

# THE MISSIONARY REGISTER,

## OF THE

### Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

LORD, bless and pity us, shine on us with thy face,  
That th' earth thy way, and nations all may know thy saving grace.—*Ps. lxxvii. 1, 2.*

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### Foreign Missions.

#### THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA SCOTIA.

THE results of another year's labours in connection with the New Hebrides' Mission are now to be submitted to this Synod, so far as they have fallen under the cognisance of your Board; and from these it will be at once apparent, that the interests of the Mission have, during this period, made most cheering progress both at home and abroad. Mr Geddie has continued to support his character, not only as a most zealous and successful Missionary, but as an indefatigable and deeply interesting correspondent. In addition to a carefully prepared journal, and other official correspondence, numerous private letters have been received from him. From these, a very full account of foreign operation has been obtained up to the close of the last year, but all that is novel and instructive has been placed before the Church in the pages of the Register. To recapitulate what must thus be in the hands of all the members of this Court, would seem to be a superfluous task; and yet, without some reference to the leading facts thus presented, your Board feel that they would but very indifferently discharge their duty as guardians of the Mission.

#### FOREIGN OPERATIONS.

**PROGRESS.**—The following summary will give some idea of the progress made during the past year. Twenty native teachers were formerly reported under Mr Geddie's care, now twenty-six are stationed within the bounds of his district. Of these 22 are married persons. Twenty-four young persons residing with the mission family, and several married persons living in the neighbourhood, are studying with a view to become teachers. The teachers sent to Tana and Fotuna now number (January, 1856) nine teachers with their wives, and one young man—three on Fotuna and the remainder on Tana. It was not considered desirable to enlarge the staff of native teachers on the islands until a European missionary be placed on each. However zealous and successful the labours of these pioneers, up to a certain point, may prove, any farther progress has been found impracticable under their agency.

The Church membership at the communion season in December, 1855, amounted to 60; about the same date in 1856—our latest date—it was as nearly as can be ascertained, 100.

The Church was organized in 1852, but remained without any office-bearers, but the missionary, until last year, when five deacons were elected by the Church-members, and solemnly set apart to their important office. While the barbarous custom of the strangulation of widows has