

Monday, the 16th Dec., in the Eastern Cemetery, amid a company of deeply loving and mourning friends. Last night (22nd Dec.) I preached a sermon on the occasion of his death, and gave an account of the great work which God had honoured him to do, in planting the Cross among the dark islands of the New Hebrides—a work which he used to describe in one short sentence. 'When I went to Aneiteim (I have heard him say), there was not a Christian there; when I left, there was not a heathen there.'

REV. ROBERT MOFFAT, D. D.

Fifty-six years ago nine young men were set apart in England to the work of Foreign Missions five of whom went to Africa, and four to the South Seas. Among the former was one whose accounts of his labors among the natives and adventures among the wild beasts, as well as the savages, have been read the world over, the Rev. Robert Moffat. He is still living, enjoying a green old age in his native land, and on the 19th ult. there was a gathering in London to present to him a testimonial for his more than half a century's labor in the cause of missions. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Church Missionary Society as well as of the London Missionary Society, under which Dr. Moffat went out, and by many eminent gentlemen. Mr. S. Morley, M. P., was chairman, and Hon. A. Kinnaid, M. P., was among the speakers. Rev. Dr. Binney made an address to Dr. Moffat, presenting him with a testimonial amounting to more than \$25,000, which had been raised without public solicitation.

Dr. Moffat in responding to the several addresses said that when he first went to Africa missionaries were treated somewhat differently from what they are now. The equipment was as small as one could possibly conceive. There was no bedstead, but simply a mattress; no table, but only a camp stool; and the tool chest with which they were supplied was a broad hint that they must help themselves. £10 was given to each missionary to buy books for a library, £5 to buy shoes and little knick-knackeries. There was, however, no murmuring among them. On arriving at Cape Town they were told what their salaries and allowances were to be, and he would mention them as a curiosity. The salary of a missionary, who was a single man, was £18 7s. per annum, while a missionary who had a wife received for her £5 5s. extra. For the building of a house the allowance was £6 3s., and for the purchase of cattle and sheep, on which one

had to depend, £18; while they all started with one year's salary in advance. These scanty allowances originated, not with the directors of the London Missionary Society at home; but with Dr. Vanderkemp and two or three Dutch directors at the Cape; the doctor himself being a man who did not mind going about without a hat and shoes. If he were asked how the missionaries at that time managed to make the two ends meet, he must say for himself that at a distance of two or three hundred miles up the interior, he "knew how to suffer want" and "rarely abounded," but he never breathed a murmur, and never felt one. With the sympathy of many natives who though poor showed him great kindness, and with occasional help from his guns, he was enabled to pursue his lonely missionary work with perfect satisfaction among a people whose chief was a terror to the bordering colonists. During the last thirty years he had travelled thousands of miles among savage beasts, and still more savage men, and sometimes had been delivered from danger by the skin of his teeth; and though, on looking back upon a life of missionary labor, he felt that he ought to have done more work, and to have done his work better, his heart overflowed with gratitude to God for the blessings which He had poured on missionary work in that part of Africa with which he had been connected. He never doubted the success of the Gospel even among the most degraded. Instead of the three or four missionaries who were scattered about the country when he landed on the shores of Africa, there were now scores of zealous and talented men, who were labouring successfully, and whose motto was "Onward" and through the indomitable perseverance of Livingstone, far more of the interior would, he hoped, be opened for missionary labor, so that missionaries from the south, east, and west might one day meet in the centre of Africa to sing a common song of triumph and conquest. In concluding, Dr. Moffat made a touching allusion to the loss of his wife, who, he said, was for more than half a century his joy and his stay during the prosecution of his missionary labors.

Dr. Livingstone, the great explorer, it will be remembered, married a daughter of Dr. Moffat, who also died several years since.

The contributions of the Free Church for Missions abroad in 1871-2 amounted to £32,000. The United Presbyterian contributions for the same amounted to £29,000. The actual receipts in both cases were much larger, but these extras were for special services.