

Much good of a negative character has also been accomplished, though this is often overlooked in estimating the result of missionary labour. Vice has undoubtedly been largely checked by the faithful teachings of the missionaries. During the days of slavery, vice was all but universally practised, and the marriage rite was scarcely recognized. Now, though vice prevails, it does not to anything like the extent that it did formerly.

"But while I say that great and extensive good has been done, the painful fact cannot be concealed, that there are still thousands living in hardened indifference, after years of devoted effort have been expended on them. Every year also witnesses the painful fact, that while missionaries, (I mean, Presbyterian missionaries,) use the utmost care in the admission of members, and only grant admission after long catechising, and many faithful admonitions, both in the candidate class and in private, some who become members, with every appearance of sincerity, and who act consistently for a year or two, at length relapse into indifference, and have their name taken from the roll.

"The great difficulty with which the Church here will have to contend, is the training of the native ministry. The Montego Bay Academy was established with the view of raising an adequate supply of ministers for the island. Of the 40 teachers employed in the week day schools, nearly all were educated in Montego Bay. A few have gone through a course of Theological study, and are now pastors of churches, but there are difficulties in the way of their success. In nearly all the churches there are black, brown and white people. The blacks do not like a brown minister, and the browns do not like a black, while the whites do not care for either. All, however, unite under a white minister, if he has a popular address, and his manners are acceptable, so that for many years to come, if the mission is to be carried on with harmony and vigour, a supply of white ministers will be needed. Some of the black ministers among the Baptists, Methodists, and Moravians, have turned out very badly. The Independents in Jamaica have given up the project of educating a black ministry altogether.

"I am happy to say that Mrs. D., the two children, and myself, are well. I have not yet had a day's sickness since I came to Jamaica. A tropical climate proves injurious to some constitutions after a few years, but others stand it well, and continue to enjoy excellent health. The Rev. Mr. Aird, of Bellevue, one of my nearest neighbours, has been over thirty years in Jamaica, but he is as ruddy-cheeked and healthy looking as any man one can fancy of his age."

Our Foreign Missions.

NEW HEBRIDES MISSION.

Meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions.

The Board met at New Glasgow, on the 1st ult. Letters were read from Rev. Dr. Geddie, Rev. Mr. Gordon and Rev. Mr. McNair. As the greater portion of these letters are published in our present number, it is unnecessary to give any synopsis of their contents. We may notice, however, that Mr. McNair's letter covered one from R. G. Finlay, Treasurer of Reformed Presbyterian Mission Board, informing him of the appointment of another missionary to the New Hebrides from Scotland.

The Board expressed gratification at this intelligence; and in view of all the information received from the letters read, as well as from those lately published from Rev. Mr. Morrison, agreed to the following resolution:—

"In view of all the information laid before the Board, by the letters from the missionaries, and the minutes of the mission council, the Board desire to express their untainted gratification at hearing from our missionaries, and learning that they were generally able to prosecute their work; their deep sympathy with them on the manifold trials and perils by which some of them are now exposed; and their determination to commend them constantly in prayer to the care and keeping of the Great Shepherd of Israel, who is able to preserve them from the plots of unreasonable and wicked men, and to make them instrumental in largely promoting his declarative glory."

The object of publishing this resolution is to widen and enlarge the circle of pleaders with God, that our missionaries on Erromanga, and Mr. Neilson on Tanna (should he have gone there) should not only be preserved, but be blessed in turning men on these islands from the service of Satan to the service and enjoyment of the living God.

P. G. MCGREGOR, Sec'y.

Halifax, Jan. 28th, 1868.