

New Hebrides.

MINUTES OF THE NEW HEBRIDES MISSION SYNOD.

MISSION HOUSE, AMBRIM,
May 20th, 1887.

1. The New Hebrides Mission Synod met this day and was duly constituted. Present Revs. W. Watt, H. A. Robertson, J. W. McKenzie, J. Annand, J. H. Laurie, R. M. Fraser, and C. Murray. After devotional exercises the Moderator, Mr. Laurie, addressed the Synod, taking as the subject of his remarks, John 20: 21.

2. Mr. Fraser was appointed Moderator for the ensuing year.

3. Messrs. Mackenzie and Annand were appointed to assist the Moderator and Clerk in arranging the order of business.

21st May, 1887.

The first hour of the sederunt was spent in devotional exercises.

4. Messrs. Milne, Macdonald, Michelson, Gray, and Dr. Gunn were absent, but sent reasons for their absence, which were read.

5. Messrs. Morton and Leggatt, duly accredited missionaries from the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, and Mr. Landels, duly accredited missionary from the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales, were present and were cordially welcomed by the Synod. The Moderator called upon Mr. Robertson to engage in prayer, thanking God for this large accession to their numbers, and imploring His blessing upon these brethren and their wives. The Moderator and brethren gave them the right hand of fellowship and welcomed them as fellow-laborers in the New Hebrides.

6. A letter was read from Mr. Macdonald resigning the clerkship of Synod. His resignation was accepted.

7. Mr. Watt was appointed Clerk.

8. As it was necessary for Mr. Murray in his circumstances to be absent from his station, the Synod appointed Messrs. Watt and Mackenzie to look after his interests in the mission field and also the interests of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand.

9. The Synod having entered on the subject of the settlement of Mr. Annand and the three new missionaries, appointed all its members a committee to draw up a

minute on the subject, to be submitted at next sederunt.

23rd May, 1887.

10. The committee appointed, minute 9 gave in their Report. The Report was not sustained.

11. Agreed, that Messrs. Robertson, McKenzie and Fraser be appointed a deputation to assist in the settlement of Messrs. Annand and Landels,—

That as soon as possible after the close of the Synod meetings the *Cairndhu* proceed to Santo and Malo and visit around them under the direction of the missionaries on board,—

That should both or either of the missionaries seeking a settlement fail to find a suitable opening on Santo or Malo, the *Cairndhu* visit such other island or islands as the missionaries on board may direct; and in the event of no suitable opening being found the deputation make such temporary arrangements as they may deem advisable,—

That the deputation having signified to the Captain that the work for which they were appointed is completed, the *Cairndhu* proceed to Sydney, calling at Erakor and Erromanga if necessary.

12. Agreed—That Messrs. Watt and Laurie be appointed a deputation to assist Messrs. Morton and Leggatt,—

That as soon as possible after the close of the Synod meetings the *Dayspring* proceed to Malekula and visit around it under the direction of the missionaries on board,—

That should both or either of the missionaries seeking a settlement fail to find a suitable opening on Malekula, the *Dayspring* visit such other island or islands as the missionaries on board may direct, and in the event of no suitable opening being found the deputation make such temporary arrangements as they may deem necessary,—

That the deputation having signified to the Captain that the work for which they were appointed is completed, the *Dayspring* proceed to Sydney, calling at Sakau, Tongoa, Emae (Salua, Sesake and Vaitini) Matoso (weather permitting), Nguna, Havannah Harbour, Erakor, Dillon's Bay, Port Resolution (weather permitting), Aniwa, Weasisi, Futuna and Anelgauhau, returning again to Aniwa, Port Resolution (if not previously visited), Kwimera, Aname and Anelgauhau if necessary.