

effect. The Synod met at Truro in 1845, and at this meeting the Foreign Mission Board reported £140 in the hands of the Treasurer, and that the Presbytery of P. E. Island had guaranteed £79 annually; the Presbytery of Pictou would pay this year £58. 10; the Presbytery of Truro £50. By a vote of *thirteen to twelve* the Synod resolved to instruct the Board to "select a field and negotiate with candidates for occupying that field as soon as possible." Shortly after the passing of this resolution the Presbytery of P. E. Island loosed t a Rev. JOHN GEDDIE from his charge at Cavendish and New London.

#### FIRST CANDIDATE.

Mr. GEDDIE was the first to offer his services to the Board of Foreign Missions. He had laboured as a pastor in Prince Edward Island for eight years, and had proved himself a man of profound piety, deep sagacity and sound practical sense. He was, if not the originator of the Missionary movement in the church, at least intimately connected with that movement. The Board accepted his services unanimously and without hesitation, and the Presbytery of P. E. Island accepted his demission of his charge. Under the instructions of the Board Mr. Geddie entered promptly on the duties of his new position, visited the congregations, studied medicine to some extent, and learned to do a little printing. Another candidate, a Mr. Speedie, offered his services; but after some correspondence with the Board the offer was withdrawn. These facts the Board relate in their Report for 1846.

NEW CALEDONIA was the island in which it was at first expected that Mr. Geddie should be located. There was a good deal of correspondence with the United Presbyterian Church, the London Missionary Society, and other Societies with regard to the field of operations. The result was that New Caledonia or some neighbouring island was held in view.

#### DEPARTURE OF THE MISSIONARIES.

An appeal for co-operation had been made by the Board to the "United Secession Church of Scotland," but that church being engaged in extensive Missions of her

own could afford no aid. The Board then took the bold and wise step of beginning the work on the responsibility of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia. On the 3rd November 1846, designation services were held at Pictou. Rev. R. S. Paterson of Bedeque, P. E. Island, preached on the occasion; Rev. John M'Kinlay offered the designation prayer; and the Rev. Messrs Baxter, Roy, Waddell and Christie took part in the solemn services. Next morning the Missionaries bade farewell to Pictou. After a meeting in Onslow, farewell services were held in Poplar Grove Church, Halifax, on the 13th November; and on the 30th of the same month they set sail for Boston in the packet "*Acadia*."

#### THEIR VOYAGE.

Our Missionaries met with great kindness in Boston from the office-bearers of the American Board of Foreign Missions, and especially from Dr. Anderson the Secretary of the Board. They had some difficulty in securing a passage for their destination; but on the 28th January, 1847, they sailed from Newburyport in the brig "*Eveline*" for the Sandwich Islands. The passage round Cape Horn to the Sandwich Islands was very stormy and occupied 170 days. Mr. GEDDIE met the kindest reception at Honolulu and elsewhere on this interesting group where he remained seven weeks before he could secure a passage to Samoa. At last he set sail for his destination, and reached Samoa in October 1847. Here he was cordially welcomed by the agents of the London Missionary Society and his attention turned to the

#### NEW HEBRIDES

As the scene of his future labours.— French interference had destroyed the prospects of Protestant Missions on New Caledonia; but so far as the New Hebrides were concerned the door was open and the field peculiarly inviting. In 1839 JOHN WILLIAMS fell on Erromanga, while attempting to introduce the Gospel into the New Hebrides. His lamented death caused the enterprise to be abandoned. In 1841 christian teachers—natives of Samoa—were located on ANEITEUM, but their labours