

PREFACE.

There were many in the Atlantic Provinces by whom Dr. John Geddie was regarded as one of the greatest of the latter-day saints. The names of some of the New Hebrides Islands—Aneityum, Erromanga, Efate, Santo—were like music in their ears.

But the generation that knew him is passing, and it is worth while to take advantage of the centenary of his birth to remind us, their children, that among the sons of the Dominion none is more worthy of remembrance. This is rendered more needful since the valuable *Life* by Rev. George Patterson, D.D., to which I am deeply indebted, is out of print.

Dr. Geddie must be reckoned among the great pioneer missionaries of the century. His was as brave a warfare as any happy warrior ever waged. Odysseus destroyed the eye of the cannibal giant on Sicily, but Dr. Geddie destroyed the giant of cannibalism on Aneityum, bringing civilization and peace to a land of degradation and war.

There are lines in the poem which appeared in *Punch* on the occasion of the death of Bishop Selwyn, which may equally apply to the hero of our study, who was also a personal friend of this first Bishop of New Zealand.