

the training of missionaries, may be considered as short, the breaches have been repaired. When we see the most of the churches in the mother country complaining of the want of labourers in the Foreign field, we should bless God, that after such a series of trials, we were able to send out almost in as short a space of time as they could be ready, as many devoted men, willing to brave even the perils of martyrdom, as were necessary to supply the place of those who had fallen, and that we should have such increased accommodation for their work as is afforded by the Mission Vessel.

Still the present position of affairs is not satisfactory. We must not rest, while it can be said that the United body has only the same number of labourers that the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia had previous to the union. We must go forward. The church is providing the means and these are indications, that the men will not be wanting. Indeed we presume that there will be none to deny the propriety of extending our missionary operations, and the only points upon which there will be differences of opinion, will be as to the rate of rapidity with which we are to advance, and the direction which our efforts should take. To this latter point we shall now direct attention.

That the church is called upon if not immediately, yet at no distant day to extend the New Hebrides Mission must be evident to all, who have read the successive reports, which have reached us of the fields which are opening in the extensive islands to the North. There may not be an urgent necessity to send out missionaries immediately, till we hear of the safe arrival and the location of the missionaries who have already left our shores. But assuredly onward must be the motto of the church's operation, and we have not the least doubt that the church will be ready to provide men and means for a great enlargement of that mission.

The expected visit of Mr. Geddie will excite such an interest in the South Seas, that we believe that when he returns to his field of labour, he will find men to accom-

pany him, and the past experience of this mission has shown that the church will provide the means for providing missionaries, as rapidly or even more rapidly, than they can be obtained. Or should it happen that it should be otherwise in the future, the Australian churches are ready to provide all the funds requisite for as many missionaries as we can send. The extension of the New Hebrides mission, as the Providence of God opens the way, we regard as a duty upon the church, and if we say less about this, it is because we consider it a point upon which there is general agreement.

But shall we have another mission? This is the question to the consideration of which the church is now called, and which it becomes her to consider with all the care, deliberation, and the earnest prayer for divine guidance, which the importance of the matter deserves. After the union when the Eastern mission was suspended by the resignation of Mr. Constantinides, the Synod resolved not to relinquish the mission, but to prosecute it as soon as the great Head of the church should open the way. The events which occurred shortly after in the South Seas has necessarily concentrated the whole attention and energies of the church upon the work there. But now that the breaches in that mission are repaired, and in addition the missionaries furnished with a missionary vessel and all appliances necessary for carrying on their work, the attention of the church is naturally called to the question of resuming the Free Church mission either in Turkey or in whatever part of the East may be considered most advisable.

Now on general grounds we are prepared to argue in favour of the church having two missions. Undoubtedly greater interest will be excited by two missions than by one, greater liberality will be evoked and more will be done in the great work of the evangelization of the world. Every mission field has its peculiar points of interest. We all know how much the interest of the church in the mission work depends, and intelligence coming from fields of labour so very different as the South Seas and say,