

weeks spent with Mr. and Mrs. Geddie, and in his visiting the different islands removed to Tana, which they reached on the 12th of September.

The first impressions of the young missionary, as conveyed in his own narrative, have been very profound. "Though my experience of heathen lands is only commencing, yet I have seen enough to make me realize in quite a new sense the dismal darkness, the consummate degradation and awful wretchedness of heathenism." His spirit, however, has not been unduly depressed, for he adds: "In all the way in which we have come we have seen the hand of Him who said, 'Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.' We are thus encouraged to believe that our presence here is in accordance with His blessed command, has His sanction, and that He will be with us still." From such testimony we can only anticipate the best results. His residence is at Mr. Paton's house, whose express desire has thus been granted. It is highly gratifying to witness this brotherly love, and still more so to feel assured that the desolate home of the solitary and widowed missionary would be gladdened by the society of Mr. Johnston and by the presence and matronly care of Mrs. Johnston.

VISITS AROUND.

Besides devoting himself with zeal and energy to the acquisition of the Tanese language, he has in company with Mr. Paton surveyed his future sphere of settled labour. They first visited Aniwa, and were earnestly solicited by the natives to remain. They pled that it was not fair to have the two Missis at the harbour and none on their island—that the Tanese were very bad and hated Missie—that their own people loved Misi and would listen to his word, and when they got more light would go and help to teach the Tanese. Sailing along the coast of Tana they came to Wacus or Black Beach, which affords good anchorage and is a station next in importance to the Harbour. Here, however, several bloody affrays had occurred between the natives and foreigners. On this account it was with great difficulty that any communication was now opened with them. The fears of those natives that visited the mission schooner were removed by presents, and when they left the missionaries went unarmed to the shore with them and in their canoe. Having explained to the chief the object of visiting them he in turn explained to the people on the shore that this was only to do them good. When they heard this the missionaries were at once received with open arms and were conducted to the public ground, where they were soon surrounded by a great crowd. After some conversation worship was held with them, where the only living and true God was never worshipped before. Various presents and lands for mission houses were freely offered. The presents were refused but a few weeks thereafter, the *John Knox* returned with two Aneiteumese teachers, and, if Mr. Johnston's anticipations have been realized, his own settlement there must have taken place before this time. A door has thus been opened for the entrance of the Word into this station, and there is no reason to doubt that its progress will be greater than at the Harbour, which is infested with trading vessels. It seems almost incredible that British subjects should so persecute British missionaries, but on the reliable testimony of Mr. Paton we have it that these men afford a ready market for all the natives can steal from the mission and sometimes they help themselves in spite of all remonstrance, doing all the injury in their power. "If the natives would kill us all or put us away from Tana the captain of one vessel offered to come and live among them and give them plenty of tobacco and powder, consequently they threaten and attempt to take our lives every day since." In the midst of such perils what need for the shield of the Almighty to cover his servants. Let Christians at home importunately plead with Him who alone can stay the wrath of man, that He may suffer no man to do them wrong, saying, "Touch not mine anointed, do my prophets no harm." Some such divine confidence must inspire the breast of one who, after such a narrative of personal jeopardy, can add: "But in spite of all opposition Christianity must triumph over dark Tana, and I trust the time is at hand." Amen, say we. "Even so, Lord Jesus, come quickly."

MISSION IN TURKEY.

In the review of Missionary labour the Board would now draw the attention of Synod to the Greek Mission in Asiatic Turkey. The presence and personal ad-