

know the present the natives gave them before their departure. It was as follows: 21 mats, 10 native women's dresses, 21 gallons cocoa nut oil, 1 parcel arrowroot, 52 fowls, 7 large pigs, and about 2 tons of taro. This was a valuable gift from so poor a people.

I must now conclude as my time is short and my sheet full. I trust that we all have a place in your thoughts and prayers. May God bless our united efforts for his cause in these dark and distant isles of the sea.

I remain,
Ever yours, &c.,
JOHN GEDDIE.

Rev. James Bayne.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE AT ANEITEUM.

The following is an account of the proceedings of the Missionary Conference referred to in Mr Geddie's third Letter:—

ANEITEUM, July 17th 1860.

Met this day the members of the New Hebrides Mission. Present Messrs Geddie, Gordon, Matheson, Copeland, Johnston and Paton—and Mrs. Geddie, Mrs. Matheson and Mrs. Johnston.

Mr. Geddie was appointed to the chair, and opened the meeting with praise, reading of the scriptures and prayer.

Mr Johnston read his instructions from the Board of Foreign Missions in Nova Scotia, after which it was unanimously resolved—

1. That this meeting record their deep sense of gratitude to our gracious God for the prosperous voyage, and safe arrival of Mr and Mrs. Johnston, and cordially welcome them as fellow labourers in the Lord's work on these Islands.

2. That having heard a statement of the claims of the several Islands, and ascertained the minds of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston—they should be located on Tana, after having made some necessary arrangements on Aneiteum, and that the members of this mission render them all the assistance in their power.

3. That as Mr Gordon is alone on Erromanga, this meeting deeply sympathize with him, and as Aneiteum and Tana have received missionaries from both our churches, a missionary from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland be placed with him as soon as possible.

That Mr. Geddie be appointed to write a letter to the Board of Foreign Missions of his church in Nova Scotia, and that Mr Copeland be appointed to write a letter to the Foreign Mission Committee of his church in Scotland, regarding a United Presbytery or Presbyteries being formed in this mission, and respectfully request information as to what ought to be done in this matter.

5. That in conducting mission work on these islands native agency cannot be dispensed with, and that the natives of each island, are the best and most persevering agents for that island: but till such can be prepared, Pioneers to go among the heathen and aid the missionary in commencing his work, must be got from christian islands.

6. That Messrs Johnston and Paton be appointed a committee to provide for the supplies of teachers on islands of this group where no missionary is located.

7. That the visits of the *John Knox* have been of great advantage to the mission, and as they are more beneficial when made by a missionary than a layman, a missionary accompany her in future, and keep an account of her voyages, so as to gratify and secure the continued interest of her friends and supporters. And that this meeting feel grateful to the Brethren on Aneiteum for the continued interest in our mission vessel, and appoint Messrs Geddie, Copeland, and Johnston a committee to superintend her sailing until our next annual meeting.

8. That our next annual meeting be held D. V. at Erromanga, in July 1861.

9. That this meeting cannot close without expressing their gratitude to God for the harmony and brotherly love that have characterized the proceedings, for they return to their respective spheres of labour, anew endeared to each other, and refreshed for the Lord's work.

JOHN GEDDIE, *Chairman.*
JOHN G. PATON, *Clerk.*