

dark age of nature's history; and he closes the old chapter of her records.

SCHEDIASMA.

MIRAMICHI:
TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 5, 1834.

EUROPEAN NEWS.—We have no later intelligence from Europe to present our readers to-day. There is a report in the St. Andrews Standard of the 24th ult. that a vessel from England bound to St. John, was boarded off Grand Manan, the Captain of which said, that he had a paper of the 16th June, which stated, that the Whig Administration, had experienced several defeats, in consequence of which Lord Grey had retired from the Treasury, and Lord Althorp from the Exchequer. That Sir Robert Peel is Prime Minister, Mr Stanley Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. O'Connell Master of the Rolls. The St. John Observer of Tuesday last takes no notice of this report—we are therefore inclined to doubt its correctness.

COUNTY KENT.—We are indebted to our attentive Correspondent in this County for the following items:

LAUNCH.—On Friday the 13th ult. at the ship yard of John Jardine, Esq. at Richibucto, a remarkably fine barque of 411 tons register, was launched before a considerable course of admiring spectators. The spectacle—beautiful in all cases—was rendered peculiarly so by the ship being furnished with all her masts, and the greater part of her rigging, and the weather highly favourable. The glassy waters of the harbour were unruddled by the gentlest ripple, when the noble vessel merged into her destined element, bedecked with all her colours, and bearing on her deck a large number of individuals, showing their sense of pleasure by the waving of their hats, and cheering those on shore. She is 115 feet long on the bottom; the breadth of her beam 29 feet; and her model peculiarly elegant. She was named the Carleton, being the name which the Parish of Richibucto formerly bore, and that also of the late much lamented Governor of this Province. It is highly gratifying to have it in our power to observe, that this vessel was built wholly without a supply of spirituous liquors to the men employed on her construction, and the tribute of unalloyed praise is due to Mr Jardine for an example tending so largely to the general welfare.

FIRES.—We have been informed that a most extensive fire raged in the woods during the week before last, on the Portage, leading from the Kennebecasis to the Peticoudiac, destroying the trees on both sides of the road, and descending some miles down the Peticoudiac. All the fences on the farms adjoining the scene of the conflagration have been utterly destroyed, and some parts of the young crop, but happily the ravages of the devouring element did not extend to the buildings, which were saved by the persevering efforts of the inhabitants.

Another fire has also raged in the neighbourhood of the Cocagne, but we are happy to state that no other damage was effected by it than the destruction of a bridge over a little river about two miles north of the Cocagne, and on the great road.

We make no doubt that our active and zealous neighbour, the Supervisor of that road, will make ready provision against any unnecessary stoppage of travelling, which will unavoidably be the case if it be not immediately remedied.

AGRICULTURAL.—The accounts of the crops, it is truly gratifying to learn, throughout this Province, as well as in Nova-Scotia and the Canadas, are highly favorable. The crops in our immediate neighbourhood, are suffering from drought, and if we are not favored, and speedily too, with rain, they must be seriously affected. The hay harvest is now general, and we learn the return will be light. Mr W. Fiddes, in the vicinity of Newcastle, cut down a field of Barley on Saturday last, and another field, comprising about four acres, yesterday.

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE MIRAMICHI LADIES' AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Your Committee, before again reporting their proceedings, beg leave to exhibit a view of this institution, to which, your attention, and that of the public, they conceive, has not been sufficiently turned. This Society, owing to the abundant supplies of the sacred volume from other sources, cannot be so extensively useful, in the immediate vicinity, as it otherwise might. In almost every store on the river, the scriptures may be obtained, and the demands upon our depots are consequently not so numerous and pressing. This, however, is not an isolated association, for the dissemination of the Gospel. It forms a branch of that great and benevolent institution, the British and Foreign Bible Society, which like the Nile to its adjacent banks, is depositing its riches on almost every region of the earth; or as the glorious sun, is diffusing its light on all around. Since the formation of that society, it has translated the scriptures into a great proportion of the known languages among men; it has

carried the waters of life to almost every important nation on earth, besides a multitude of other places of minor consequence. It would be out of place here, to quote largely from the Reports of that institution, but your Committee cannot forbear making a few extracts, in corroboration of these statements. They begin with France:

'The proceedings of Professor Kieffer have been peculiarly interesting. Your Committee have been called upon to provide for the depot under his care 186,000 Bibles and Testaments; while the total books issued from thence during the last year, has been 176,139 copies of the scriptures.'

'The Schools in numerous directions, have required large supplies, which your Committee have not hesitated to afford.

'In connection with the above, may be mentioned an application for 20,000 Testaments, to which your Committee listened with peculiar gratification. It was from the minister of public instruction, for distribution in the elementary schools.

'The present period is strongly marked; every one is willing to be convinced for himself, and every one is anxious to see for himself. And although, generally speaking, France is in a state of deplorable incredulity, there is every reason to hope that the Lord will do great things for our country; for assuredly, never before has his word been so widely circulated, or so much enquired after.

'We can even now witness some results which appear to be beginning—the preliminary steps—to greater work.

'The gospel is making, and will make, great progress in France, and by an abundant distribution of the Scriptures, they will prove the precursors of the ministers, sent on before by the Lord, to pave the way for them; while again wherever there are the Ministers of Christ to be found, there the Scriptures are sure to be made known.

'Of the benefits which have accrued from the distributions of former years, a Lady on presenting the Society with a donation of ten guineas, has borne a pleasant testimony.

'In the secluded glens and remote vallies of the Pyrenees, I have traced the footsteps of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and found in the shepherd's hut, the precious word of God conveyed there by your agents. I may take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the society, for the privilege granted me, in the year 1828 and 29, of spreading the scriptures in France. Of 1000 copies, which in that period I had the happiness of selling, giving away, or placing for distribution, many, to my own knowledge, have been the means of enlightening the understanding, and converting the heart: doubtless many more will be found after many days, when the secrets of all hearts shall be laid open.

'Germany.—The experience of another year has tended to prove the great advantages of Dr Pinkerton, the Society's Agent, being stationed at Frankfort. He writes:—'During the year we have issued to our numerous correspondence scattered throughout Germany, Prussia, Poland, Hungary, Austria, Bohemia, Bavaria, Switzerland, and Alsace, 71,509 copies of the word of God; 38,787 of which, have been disseminated among Roman Catholics.

'More than 50,000 Bibles and Testaments have been sent to the Societies of Frankfort.

Switzerland.—The Geneva Bible Society, with its twelve Auxiliaries, has continued its useful labours, and has succeeded in issuing 19,921 copies of the scriptures, including an edition of the modern Greek Testament, the whole of which has already been forwarded to Greece.

Prussia.—A General Officer says:—'As soon as the distribution has been effected, there will have been more than 66,000 New Testaments circulated among the Prussian army, within little more than the space of one year. Nor is the hunger and thirst after the word of God satisfied. For every year, in consequence of the short term required for service, the troops are perpetually changing.

Petersburg.—To that active friend of the Society, the Rev. M. Kuill, there have been granted 5,700 testaments in different languages, and since September, 1828, he has circulated 22,000 copies of the Scriptures.

'The issues from Constantinople and Smyrna, amount to 5,484 copies.

Calcutta.—Encouraging efforts are making to extend the spread of the sacred scriptures at Cawnpore, Allahabad, Benaras, Meerut, Sangor, Mhow, Dinapore, Dacca, Gornuckpore, and Chinsurah. The Calcutta Auxiliary states:

'There have been issued from the depository, since the publication of the last report, 14,661 copies of the scriptures, or parts thereof.

Madras.—The proceedings of the Madras Auxiliary, yield to those of no former year, in respect to their encouraging character.

Africa.—A printing press at Lattakoo, employed in furnishing school lessons and bibles, to a reading population, is an object on which the eye of the philosopher and christian, may dwell with delight; and on which heaven looks down with pleasure. Poor Africa, which has been so long broken off from God, and from the universe of moral and intellectual being, is at last, through the instrumentality of the Missionaries of the Cross, linked to civilized society, and to the Church of Christ.

North America.—From your own Auxiliary Societies in Nova-Scotia, New-Brunswick and Canada, the most cheering and satisfactory communications have been received.

'The Gospel of St. John, in the Chippeway language, has been carried through the press, at the expense of your Society, by Mr Peter Jones, a Chippeway Chief, who, on return to his native land, will proceed with the remaining parts of the New

Testament, in conjunction with his brother, under the superintendance of the York Auxiliary, by which the gospel of St. Matthew is now printing at York.'

Besides those places, to which the foregoing extracts relate, there are multitudes of others, to which the glad tidings of salvation have been sent by the Parent Society. In a single glance at the above statements, which exemplify but a small part of the proceedings of that institution, we may see, that through its instrumentality, the sacred volume has been introduced, and in several instances widely spread among the three great classes of mankind, so destitute of the word of life—the Jews, Mahomedans, the civilized and uncivilized Heathens, and has been spread among the philosophizing nominal Christians of the Continent, the degenerated Greek Churches, and the Roman Catholics, where the Bible has hitherto been a proscribed book among the laity, and where the people, by Ecclesiastical domination, are, in some respects, held in a worse state than Paganism. The mighty empire of France has been invaded by the weapon of divide truth, and thousand and thousands of converts has been made to the Bible cause. One of the grand results of the operations of this society, combined with other causes, has been the formation of a Bible Association in Paris, modelled upon its principles, called the French and Foreign Bible Society, a fact of itself sufficient to illustrate the important advantages resulting from its operations.

Your Committee would now respectfully enquire, is not such an institution worthy of support? Ought you not to unite your heads, your hearts, and your hands, in extending still wider the sphere of its operations? A moiety of your contributions goes annually into the funds of this society, and could this sum be disposed of to better advantage? When you know that a part of your money is employed in sending the gospel to the vast multitudes of our race, who are 'perishing for lack of knowledge,' can you grudge it, or will you be disposed to relax your efforts? Will you not feel more and more forcibly, the necessity of greater activity and zeal in the good work you have begun? Ought you not to esteem it a privilege to be linked to such an institution in promoting the Kingdom of the Prince of Peace?

Your Committee will now turn to a view of what is doing with the remaining half of your annual contributions, and of the individual exertions of the members of this branch society.

Since your Committee last addressed you, they have deemed it necessary to reduce the price of the old stock of Bibles and Testaments one third. This arrangement has enabled the several agents of the society, to effect many more sales than during former years. The Bibles and Testaments amounting to 76 copies, sent you for the moiety of your last year's contributions to the Parent Society, have, with two or three exceptions, all been sold. The demand for them has been so pressing, that several of the depositories where they were lodged, have sometime since been completely exhausted. These scriptures, being of a small portable size, strongly and neatly bound, and well adapted to the use of Schools, your Committee would recommend that a part of your order for the present year, consist of books of a similar description.

Two agencies in connexion with the Society, have been established within the past year, in destitute portions of our Province. One is conducted by Mr Francis Hunter, in the Parish of Ludlow, who, in carrying on a lumbering business, keeps a variety of men in constant employment, whom he can conveniently supply with the scriptures, and who, feeling an interest in the education of youth, and the religious prosperity of the community, your Committee trust will render a service to your cause. There have been sent him from the depository 16 bibles and 24 testaments. His agency commenced only in January last, and no report of his proceedings has yet come to hand.

The other Agency referred to, has hitherto been managed by the Rev. James Waddel, who has been indefatigable in advancing the interests of the Society in Chalenay Bay. He has received for sale and gratuitous distribution, 59 bibles and 47 testaments; a small portion of which are in the French language, besides a few other copies in French. In a letter from Bathurst dated the 2d August, 1833, he thus writes your Secretary:

'There is here a most interesting field for your Society's operations, and I will look with confidence to the Miramichi Ladies, for assistance in extending to the perishing in this land, the word of life.'

Immediately on the receipt of the first box of books entrusted to his care, he thus notices the first opportunity of usefulness: 'It was exceedingly gratifying to me to day, when opening the box, to be applied by a Master Lumberer, for a bible, for the use of his camp, where they have not yet received one.'

The following extract of a letter is from the same, dated New Mills:—'When writing Mr M-Curdy last week, I mentioned to him, that I wished to procure from the depository of your Society another dozen of 12mo brevier testaments. Since that time I have ascertained that my former supply of 12mo nonpareil Bibles and French Testaments is exhausted, and that there are more called for. These have all been disposed of at Bathurst, and as soon as a conveyance offers on a winter road, I shall have a part of the stock, still remaining there, brought up, to meet some applications here and from the Canadian shore.

'If you have them on hand, I shall be glad to obtain another dozen of 12mo Nonpareil Bibles along with the Testaments above named. There is I think a prospect of getting them into circulation almost immediately, and I wish to lose no opportunity of advancing the interests of your society, when it affords me the privilege of furnishing the word of life to such as are anxious to obtain it.'

His sales, since the commencement of his agency last summer, are 21 English bibles, 2 French do: 16 English testaments, 28 French do. His gratuitous distributions are 2 bibles and 4 testaments to F. Baxter, for a School in the woods, and 2 bibles to orphan boys. Your Committee regret his removal