

# Missionary Register.

OF THE

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Vol 3.]

MAY 1852.

[ No. 5.

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#### Late Correspondence from Aneiteum.

It is due to our Readers as well as to ourselves, to state that the various passages in Mr Geddie's Letter, as published last month, were carefully considered by the Board of Foreign Missions at a special meeting called for that purpose.—Some of the references to Mr Archibald were felt to be liable to such a construction as would prove painful to the feelings of his friends. The Board however, concluded after mature deliberation, that they could not assume the responsibility of withholding from the Church such expressions as were necessary to vindicate themselves and their Missionary from the grave suspicions that were afloat as to the reasons of Mr Archibald's retirement. The painful suspense which had so long oppressed every one at all interested in the prosperity of our Mission, called loudly for immediate removal, and what better course could be adopted than to lay the facts before the Church, which Mr Geddie had advisedly laid before the Board and with no restrictions as to the use to be made of them. Whether the language employed might not have been more cautious, or free from such insinuations as might prove needlessly offensive, is a question which the good sense and taste of each reader is permitted to determine.—

We do not admit however that there is any expression in Mr Geddie's communication inconsistent with the reasons which Mr Archibald has, under his own hand, assigned as the ground of his resignation, "That without due consideration of the spirituality and solemnity of the Missionaries work, he entered into it, as one *unwilling*—that considering his unworthiness and unfitness he could not comfortably continue in the Missionary work which requires the experience and piety of the matured Christian." And again in his last communication, that he "felt unqualified for such a situation, (that of an ordained Missionary) even were it proffered, and would shrink from the responsibilities which such a step would incur." Mr Archibald promises, under date October 1th 1850, to write more fully at a future day, but most unfortunately, no such communication has come to hand.

It ought to be borne in mind that Mr Geddie may be altogether ignorant of the statement which Mr Archibald has sent home, and letters may have miscarried.—We still regard more explicit information as a great desideratum, but with what we do possess, it requires no great stretch of Christian Charity to reconcile every statement written by Mr Geddie, whether intended for public or private use, with