

Through the kindness of Sir George Grey, governor of New Zealand and Capt. Erskine he was favoured with a passage. I gave Mr. Inglis all the information that I could about the island. It is yet doubtful if he will come to settle on these islands himself, as the health of Mrs. Inglis has been in a precarious state for some time past, and he has feared that it would suffer by a removal to a tropical climate.— Should a gracious providence remove or lessen this difficulty, we will expect Mr. Inglis here in April next at the close of our unhealthy season. He will remain with me until the arrival of the "John Williams" most probably in June. We shall then know what aid to expect for these islands from Nova Scotia or elsewhere and we shall also have the benefit of the counsel of one or two of the Samoan Missionaries, as to his future location.— The Rev. Mr. Duncan his associate will remain in New Zealand.

EXPLORING THE ISLANDS.

The visit of the "Havannah" was an agreeable relief to our solitude. We were glad to have it in our power, to converse with persons of our own colour, kindred and tongue. The class of individuals whom we usually meet on these islands are men to whom missionaries are very obnoxious.— As this is the only island in the group, where a white man can enter into the interior with safety, Capt. Erskine expressed a desire to explore it. I accompanied him and several of the gentlemen from the ship on a journey across the island. The journey is very fatiguing and the path dangerous in some places, but the rugged and romantic scenery, together with the luxuriant and endless variety of foliage in a great measure relieve it. In this party there was a Botanist, who had come for the express purpose of examining the productions of these islands. He was in raptures during the whole of our excursion and pronounced Aneiteum to be the richest botanical field, that he had ever seen. Our native guides were almost loaded with an almost endless variety of specimens.

CONCLUSION.

I must now conclude my letter already too long. I entreat you to consider the very peculiar circumstances of your infant mission, and send help without delay. If you consider the trials, the responsibilities and the anxieties of a mission like your own; and also the disadvantages under which we labour arising from a tropical and unhealthy climate, I am sure you will

see the impropriety of leaving me for any length of time alone. We will count the very days until the "John Williams" return from Britain, and sad indeed will be our disappointment, if there is no missionary from you in her. Now that you have embarked in the cause of missions it is your duty to follow it up with a vigour and faith which so important a work merits and absolutely commands.

You will be able from my letter to judge of the state of the work yourselves.— Though these islands present a sphere of labour somewhat uninviting and arduous; yet I think we have much encouragement and a reasonable prospect of success at no distant period. You are aware that the chain of islands stretching onwards from this to the Indian Archipelago are chiefly inhabited by the Papuan or Oriental negro race. I am not aware that efforts have ever been made for the evangelizing of this people. It would be an interesting event if the first soul of a new branch of the human family were saved through the instrumentality of our own beloved church. And for an such object we may, and ought even with a hallowed ambition aspire.

I Remain, Dear Brethren
Sincerely Yours &c.

JOHN GEDDIE.

Acknowledgements of money and other notices are crowded out of this No. by the length of the Report of the Synod's Missionary Meeting.

☞ Miss Isabel Robson acknowledges the receipt of Two Pounds, from the Ladies of Prince St Church Religious and Benevolent Society, in aid of the funds for the relief of the French Protestants.

CATALOGUE

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