

THE Home and Foreign Record

OF

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES.

JULY, 1874.

THE REPORTS in this issue of the RECORD are printed, as they are to be laid before Synod.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS FOR 1873-4.

The Board of Foreign Missions in again meeting the Synod would with thanks to God for His guidance and blessing, present a review of their proceedings and of the work of our Missionaries during the year past. This will be done as concisely and in as condensed a form as is consistent with the object to be attained, the giving of an outline of the whole work to the Synod and to the Church.

Probably the most important work of the year was the selection and ordination of another Missionary designated to our West Indian Mission field, and this circumstance will determine our course in first bringing to view the facts and proceedings to be laid before Synod respecting

THE TRINIDAD OR COOLIE MISSION.

The following resolution was passed by Synod on the 2nd day of last July. "It was further agreed to adopt the recommendation of the Board for the appointment of a third Missionary to Trinidad, should the expectation of the Missionaries respecting local support from Christian proprietors be realized." The facts leading to the adoption of the resolution may be briefly stated. Our devoted Missionaries, laboring with much encouragement among the Coolies in and around San Fernando, penetrated the island for many miles in different directions, visiting estates and hospitals, and found their opportunities increasing and their work expanding. Nothing prevented them from crying to us to send them another Missionary, but their own

knowledge of the limited resources of this Church, and of the difficulty of extending both of the Missions under her charge. They were greatly encouraged, however, by the Christian liberality of several owners of estates in the Couva district of Trinidad, who evinced a disposition not only to encourage Christian effort among their Coolies, but such an appreciation of the value of the Gospel in its bearing on the welfare of their people, as to offer to meet in large measure the expenditure which would be necessary to their securing a resident Missionary. In these circumstances, while anticipating the formal offer, the Board acquainted the Synod with the situation, and the resolution read was unanimously adopted.

Letters were soon received from Messrs. Morton and Grant containing the welcome and gratifying information that the proprietors of estates in Couva, Messrs. Burnley, Turnbull, Casaming and Speers had agreed "to bear each his proportion of the salary of a Missionary from this Church, to labour among the Coolies on their estates."

Immediate notice was given to Mr. Thomas Christie, Theological Student of the third year, who had previously offered his services and had been provisionally accepted. No time was lost in maturing arrangements for his formal reception. He was promptly taken on trials by the Presbytery of Lunenburg and Yarmouth, and licensed; and on the 19th Sept. he was unanimously and formally accepted by the Board as our third Missionary to Trinidad. The time intervening between this date, and the time fixed for his departure, in the beginning of November, was occupied in visiting and holding Missionary meetings in Charlottetown, Pictou, New Glasgow, Glenelg, East River, St. Mary's, Upper and Lower Coledonia, Sherbrook, Goldenville, Musquodoboit, Shu' enacadie, Truro, Halifax, Windsor, Kentville, St. John, Cornwallis, Barrington, Clyde,