

longer or shorter time, and the most of them can speak a little English. Many of them can swear quite fluently in our tongue. So far as we are able to judge yet, there is not one person who has been really benefited by their intercourse with white men. They have learned much that is bad, and if they get any good, the bad has completely absorbed it. Traders cannot get them away now as formerly to the plantations, but they get them to go as boats' crews, while collecting labourers on the other islands.

Our two islands were in a state of war a few weeks ago, but after each side waiting a week upon the other to make the attack they succeeded in making peace.

We feel the loss of society, and the public services of the sanctuary very much, but still time seems to pass very rapidly, we are kept so busy.

All the brethren on Fate and Nguna are well.

JOSEPH ANNAND.

News of the Church.

Presbytery of Pictou.

The Presbytery of Pictou met in James Church, New Glasgow, on the 17th Feb., and was constituted by the Rev. E. A. McCurdy, Moderator.

A letter was read from the Rev. Isaac Murray, declining the call from Merigomish.

The Rev. Mr. Wyllie, as deputy from the Committee on the Supplemental Fund, addressed the Presbytery on that subject. Whereupon, the Presbytery expressed the pleasure with which they heard him, their deep interest in the scheme, and their willingness cordially to recommend it to the increased liberality of their Congregations.

The Presbytery then took up the subject of Union as remitted by Synod.

The first article in Basis was unanimously agreed to.

The Rev. Mr. Blair proposed an Amendment to the first part of the second Article as follows:—

"That the Westminster Confession of faith and the Longer and Shorter Catechisms, be the subordinate standards of this Church, &c."

For this Amendment 9 voted, and for the Article as agreed upon by Synod 11 voted, so that the Amendment was lost.

The third Article was unanimously agreed to.

In reference to the fourth Article, Mr. Blair made the following motion:—

"That inasmuch as the Basis contains no deliverance on the Headship of Christ and the Spiritual independence of the

Church, this Presbytery regard this omission as a serious objection to Union."

For this motion 6 voted, and 10 voted against it.

The majority of Presbytery considered that the statements in the Confession of Faith are sufficient on the Headship of Christ, and that all negotiating Churches are thoroughly sound on this point—and that so far as the Spiritual independence of the Church is concerned, there is no circumstances existing in this country demanding a special deliverance on that point.

The further discussion of the Union was deferred until the Presbytery meets in May.

Mr. MacDonald gave notice of motion on the Bishop's "Pastoral."

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of Presbytery in Salem Church, Green Hill, on Tuesday, March 24, at 11 a.m., for the visitation of the congregation and for ordinary business,—one of the members of Presbytery will preach—and the meeting after in Primitive Church, New Glasgow, on Tuesday, May 12, at 11 a.m., to consider the Union Question, other remits of Synod, and for ordinary business.

JOHN MACKINNON, Clerk.

Presbytery of Lunenburg and Yarmouth.

This Presbytery met at Shelburne, on the 4th March. The articles of the Union Basis were considered seriatim, when the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"Adopt the Basis, and the subjoined deliverances, with the exception of that on modes of worship, which the Presbytery regard as indefinite and liable to misconstruction." The question will be immediately transmitted to sessions and congregations. The Rev. Ebenezer Ross was nominated as moderator of the Synod. A considerable amount of local business, relating to Home Missions, &c., was transacted. The next meeting will be held in Lunenburg Co.

P. M. MORRISON, Clerk.

NEW GLASGOW.—At the annual congregational meeting of John Knox Church, New Glasgow, held lately, the "Union question" was discussed in a most friendly way, and a perfectly unanimous vote cast in favour of Union on the Basis set down by Synod.—The financial condition of the congregation was found to be in a healthy state, and a \$100 was added to the pastor's salary, to commence with the year. At a prayer meeting on a subsequent evening, Mr. Wm. H. Eastwood, in behalf of the congregation, presented the pastor with a complimentary address and a purse containing \$86, as a token of the people's affectionate regard for him.