

serious and prayerful consideration. But while I plead earnestly for help, let me caution you against sending unknown, untried and inferior men.

I have received a letter from Dr. Steel, suggesting that Mr. Morrison should have an addition to his salary during his stay in Australia. He required a minute from this mission to authorize him to make the proposed increase. We unanimously voted an additional £100 yearly to his salary during the whole period of his residence in Australia, if necessary. It is, I believe, the custom of other societies to increase the salaries of their missionaries, while absent from the islands, on account of sickness or duty.—When Messrs. Inglis and Paton were in Scotland, each one of them had £50 yearly added to his salary, and when the latter was in Australia collecting for the *Dayspring*, he had £180 out of the *Dayspring's* funds added to his salary from home, exclusive of all travelling expenses. The London Missionary Society acts on the same principle. The addition to Mr. Morrison's salary will not appear extravagant when I mention that the minimum salary for Presbyterian ministers in Victoria is £300 sterling per annum; and £250 in New South Wales. Our vicinity to the Australian Colonies is likely to make these islands a somewhat expensive field of missionary labour.

I have not time to write you more at present, we are just winding up the business of our meeting. I expect to write soon and send letters by Mr. H. Robertson, who expects to leave here in about two or three months and go direct to Nova Scotia.

Ever yours, &c.,

JOHN GEDDIE.

REV. P. G. MCGREGOR.

Minutes of Mission Council held May 26th – 28th, 1868.

The annual conference of the New Hebrides Mission was held this day at Aname the station of the Rev. J. Inglis:—Present Dr. Geddie, the Rev. Messrs Inglis, Copeland, Gordon, Cook, Neilson, McNair, and Capt. Fraser. In the absence of Mr. Paton the former Chairman, Dr. Geddie presided and opened the meeting with praise and

prayer. Mr. Copeland was then appointed Chairman and Dr. Geddie Clerk for the ensuing year, after which the meeting proceeded to business.

1. A letter was read from Mr. Paton stating that it was impossible for him to be present at this meeting. It was resolved that Mr. Paton's statement be sustained, but the meeting regrets his absence and would inculcate as a rule on all the members of the mission that nothing but reasons of the gravest importance should keep any member away from the annual meeting.

2. As Mr. Morrison in consequence of bodily indisposition and acting under medical advice, has been detained in Australia, this meeting sympathise very deeply with their afflicted brother and appoint Dr. Geddie as senior member of the mission to write a letter of sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Morrison in the name of the meeting, and fondly hope that God in His good Providence may speedily restore him to his wonted health and strength, and that he may be permitted to return to labour in the work on which his heart is so much set.

3. This meeting having heard the minutes of the various special meetings held during the year by committees of the mission, together with verbal explanations on various points approve generally of the course adopted by the committees, and thank them for their diligence in the various matters that have come before them.

4. William Sim, Esq., a christian gentleman and office-bearer in one of the Presbyterian congregations of Victoria, and a generous friend of the missionary cause being present was unanimously invited to take a seat at the meeting. Mr. Sim took his seat accordingly.

5. This meeting having heard the reports from the several mission stations, agrees to accept the same, expresses its thankfulness to God, that notwithstanding many adverse circumstances, the work of God is on the whole in so favourable a condition.

6. It was agreed that the *Dayspring* shall leave this island (D. V.) on Monday the 1st June, proceed to Aniwa and Erromanga thence to Nemea (New Caledonia) and return to Aneiteum as soon as possible: