

lifax, your Board, after deliberation with him, resolved that intimation be given to the London Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society, that a translation of the Book of Psalms into Aneiteumese is now being printed in Halifax N. S., under the immediate supervision of Rev. John Geddie, the oldest Missionary of the New Hebrides, the first to construct and reduce to writing the language of Aneiteum, and the principal translator of the Aneiteumese New Testament lately published by the society. Also, that the London Committee be requested to adopt the translations as their own, and give whatever aid they may see cause toward its publication." The ready response to this application was the immediate cordial decision of that Committee to adopt the translation, and to bear the entire expense of its publication; thus affording another substantial token of the deep interest which this truly christian society takes in the great work of Bible dissemination, and the pre eminent claims which they hold upon the liberality of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

OUTGOING MISSIONARIES.

Your Board feel much regret as they recall the once fair prospect of their being able to send two or three Missionaries along with Mr. Geddie on his return voyage, and contrast therewith the very discouraging result, that not one of the four or five young men with whom correspondence was for a time hopefully maintained, has been engaged. One of them had not finished his course of Theology, and was advised to prosecute his studies, with encouragement as to a favourable decision in the event of his Licensure and renewed application. The Presbytery of Truro has since granted license to preach, and the candidate has renewed his tender of service, but your Board have had no opportunity of re-consideration. In these circumstances, however, they have much pleasure in communicating to Synod the successful issue of those negotiations, which were authorized at last session, for the transference of one of the young Missionaries under the care of the Sister Church in Scotland. Mr. McNair has been duly acknowledged as now attached to the Church in Nova Scotia, and has accompanied Mr. Geddie, along with a *help-meet*, in whose favour certificates of the highest order have been received, as to moral character, religious principle, and ripe experience as a Mission Teacher. The certificates forwarded bear the signature of John Pirio, Minister of Cowgate Free Church, and William Dickson, elder, New North Free Church, Edinburgh. All information received respecting Mr. McNair is of a highly pleasing character, and al-

though he has not yet answered the note addressed to him with a view to stated correspondence, this apparent neglect can only be attributed to want of leisure, amid the very engrossing cares of preparation for a distant mission field. It must not, however, be forgotten that the probability is that Mr. McNair will be required for the Australian Church agency, at whose expense he has been equipped and sent forth. In addition to this rather discouraging aspect of the present Mission agency of the Church, it may be added that the Canadian Church have failed to secure any missionary. Their Committee made application for the transference of Mr. Gordon to their superintendence and support, and your Board, in the exercise of self-denial which marked the Synod's decision with reference to the transference of Mr. Geddie's services to the Australian Church, resolved to comply with the request on the express condition of Mr. Gordon's cordial consent thereto. From some unexplained cause this arrangement failed on the part of the Canadian Committee, and their subsequent expectation of securing the services of one of their own Probationers, was in like manner defeated. It needs scarcely be added that this failure of the negotiations for the transfer of Mr. Gordon did not cause your Board any regret, and that his connection with them remains as heretofore. It may be added, in order to complete the view of what has been done to secure further missionary labour that your Board made arrangements with Mr. Geddie for the support of the Orphan School on Aneiteum, and while all details were entrusted to him, he was informed that it would be highly gratifying to your Board, should his daughter Lucy be induced to take charge of this institution, under his immediate supervision.

AGENCY IN SYDNEY.

It will be in the recollection of this Court, that authority was given by them at their last session, to employ an agent in Australia, in conjunction with the Reformed Presbyterian Committee of Scotland, to take charge of all Mission goods, and keep account with the several Missionaries and Mission crew, as to their respective salaries, and contingent expenses. Your Board have much satisfaction in being able to report the acceptance by Rev. Dr. Steele, of Sydney, New South Wales, of the appointment thus tendered to him, and that he has already entered on its duties with much zeal and ability. General instructions have been sent to him, as to the opening of separate accounts with the respective Missionaries from the beginning of each year, (Jan. 1st,) that a copy thereof be transmitted to this Board, and a copy