

I regret to see that the Turkish Mission has been suspended. If that Mission is not resumed, I trust that God may open a door elsewhere. I should rejoice to see our Church occupy another portion of the Mission field besides the New Hebrides. This Mission would suffer little by the extension of your operations to some other part of the heathen world. The interest which a new Mission would excite in the Church, would bring out to a great extent the means necessary for its support. I could give reasons why I think two Missions would be better than one, but I must forbear at present. I shall long for the day when we shall have a Mission in Turkey, or India, or China, as well as on these distant isles of the sea.

You must not be unduly discouraged by the dark events that have befallen this Mission. Few Missions have been more favoured by God, and as few have been more severely tried. Our consolation is that "the Lord reigneth," and that he doeth all things well. Our trials were needed or they would not have been sent. I trust that the result of all may be God's glory and the furtherance of his cause. I believe that the cause will not eventually suffer by the sad events which have taken place.

Our latest accounts from the islands on which the teachers reside, are favourable.—We have a great field before us in this group. It would require 50 Missionaries at least to occupy it. The Church should not delay sending Missionaries until we can report good openings for them. It is a positive disadvantage to those who come here not to know something of the anxieties, dangers and trials encountered in opening up new islands. It is not probable that we and our friends in Scotland will be able to occupy these islands within a reasonable time, and therefore we are using our endeavours to interest the Presbyterians of Australia and New Zealand in the New Hebrides Mission. There is reason to hope that something will be done by them. The great want in these Colonies is men, not means.

Our Mission vessel, if we get her, will enable us to carry on our labours with more safety and success than at present. A large amount has been raised in the neighbouring Colonies for her purchase. Mr. Paton is in Australia at present collecting for the vessel.

I beg to thank you for the periodicals you have so kindly sent at different times. They are very acceptable indeed, as we receive but little periodical literature here. The uncertainty of getting papers and magazines discourages us from ordering them. I am glad to say that we have received eleven numbers of the *Home and Foreign Record* for last year. We have mails from Sydney about two or three times in the year.

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Mr. Johnston was a very excellent young man, and I have no doubt but a brief memoir of him, such as you propose, will do good. His death was a serious loss to the Mission. It is men of his stamp that we want for the Mission field.

Mrs. Johnston is making herself very useful in the department of education. She intends to go home by the return of the *John Williams*. Mr. Matheson is very delicate. The death of his wife has been a serious trial to him. He is at Mare at present, where he has gone to spend a few months.

Mrs. Geddie joins in kind regards and christian love to Mrs. Patterson and yourself. Our dear children, Helen and Alexander, are well. May God bless you and yours. Remember our Mission at a throne of grace. We now sow in tears, but we shall reap in joy.

Ever yours, &c.,

J. GEDDIE.

Rev. G. Patterson.

Rev. Mr. PATON writing to the Rev. John Kay, Castle Douglas, under date September 23rd, 1862, says:—

The first week was spent in travelling, arranging for meetings, and forming local committees connected with our new mission ship, and since that I have preached six times, addressed twenty-six public meetings—thirty-two services in whole; and to be able to do this I had to travel about 30 miles on foot, and 340 on mail coaches, &c., but as the roads are very good here, travelling is easy. Our meetings have all been well attended; at five different meetings, we had about 2000 persons present; the prayers of many of God's children are drawn forth, several Dorcas Societies have been formed, and a deep interest has been manifested in our work and mission. I have only had one £10 donation for the ship, but the collections made at our meetings have realised the handsome sum of £220; and as I know of about £50 having been got by collecting cards, I hope the children will raise at least one hundred pounds more.

I have been kindly received by all the churches visited, and feel thankful to many Christian friends for their sympathy and liberality, which, considering the depressed state of the colony, has been very great to our cause; and, if the vessel visits them, they promise to give us many mission boxes, and other supplies for our mission. You will perhaps see by the papers sent, that I offended the Hobart Town whalers, and the police had to be instructed to prevent me from receiving personal abuse from them, and a few of the leading pious gentlemen of the place had to come and accompany me