

the meeting of Synod. Mr. C.'s health was for many months in a very unsatisfactory state. He found the climate too hot and relaxing, and his medical advisers urged him to seek health in a more bracing atmosphere. His father died about three months ago, after thirty years of faithful service in connexion with the American Missions. We are glad to state that the sea voyage and the change of climate have produced a most beneficial effect on Mr. Constantinides's health, and that there is now a prospect of his speedy and complete recovery.

When Mr. Constantinides left Demirdesh Mr. Apostelos, who has been engaged as a teacher, took charge of the station; and he is now doing what he can to supply Mr. Constantinides's place.

OUR latest news from the NEW HEBRIDES reach us through the *Scottish Reformed Presbyterian Magazine* for May, which contains a letter from Mr. Copeland dated the 28th November, and one from Mr. Paton from Tana, dated 1st November.

Mr. Paton reports very favourably of the prospects at Mr. Matheson's station. Mr. M.'s health is improving, and from 40 to 80 people attend worship on Sabbath. We regret to learn that Mr. Paton's life has been frequently attempted of late. The day before he wrote a Chief surrounded him with his men and kept his spear vibrating within a few inches of his heart; but by reasoning with them Mr. P. induced them to sit down and he got away. Great mischief is caused by European "traders."

We give the greater part of Rev. Mr. Copeland's Letter :—

This is the month of November, and you will be having indications of the approach of winter. With us it is very different; summer is approaching. A few days ago we were shadowless at noon, the heat is increasing rapidly, leaking roofs are being renewed, houses are being secured against hurricanes, and the *John Knox* has made her final trip, and now waits to be hauled up high and dry. Yes, summer, with its sultry, damp atmosphere, its rank vegetation and rapid decay, its deluges of rain and storms of wind is at hand. I have said that the *John Knox* has made her final visit to the islands for this season, and our opportunities of communication for some months are not likely to be numerous. I may therefore just inform you very briefly about matters on Tana and Erromanga, as they were when the *John Knox* left. Mr. Paton will have informed you of an exploratory trip in the *John Knox* made by himself and Mr. Johnston to a place called Black Beach, on the north-west of Tana. The object of their visit was to see the place and judge of its suitableness for a mission station, and to ask the natives to receive Aneiteum teachers. The two brethren were well received, and the people said they would take the teachers. On the last day of October the mission schooner left this island for Tana and Erromanga, carrying these teachers with their goods, also goods and letters for the missionaries on both islands. After a day and a night we reached Port Resolution, where I had the pleasure of seeing all the members of the Tana mission, save Mrs. Matheson. Mr. Matheson looks a great deal better, and is evidently much stronger. The natives at both stations were more saucy and turbulent than they had been for a long time. Their talk and conduct were bad. They had nothing good to say about the gospel, the missionaries, and *John Knox*; and when an opportunity of pilfering presented itself, they were not slow to avail themselves of it. When our mission vessel takes plenty of kava and tobacco the Tana men are glad to see her, but when they receive none of these articles by her, their countenances fall, and their evil tongues are let loose. We did not lie there over a Sabbath day, but I believe that the attendance on public worship was perhaps better at the commencement of the mission than it is just now. The people do not come to assemble at the mission stations, the missionaries, therefore, go to their villages, and take the gospel to the doors of the people. A part of every Sabbath is spent in this kind of work. The same plan was adopted in the early