

stations, 50; church attendants, 2,644; communicants, 814; schools, 86; scholars, 2,433. In thirty years, 4,500 converts have been won from heathenism. Since its commencement, twenty-three ordained ministers have been connected with the mission. Eight are dead, and four have retired. The eleven now in the field have formed themselves into a Synod which meets annually. Of those now in the field, three are Canadians, supported by the Presbyterian Church in Canada; four come from the Australian churches, one from New Zealand, and three from the Free Church of Scotland. Altogether, twelve ordained missionaries with their wives have gone from Nova Scotia to the New Hebrides. Two of them, Rev. G. N. Gordon and Rev. James D. Gordon, and the wife of the former, suffered martyrdom on the blood-stained island of Erromanga.

"THE MELANESIAN MISSION," which has for its field the Northern New Hebrides, the Banks, and the Solomon groups, is carried on by Episcopalians. It was initiated by the apostolic Dr. Selwyn, the first Bishop of New Zealand, in 1847, and is under the management of an Australian Board. An endowment of £10,000 having been raised for a missionary see, the Rev. John Coleridge Patteson was consecrated Bishop of Melanesia in 1861. After ten years of noble work, and most brotherly co-operation with the missionaries of other societies, this eminent man of God suffered martyrdom at the hands of the infatuated natives of Nukapu. The mantle of Bishop Patteson fell on the Rev. J. R. Selwyn, a son of the pioneer bishop, who is also a man of faith, and who is zealously prosecuting the work, for which he is admitted to be well adapted. A distinctive feature of the Melanesian Mission is the Industrial School on Norfolk Island, which is attended by upwards of one hundred and eighty students, taken from the different islands, and where learning and manual labour are combined in the curriculum of study prescribed for native teachers and ministers. The number of English missionaries is twelve.

THE AMERICAN BOARD of Commissioners for Foreign Missions are also represented in these seas. We find them contending with almost inconceivable difficulties in the Caroline, Marshall, and Gilbert groups, to the north of the New Hebrides, and of the equator. In 1851 they sent Messrs. Snow and Gulick with their wives, to the island of Ponape. Dr. Pierson, and Messrs. Sturges Doane, and Bingham shortly after followed. The arduous work has been prosecuted with unflinching zeal and with varying success ever since. The number of American missionaries and their wives now attached to the mission is eighteen. Besides these are ten Hawaiian missionaries, and eight native pas-

tors, six native preachers and four catechists. These minister to forty churches, with 2,904 members. The increase of members in 1879 was 407. Drunkenness, debauchery and disease have frightfully thinned the population in these groups. In the Ladrone Islands, north of the Caroline, it is said that the aborigines have, from similar causes, *entirely disappeared*!

THE MARQUESAS—six in number—situated about 1,000 miles south of the Sandwich Islands, have been since 1853 the chosen field of the Hawaiian Missionary Society. The race whom they have undertaken to evangelize were among the most ferocious of men—brutal cannibals. But the missionaries, who are all natives of Hawaii, have shewn great energy, perseverance, and tact, and the result is that "the light and love and power of the Gospel is gradually permeating the dead masses of the Marquesas also."

A pleasing feature of these Polynesian Missions is the agreement come to some years ago by the different Societies for a division of the fields of labour. By this means local jealousies and disputes have been almost entirely obviated, and the work has been carried on more economically and satisfactorily than it could otherwise have been done. The five missionary ships that now navigate the South Seas are all employed in the same errand of mercy. Their ownership is easily discovered from the names they bear,—The "John Williams," the "John Wesley," the "Morning Star," the "Southern Cross," and the "Dayspring." The total number of native christians in all the fields which we have reviewed, is supposed to be nearly 400,000, of whom about 70,000 are communicants. It is not claimed that they present the highest type of Christian life, but when we "look to the hole of the pit whence they are digged" surely there is abundant reason for thankfulness to God that not a few of these reclaimed savages can exclaim with good John Newton,—*"I am not what I was; I am not what I would be: I am not what I should be; I am not what I shall be; but by the grace of God, I am what I am."*

C.

WAIT A LITTLE LONGER! The full day will break. Already the shadows flee away. The glow of morning shoots athwart the sky! Therefore, for our own encouragement in prayer and faith, we call out to the heathen world: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Yea, the Spirit and the Bride say, Come! and let him that heareth say, Come. Amen. even so, Come, Lord Jesus!" CHRISTLIES.