

THE

Home and Foreign Record

OF

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES.

JULY, 1872.

NOTICE.

The Reports published in this number of the *Record* are printed as prepared or the Synod by the Boards and Committees of Synod. The action taken by Synod with regard to these Reports will be recorded in our next issue.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS, 1871-72.

Immediately after the close of Synod the Board considered carefully the questions, How many missionaries are we prepared to send forth this year? and who should they be? and soon arrived at a decision to send two, and that these should be Rev. J. D. Murray, lately of Antigonish, and Mr. J. W. McKenzie. Mr. Murray had already in anticipation of going forth, been separated from his charge, and the Pictou Presbytery, at the Board's request, immediately took Mr. McKenzie on trials for Ordination; and these proving satisfactory, he was duly ordained and designated. To Mr. Joseph Annand time was given to complete his Theological studies, and Mr. Thomas Christie was encouraged to prosecute Medical studies, as well as to attend Divinity Classes, in preparation for medical graduation and employment in mission work.

THE OUTGOING MISSIONARIES.

The Board further decided at an early period that Messrs. Murray and McKenzie should not be required to visit the churches, as the demands on their time would be great, should they as the Board wished, place themselves under the direction of some Medical Practitioner and engage in gaining practical acquaintance with the compounding of drugs and the use of the more common medicines. The two brethren accordingly spent the summer or rather

what remained of it in Halifax, and under direction of Dr. Gordon, and in connection with the Dispensary and a drug store, gained as much useful information as the time would admit of.

After careful enquiry, the Board decided in compliance with their own wishes, that they should go by Great Britain, and thence by sailing vessel or steamer, as they might deem most eligible, to Melbourne. It was agreed between this Board and the Board of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces to hold a series of union farewell meetings, during the last two weeks of their stay among us, and these were held in St. John, Moncton, Charlottetown, Pictou, New Glasgow, Truro and Halifax. It was not found convenient for Mr. Robertson to go to St. John or Charlottetown, but the meetings were all carried out, and were well attended. From the meeting in Pictou to the last in Halifax, the three Brethren with their wives were all present; the meetings were effective demonstrations in favor of missions; prayers were solemn and earnest, speeches impressive, and good effects seemed to manifest themselves in various directions. The people seemed united and hearty, and their gifts and greetings to the missionaries and their wives, as well as the mission goods which they sent in, gave our departing friends abundant evidence that the hearts of our people were with them, and that their prayers would follow them.

Having sailed from Halifax on the 24th October they had a good voyage to Liverpool, where they received a cordial welcome from Rev. Dr. Graham, and kindness from the Agents of the Messrs. Allan, who took charge of their boxes of goods during their stay in Britain, so that from the wharf in Halifax till shipped for Australia the boxes of the three missionaries, probably 50 in number passed entirely free of charge.

NEW HEBRIDES MISSION.

The information which the Board has to lay before the Church respecting missionary