

and deep devotedness to the cause of God, must have been seen by all who became acquainted with him, and is sufficiently evinced by his labours on the mission field. That he was a man of extraordinary perseverance and indefatigable energy, is doubted by none who know anything of his history. That he had in a high degree those qualifications, which, if bodily strength had been granted him, would, under God, have rendered him a most successful missionary, is the opinion of every missionary in the South Seas who knew him. This want of health from the time of his arrival in the New Hebrides, however, neutralized his zeal and rendered his efforts apparently fruitless. In fact his whole missionary career was one continued struggle with disease, and his periods of greatest strength after his arrival, were only the deceitful rallies, marking the progress of the slow but sure destroyer. After the expenditure of so much labour and means on his part in preparing for the work, and after so heavy expenditure on the part of the church in sending him forth, and maintaining him, the results may not equal our expectations, yet we have reason to bless God that under the circumstances he was able to accomplish so much, and that we can see evidence that his labour has not been in vain in the Lord. And though we had seen no fruit whatever, yet this would be no reason whatever for discouragement. It is one of the most common appointments of God in his church that one shall sow and another reap, and we doubt not that the good seed sown by Mr. M. shall not be fruitless—that if he laboured other men shall enter into his labours. “And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal; that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.” God may see fit to try our faith by delay. “Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, till he receive the early and the latter rain.” Let us be patient therefore, let us have faith in God, and pray the Lord of the Harvest to send forth other labourers into his harvest, and give them to reap an abundant harvest of souls. We feel assured that the offerings of our church to the God of mis-

sions on the New Hebrides field shall not be in vain. All the tears by which this mission has been watered, the Lord hath put into his bottle—every sigh breathed for its desolation is written in his book—every prayer of faith has come up to the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth; and God is not unrighteous to forget the work of faith and labours of love of our devoted missionaries. The contributions of the church are to him “an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice, acceptable, well pleasing unto God.” But far outweighing all our pecuniary sacrifices must be reckoned those dear departed, Mr. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Matheson, whose lives have been freely offered to the service of the God of missions on these islands. “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints,” and shall five such lives be as nothing in his sight, or be without fruit. Oh no, “precious shall their blood be in his sight,” and crying for mercy to the perishing heathen, will yet be answered in salvation to them, and blessings to the church.

MORE MISSIONARIES WANTED.

There is now little or no reason to hope that more than two Missionaries will leave our shores in the vessel which is expected soon to sail for the South Seas. There is urgent need for twice as many more in the New Hebrides; and the church is both able and willing to support this number. Our treasury has never been empty, however heavily drawn upon. Our people have never turned a deaf ear to our pleadings on behalf of the perishing heathen. Sister churches have acted most liberally towards us, giving us not only their kind, christian sympathies, ever precious and welcome in our days of sorrow, but also substantial aid in the shape of funds.

Three young men, brought up and trained among ourselves, have already fallen in the high places of the field—fallen in the noblest of causes, and not without winning the fadeless palm of real victory. Is any one of us ashamed of JOHNSTON, or GORDON, or MATHESON to-day? Do we not bless God that he has honoured our church to send