

Johnston gave a full account of monies received toward this expenditure by the congregations visited: the denations of private friendship were strictly and honourably respected. Valedictory meetings were held at New Glasgow, Upper Stewiacke, and Halifax. If we may judge of these meetings by the extent and interest of the audience, and by the pecuniary returns, we must pronounce them most successful. But it is not merely from the large and attentive audiences thus congregated, and the profound interest and high gratification which these evince, neither from their pecuniary returns, that we can fully estimate their value, for these, however desirable, soon pass away.—The heartfelt attachment to the missionary and his work which is thus begotten and perpetuated, far transcends any immediate results, and causes our mission to strike its roots deeper and wilder not only in our own Church, but throughout the entire Christian community of our Province.

No intelligence has come to hand from Mr. Johnston, since he left for Australia, via Boston, U. S. His last letter is under date November 29, when he had all the mission goods shipped, and expected to sail on the following day. By a letter under date December 1st, from Mrs. Johnston, we learn that they were about to embark on their long voyage in excellent health and spirits. Their detention in the United States was unexpected and untoward, but there is no reason to apprehend that the vessel in which they took passage would fail to reach Melbourne in sufficient time to take advantage of a suitable conveyance to Anciteum during the month of March. In Mr. Geddie's latest communication he mentions that the vessel which conveyed his letter was expected to return, and that Mr. Johnston would be able if in Sydney in March, to get a passage in her. Meanwhile we must not anticipate news of his arrival in Australia before another month, or it may be two months.

We must now turn our attention to Foreign operations, and there we discover almost the only dark spot resting upon the Mission, in the protracted sickness of Mr. Matheson.—In his letter of the 11th April, 1859, he remarks: "I was attacked with a severe illness on March 17th, from which I have not recovered, but hope ere long, by the blessing of God, to enjoy wonted health and strength."

Messrs. Geddie and Inglis were induced to launch the "John Knox" and visit Tana a month earlier than usual, by the tidings of Mrs. Paton's and Mr. Matheson's illness. A meeting of the Missionaries was held, at which it was resolved, That while they recognise with thankfulness the progress of the mission at Mr. Matheson's station, and see the great need of Mr. and Mrs. Matheson's presence, to carry forward the work, yet they are fully of opinion that the state of Mr. Matheson's health for the last month renders a visit to Anciteum immediately and indispensibly necessary. Reluctantly, Mr. Matheson yielded to this decision, and accompanied the Anciteumese brethren on their homeward voyage. He remained on Anciteum from the first of May to the 11th Decr. During this period Mr. and Mrs. Matheson have chiefly resided at Umeteh, a pleasant and healthful station in Mr. Geddie's district. There, opportunities for usefulness are enjoyed fully equal to their abilities. Mr. M.'s health had improved. A number of women attend Mrs. M., (as we learn from one of her unpublished letters), every forenoon, to learn to make garments; and both she and her husband attend an afternoon school, consisting of about 60, men, women and children. By our last packet from Anciteum we have an enclosure of minute of a meeting of missionaries, held there August 30th, 1859. This minute we give entire:

*Anciteum, New Hebrides, August 30th, 1859.*

At a meeting of the New Hebrides Mission held here this day; Present, Rev. Messrs. Geddie, Inglis, Matheson and Copeland, Mr. Geddie in the Chair. An application was made by Mr. Matheson that he might return to his station in Tana, but after mature deliberation, and after consulting with the Surgeon of H. M. S. "Cordelia," lying at present in the harbour, it was resolved, That Mr. Matheson's application cannot be granted, as to do so in the present state of his health would be unkind to himself, cruel to Mrs. Matheson, and injurious to the mission.

JOHN GEDDIE, Chairman.

From Mr. Matheson's report of labor on Tana published in the March No. of the Register, we cannot fail to note the hopeful fruits of his zeal and faithfulness and success as a Missionary. After the erection of necessary buildings which required a large amount of manual labor he applied himself to the acquisition of the language. Within three months of his settlement, he had opened two Schools, one under his personal su-