

granted were generally the same as hitherto. The remaining four may be termed new cases, although two of the four charges had been on the Home Mission list before. The case of West Cornwallis was brought before Synod in last Annual Report. £30 has been promised for the first year, though only half of the sum has yet been paid.—The case of Sheet Harbour was brought before last Synod by the Rev. R. Sedgewick, on behalf of the Presbytery, and remitted to the Board with instruction that it be dealt with as liberally as the state of funds may admit of. The Board, acting on this instruction, thought they would be justified in promising £25 per annum for a few years. The Presbytery requested that the sum should be raised to £30; and the Board have for special reasons consented to this for the first year, without however committing themselves to continue it longer. The other two new cases are those of West Bay and Boularderie. They were brought under the notice of the Board during the sittings of last Synod by the Moderator; and a suggestion made by him, that the proceeds of Home Mission collections due but not yet made in some congregations in Cape Breton Presbytery, be divided between the two, was adopted and acted on—with the gratifying result of yielding £20 for each.

II. Employment of Probationers and Catechists.—During the year five of our Probationers have been settled in charges, and two have left the bounds of the Synod. On the other hand, four new licentiates have been added to our roll. We have now at our disposal eight Probationers. There are also two divinity students employed as catechists for the summer, and eight Gaelic speaking catechists in Cape Breton.

The following is an Abstract of our Expenditure from 31st May, 1862, to 31st May, 1863:—

Supplements to weak charges,	£258	6	4.
Supply of Mission Stations,	171	13	7.
Eight Cape Breton Catechists	48	0	0.
Miscellaneous expenses, (in- cluding £7 10s. to Mrs. Miller, Mabou.)		9	12 9.

£487 12 8.

The Rules for Probationers adopted by

last Synod and ordered to be published, have been printed in a separate form as well as published in the *Record*. They will thus be available for the use of Probationers and Presbytery Clerks as they may be required from time to time. It was thought advisable to append the scale of remuneration previously approved by Synod.

By order of the Board,

A. McKNIGHT, Secy.

Our Foreign Missions.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS, 1862-63.

In their last report, your Board had occasion to characterize the year preceding, as the most eventful and perilous which the New Hebrides Mission had experienced. Divine judgments had descended in swift succession, on human life and property, until on Erromanga and Tanna, the entire Mission lay prostrate, while on Aneityum, both Missionaries and natives were called to endure greater trials than any which had occurred since the period of its first evangelization. It is with deep humiliation and lively concern that the Board have now to record: "For all this, the anger of the Lord is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still." Another Missionary has fallen, not indeed under the cruel hand of the savage, nor yet in the full bloom of health and activity, but still under such circumstances as do most impressively teach us the lesson of mortality. Suddenly and as by a stroke, were Messrs Gordon and Johnston cut down, when length of days and a prosperous career appeared to be before them, but there was allotted for Matheson a protracted season of debilitating disease, aggravated no doubt by Missionary toils and perils, to prepare himself, and the Church for the solemn event. In recording the martyrdom of Mr. Gordon, that of his amiable, faithful and zealous wife received due notice and excited much sympathy. "Lovely and pleasant in their lives, in death they were not divided." Similar testimony may now be given with respect