

importance from the field. Mr. Goodwill leaves us this year. Mr. Paton returns to the Colonies for 16 months. Mr. Copeland for three months to visit his family. There has been more than the usual amount of sickness among the mission families during the past season, but all are pretty well recovered now. We are sending forth an appeal for more laborers this year. The Synod has been overtured to allow the use of cocoa-nut water at communions to those wishing to adopt it; the matter lies over till next year. Some of us would like to have the opinion of the Board before voting on such a question. Seeing that there is no hope of getting a printer for the work here, the Synod have requested the brethren on Efate to apply to their respective churches to supply them with a press—one press for Efate. There are two of us belonging to your Board, and only one to Victoria, but as there is some prospect of a second being with us from that Church before long, we only ask you for a sum that will cover half the cost. Say about (£30) thirty pounds sterling. It is estimated that a good little press with outfit will cost us £60. If your Board consent to give the half please forward to Dr. Steel to be applied by him to its object.

JOSEPH ANNAND.

Minutes of the New Hebrides Mission Synod, 1874.

ANELGAUHAT, ANEITYUM, }
June 8th, 1874.

1. The New Hebrides Mission Synod met this day at Anelgauhat, Aneityum, the station of the Rev. J. D. Murray; present—Revs. Messrs. Inglis, Paton, Copeland, Neilson, Watt, Milne, Goodwill, Murray, Robertson, Macdonald, and Annand.

2. The retiring Moderator, Mr. Milne, opened the Synod with praise, reading the Scriptures and prayer, and then read an address on the encouragements to Missionary efforts generally, but with a special reference to the New Hebrides.

3. Mr. Goodwill was appointed Moderator the ensuing year.

4. Mr. M'Kenzie of Efate was absent, but the reason assigned for his absence was accepted as satisfactory.

5. The Rev. Dr. Steel, of Sydney, Agent of this Mission, being present, was invited to take a seat as member of the Synod, which he did accordingly.

6. Reports were given in by all those members on whom appointments had been laid at last meeting of Synod; those appointments had all been fulfilled; the reports were received and approved of, and the members thanked for their diligence.

7. It was reported on behalf of Mr. M'Kenzie, that 400 copies of the Book of Genesis in the Efate language, left in manuscript by the Rev. Mr. Cosh, had been printed in Sydney, in English type, under the editorial care of Mr. Cosh, and that the Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Sydney, had paid for the printing and binding of them, and that the books had been taken to Efate in the *Paragon*.

8. It was reported by Mr. Milne, that 300 copies of a small Scripture, in the Nguna language, had been printed in Sydney, at the expense of the Synod of Otago and Southland, and had been *Paragon*.

9. That the thanks of the Synod be tendered to the retiring Moderator, for his opening Address, and that he be requested to furnish a copy of it for publication, in such of the periodicals of the Churches supporting this mission, as may afford room for its insertion.

10. The Rev. Dr. Steel having addressed the Synod, it was unanimously agreed that a vote of thanks be conveyed to him, for his very excellent, suggestive, and encouraging Address. The Moderator then cordially thanked Dr. Steel for his Address, and assured him that his visit had given great pleasure to every member of the mission, and that all his suggestions would be carefully considered.

11. The Clerk read a report, which he had received from the Convener of the Mission Ship Board in Sydney, in which it was stated that the Board had purchased the *Paragon* for £3000, and had expended about £500 extra, in alterations and fittings, to render her suitable for mission purposes. That, in order to save a heavy expenditure, two members of the Board, viz., Messrs. Goodlet and Learmouth, had come generously forward and purchased the *Paragon* for the mission, at their own risk, till funds were obtained to pay for the vessel,—that the Board propose the legal trustees of the vessel to be, the Rev. Dr. Steele, Sydney, the Rev. J. Cosh, A.M., Balmain, and James M'Bain, Esq., M.L.A., Melbourne,—and that the Rev. Mr. Cosh has been appointed agent for the vessel, at a salary of £50 a year. The report was received and approved of as highly satisfactory. The thanks of the Synod were unanimously accorded to the Board, for the important services they had rendered to the mission.

12. That, as in the good providence of God, a new vessel had been obtained for the mission, and one altogether so suitable for the work, and also sent down here free from debt, the Synod would devoutly record their gratitude and thankfulness to God, for his goodness to them in this