But he has been no less kind to your missionary than to theirs. Might not the Board of Foreign Missions in some shape or form let him know that they also appreciate his kindness. Our agency in Sydney gives him considerable trouble.

You will be glad to hear that we are all well. Both the Mission families have thus far escaped fever and ague this year, though it prevails among the natives around us. Mrs Geddie's constitution received a most serious shock last year. At one time I had faint expectations of our recovery. But God has been good to us beyond what we could expect. She has to a great extent regained her health, but I do not think she will ever be so vigorous as she was before her illness. I wish our dear Charlotte Ann were here to relieve her mother of some of her duties. Besides attending to her children and household duties she superintends a large school.

Remember me to your beloved wife, also to Henry, Jane and the other children. Mrs G. cannot write now, but she also unites in warmest remembrance to you all. It will give us great pleasure to hear from you when you can write. — Letters from our dear friends are a treasure here.

I remain, my dear brother,
Ever yours, &c.,
JOHN GEDDIE.

Rev James Waddell.

India.

BENGAL PRESIDENCY.

(From M^rLeod Wylie Esq.)

CALCUTTA, June 1, 1857.

When I wrote for the *News of the Churches*, last January, I referred to Britain's position in India as differing widely from that which we held with no little anxiety after the destruction of our army in Afghanistan, and when we had

to send another army out of the country (in 1842), while Runjeet Singh's powerful Sikh army chafed in inaction in its rear, and the well-disciplined army of Gwalior was unsubdued, in close proximity to Agra. Having reference to the subsequent defeat of both these hostile powers, and the pacification of the Punjab, and the successful termination of the war in Pegu, I said that I believed that