

and finally to settle down *for life* on a lonely isle tens of thousands of miles from the centres of civilization—amid a strange race, hearing a strange language, contending life in hand against strange and cruel customs. This is a noble sacrifice on a glorious shrine. We must however stop moralizing, and give a brief account of the FAREWELL MEETING.

Eight long Tables were spread with abundance of the good things of this life, and at about half-past seven o'clock were surrounded by some three hundred ladies and gentlemen. A blessing was asked by the Rev A. McKnight; and in an hour's time the tables were somewhat lightened, Coffee-pots and Tea-pots, Cream-pots and Sugar-bowls, began to feel exhausted, and "ladies and gentlemen" felt strong and comfortable.

After tea, the Chairman—Rev P. G. McGregor—explained the object of the meeting, and gave a very interesting and succinct view of the progress and present condition of the New Hebridean Mission. Almost the whole population of Aneiteum is now at school. The grand-parents, parents, and children are learning the same lessons from the same teachers. 1400 hearers attended Mr Geddie's last communion service; and 100 natives sat at the Lord's Table. Mr McGregor stated that in all probability another young Missionary would be ready to leave Nova Scotia for the New Hebrides by this time next year. He referred to Mr Johnston of Stewiacke, whose services have been accepted by the Board, and who is now acquiring some knowledge of medicine.

The Chairman then called on the Rev Mr BENTLEY to address the meeting, which that gentleman did very appropriately. Most of his remarks bore on the joys and the discouragements of the Missionary life. Any abstract of his address would not do it justice, and we have not space to give the whole.

The Rev Professor Ross was the next speaker. His speech was admirably suited to the occasion, being a mixture of the grave and the humorous. His reference to the departing missionaries were very impressive, and affected many even to tears.

After speaking, special Prayer on behalf of Mr and Mrs Matheson was offered up by Professor Ross.

Mr Matheson then gave a brief and

spirited valedictory address to the audience. He was earnest in pressing home upon all Christians the duty of spreading the good news of salvation by all the means in their power. He showed eloquently how trifling is everything earthly, the gold of Ophir, the diamonds of Golconda, the jewels that glitter in princely crowns, compared with the jewels for the Redeemer's crown which the missionary goes forth to gather.

Appropriate Hymns were sung at intervals during the evening, Mr SAFFERY leading very skilfully on the Melodeon.

On the whole, Wednesday evening was one of the most interesting we have ever spent anywhere. Everyone seemed happy, yet somewhat sorrowful—they in some degree tasted of "the joy of grief."

May the Lord carry them safely to the end of their voyage and guard and bless them forever!

## DEPARTURE.

On Thursday evening, a party of christian friends were invited to meet Mr and Mrs Matheson at Mr C. Robson's, Dartmouth. After some time had been spent in social intercourse, the 125th Psalm was sung, the 71st Psalm was read, after which, Prayer was offered by Rev P. G. McGregor, that the Great Master, in obedience to whose commission the Missionary and his partner were about to leave their home and friends, might guide them safely through all dangers, first to our fatherland, and subsequently to the contemplated scene of their future labors; that they might be cheered and supported by the promises and provisions of divine grace, permitted to tell us of success in winning souls to Jesus, and finally that they who remain at home, and they who were departing, might be faithful in duty, constant in prayer, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

The guns of the *Niagara* were heard about 11 o'clock. At 12 o'clock Mr and Mrs Matheson embarked, being accompanied to the Steamer by christian friends, who bade them an affectionate farewell,—feeling that, amidst the uncertainties of this mortal scene, all would not be permitted to meet again in this world. The Steamer sailed about 1 o'clock.