

of frenzy. Fortuna and Aniwa stand with their open arms, inviting each a missionary. Surely, with such prospects from six of the thirty islands of the group, the voice echoing and re-echoing—"Come over and help us," should find abundant answer from every one of our expectant churches, as they exclaim, in the name of the one Jehovah: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" and while our three brethren are even now, it may be, entering each on his field of labour, others at home should be found swelling the response—"Here am I, send me."

By order of the Board.

JAMES BAYNE,  
Secretary.

P. S.—On view of the above report, the Synod invited Mr. Edward McCurdy to address them on the subject of Jewish Missions, and elicited further information by questions; whereupon ensued a prolonged discussion of the most interesting nature, and the following resolution was adopted:

"That the Board continue to keep the subject of a Jewish Mission before the Church for another year, and that the views of Presbyteries and Sessions be in the meantime sought, and the further consideration of the subject by Synod deferred till next meeting."

With reference to the period of Mr Geddie's stay in Nova Scotia, and its employment, it was agreed, that his time shall be at his own disposal, and that all other arrangements be mutually agreed upon between Mr. Geddie and this Board.

(From *Christian Work* for August.)

### THE NEW HEBRIDES MISSION.

BY THE REV. JOHN INGLIS, ANCEITYUM.

The New Hebrides were first discovered by Quiros in 1606. Quiros had been major pilot to Mendana, in his voyages of discovery. He supposed the New Hebrides to be part of the great southern continent—the object that filled the imaginations of all the early adventurers,—and called it *Tierra del Espiritu Santo*. In the large Bay of St. Jago, in the north end of the largest

island, he founded a town, which he called *La Nueva Jerusalem*—The New Jerusalem—but which was subsequently abandoned. Nothing more was known of this group for more than a century and a half. In 1768, Bougainville ascertained that the land discovered by Quiros, was not a continent, but a group of islands. He sailed through the passage that bears his name, between Mallicolo and *Espiritu Santo*, landed upon the Isle of Lepers, and called the group by the name of the Great Cyclades. In 1773, Captain Cook explored the entire group, and called them the New Hebrides, supposing them to be the most western islands in the Pacific. The New Hebrides group extends to about 400 miles in length, lying N.N.W. and S.S.E. between 21 degrees and 15 degrees S. latitude, and 171 degrees and 166 degrees E. longitude. They lie nearly due north of New Zealand. There are from twenty to thirty islands in the group, ten of which are of considerable extent.

After Cook's exploration, this group attracted no notice for more than sixty years. It is only within the last quarter of a century or so that missions, and the sandal-wood trade have brought them somewhat prominently before the public.—Erromanga, one of the islands of this group, has obtained a world-wide notoriety from the lives of four missionaries being sacrificed in the attempt to introduce the Gospel among its benighted and degraded inhabitants. In 1839, the first effort was made to introduce the Gospel into the New Hebrides by John Williams. He left Samoan teachers on Tanna; but on the following day he and his young friend Harris fell martyrs at Dillon's Bay, Erromanga. In 1861, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon fell victims, near the same place, to the blind fury of the superstitious natives.

The next attempt to establish a mission on Tanna was made by the Rev. Messrs. Turner and Nisbett, in 1842. They labored, with much encouragement, for about seven months; but an epidemic breaking out, war followed, and they were obliged to escape for their lives. Several of the islands continued to be occupied by teachers, but it was not till 1848 that any part of the group was again occupied by missionaries. That year, Mr. Geddie, from the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, and Mr. Powell, of the London Missionary Society, from Samoa, settled on Anceityum. At the end of the first year, Mr. Powell returned to his former field of labor in Samoa. For the next three years, Mr. and Mrs. Geddie labored alone. In 1852, I arrived from New Zealand, where I had been laboring for nearly eight years, partly among the natives, and partly among the Scotch settlers. Our arrival was at a most