

for it in some other way than through the present fund,—any special contribution for this purpose, will be received and appropriated with strict regard to the wishes of the Donor. From a letter of Mr Geddie to his relations, we have made large extracts of a very gratifying nature. It is however, matter of deep regret, that the Board are still without any official notice of Mr Archibald's departure from the mission field, either under his own hand or that of Mr Geddie. This will very much lessen the probability of finding a success: That Mr Archibald has abandoned the mission we are well assured, but of the circumstances leading to this disastrous issue, we are painfully uncertain.—We strongly suspect, that a great amount

of injury has resulted from the extreme irregularity of all *outward* conveyance. Neither the Board nor the personal friends of the missionaries are fairly chargeable with neglect of correspondence. The faith and patience of the Mission family have nevertheless been most severely tried, since even the Boxes of clothing sent for the last two years have never reached them, at the same time we are not without good hope that the *John Williams* may, by this time, have supplied the missing goods and correspondence, and that the official despatches which were expected to leave Aneiteum last September, may soon place the Board in a position to furnish all necessary information regarding the mission.

Foreign Missions.

LETTER FROM MR. GEDDIE TO HIS DAUGHTER.

*Aneiteum, New Hebrides,
March 14th 1851.*

My dear Charlotte Ann,

A vessel has just called here on her way to China and I write this letter to send by her. My last letter to you was written in December and I hope that you have received it long before this reaches you. We have only received one letter from you since you arrived in Britain, it was written a few days after you landed. We long to hear from you again, to know how you are situated and of your progress at school. In the course of two months more we will look for the arrival of the *John Williams* and then we will expect a long letter from you. God has been very good to us since I last wrote you. Your Mamma and I and your dear little sisters have enjoyed very good health; you know that January, February and March are unhealthy months here but we have not had any sickness. All the native teachers have been ill with fever and ague, and one of them died, but the rest are well again. The poor man who died lived at this station with me,—he died about a week ago. His illness did not continue long. We think that he died of cramp in the stomach,—we feel his loss very much, it has been a severe trial to us. He was a good man and we felt much attached to him. He said the day before he died, that he wished

to leave this world and go to heaven. I hope you think of death, my dear child.—Do not delay preparation for it until you come to a dying bed. Flee to Jesus without delay. O what a sweet passage is that “I love them that love me and they that seek me early shall find me.”

We have had many trials in our work during the last six months. The heathen party are very much opposed to christianity, and those who have joined us are very much persecuted. Several of them have had their plantations destroyed and their property stolen, and all manner of evil spoken against them. I sympathise deeply with the poor natives, but it is good to suffer for Jesus sake. If God makes up their losses with spiritual blessings, they will be gainers indeed. Some of the heathen party have lately been very much enraged against me and the teachers. Some of the wicked foreigners have told them that the religion that I teach them is a lie, that I am the cause of death among them, and that all who embrace christianity will die, &c., and they have even been advised to come and destroy my property. But we have many friends even among the heathen party, and I think there are not many who would injure us. I have spoken to the chief about it and he has forbidden the people to molest us in any way. But all hearts are in the hand of God and he can control and restrain the worst of men. The cause of Christ has always been opposed, but it has always triumphed at last.