

surprised that there should not yet be a positive tender of service on the part of any. But we may now inform our readers there is every prospect of having ere long "a band of men whose hearts the Lord hath touched," ready to devote themselves to God in this holy cause. We are not yet in a position to mention names, nor have the Board any positive offer, except of a Medical Missionary, but they have received such indications of the feelings of several parties, that they are sanguine of being able to send out the number sought by the time the John Williams returns. Indeed the Board are not without a hope of being able to send out one during the present season. As the outfit and passage money of such Missionaries must involve a heavy expenditure, we must call the attention of the Church to the propriety of liberal contributions to the Foreign Mission Fund. We would also remind our readers, that the new Missionaries will require the usual supplies of clothing requisite for opening new stations, and that their going out is the best time for sending supplies of the same articles to those already on the field. We would therefore suggest the propriety of commencing early to prepare.

There is one point referred to in the correspondence both of Mr. Geddie and Mr. Matheson, on which we feel some anxiety, that is the question of employing the power of British men-of-war to punish the atrocities committed on some of these Islands. This is a very perplexing subject. We have the example of the Apostle Paul who availed himself of the protection of the Roman Law, but we do not read that he ever applied to it for the punishment of those who maltreated him, however just such a course might have been. Besides even if it were proper under a settled government like the Romans, with just laws regularly administered, to invoke the strong arm of power to punish those who treated Missionaries in the manner referred to, yet it would still be a question whether we would be justified in applying to ignorant savages a system of law and order of which they know nothing. The Editor of the Sydney Herald referring to the fact that one of the most deeply affected mourners at the grave of Mr. Gordon was the murderer of John Williams, "adds:—HAD the British nation in its fury sent a vessel of war, and swept the island with the engines of destruction, the man would have been deemed by his countrymen a hero, and perhaps have taken his place among their demigods. He has lived to comprehend the object of missionary enterprise—to understand the beneficent spirit by which it is animated—to feel its subduing and softening power, and thus to bear the strong testimony to its efficacy its character, in his sorrow for the missionary dead. The first Christian records tell a similar tale of one who, once held the garments of me: sacrificed the protomartyr; thirty years after he recalled the fact w profoundest humiliation and sadness."

We do not doubt however that some display of force might be so . . . eable, and we have confidence in the prudence of our Missionaries.

We need not dwell upon the intelligence from Tana. Mr. Matheson's letters speak for themselves. We need not say how loudly they call for the prayers of the Church on his behalf,

CHURCH PURITY.

"The Catholic or Universal Church, which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one, under Christ the head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fulness of him, that