

Communications.

COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER
BIBLE SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Auxiliary Bible Society of this County, was held in the Court House, Bathurst, on Monday evening, the 8th inst. At seven o'clock, the chair was taken by William Napier, Esquire. The Revd. Mr. LOCKHART opened the meeting by offering Prayer, after which the Chairman having suitably addressed the audience, called upon the Secretary to read the Report for the past year. The adoption of the Report and a number of other Resolutions were moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to. H. W. Baldwin, Esq., Revd. Mr. Lockhart, and several other gentlemen spoke in favour of the objects of the Association, testified to its utility, and expressed their confident hope of its increased prosperity. At the close, a collection was taken up in aid of the funds, and the business of the evening was concluded by singing the Doxology, and pronouncing the Apostolic benediction. The following is the Report.

REPORT.

In presenting to the Society their seventh annual report, your Committee rejoice that they are again privileged to record their experience of the Divine goodness during the past year. With perfect harmony within and in peace from without, they have sought steadily to advance the great object entrusted to their charge. Little as they have been honoured to effect, they are aware that the master whom they seek to serve never despises 'the day of small things,' and ever graciously accepts the humblest offering of faith and love, when rendered according to the ability bestowed by God.

From the parent society have been imported copies of the Scriptures, the invoice of which amounts to £16 13s 6d. Sterling. A box of books also which had previously been forwarded from London, but which though correctly addressed, had, by some mistake, gone astray, has also come to hand. There are at present in the Bathurst Depository, sixty six English Bibles, and twenty one French Bibles, one hundred and seven English, and sixty nine French Testaments, the estimated value of which is about thirty pounds Currency. The sales since last annual meeting have amounted to £4 1s 10d. There have been given gratuitously, copies of the Word of Life in value one pound two shillings. The Treasurer's Account shews a receipt of five pounds ten shillings as free contributions, and for books sold £4 1s 10d. from which five shillings have to be deducted for postages, leaving a balance of five pounds five shillings in the hands of the Treasurer.

Though as a society we have not been denied encouragement, and though we begin to feel something of that confidence which years alone can entitle any institution to indulge, we are yet more than ever impressed with the necessity of united and increased exertions. When on the one hand we contemplate the thousands of immortal beings that form the population of our County, with their moral and spiritual necessities; and on the other, the lack of those moral and spiritual appliances by which man is, under the blessing of the spirit of Grace, renovated and restored to the image of God, the mind is saddened and the beholder is apt to be dispirited. But let the lover of the Bible bear in mind that better things may be in reserve, and while striving to promote its circulation, be gladdened by reflecting on the glorious assurance that "the law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple: the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart the commandments of the Lord are pure, enlightening the eyes: the fear of the Lord is clear, enduring forever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether." Psalms 19, 7. Surely in the simple consideration of such encouraging testimony from the Spirit of inspiration, the Christian's despondency should be dissipated, and his whole soul reanimated with zeal and persevering devotion.

While it is well to bear in mind that it is ever the soundest discretion to know the very reality—however dark that reality and the prospect that it unfolds may be, it is also to be recollected that that mind is the opposite of either courageous or Christian which will be so cast down by the present prevalence of evil as to sink into the spirit of selfish indifference or to repose in impious indolence. In the very same connexion where in the Book of God we read that "Clouds and darkness are about him; righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne," we read also that "Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness." (Psalms 97, 2, 11, 12,) and the holy apostle Peter when addressing those who had "purified their souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit," tells them that they were born again, not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible by the word of God which liveth and abideth for ever. And he further adds, "the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the Gospel is preached unto you." (1 Peter, 23, 25.)

Now much is there in such statements of

the sacred page to incite the friends of divine truth to increasingly vigorous action in order that the precious communication of the will of Jehovah, which he has vouchsafed to man, should be universally known. In it there is a message from God to man, as man to every human being who is accountable to the Supreme Judge for the deeds done in the body, whether they be good or whether they be evil. And as every man must answer for himself, and none can save brother or friend without a reception on the part of the sinner individually of the truth in the love of it, how unspeakably momentous is it that the volume of the truth which God has seen meet to reveal for man's salvation should, so far as is in our power, be brought within the reach of every one to whom it is directed. It is designed for all, it is profitable for all, it meets the case of all, it speaks to all. It is fitted alike for husbands and wives, for children and parents, for servants and masters, for the young, for those who are in the meridian of life, and for the aged, for the Jew and for the Gentile, for those who go down to the sea in ships, and for those who dwell upon the dry land, for the prosperous and those who are visited with adversity; for those who rejoice in health and those who in sickness mourn, for those who minister in holy things and those who are ministered unto; for those who are members of the church of Christ and for those who are only citizens of earth; for the leared and the unlearned, for Barbarian, Scythian, bond and free; for all who are the offspring of Adam, and who need the salvation of the second Adam—"the Lord from Heaven."

It is most gratifying and affords matter for devout thanksgiving to Almighty God to know that the British and Foreign Bible Society is being honoured with unexampled success. Not only has the demand for the scriptures in the neighborhood of Manchester and Bristol been unparalleled so that even the ample stores of the bible society could scarcely furnish an adequate supply the greatest prosperity has attended the institution generally. "The entire receipts" of the year ending in May last, amounted to £117,440 9s 3d; being an excess over those of the previous year of £16,134 14s 3d and nearly six thousand pounds more than in any previous year. The issues of the society had amounted to 1,419,233 copies,—the total issues of the society were 19,741,770 copies.

Your committee are deeply sensible that additional and energetic exertions are called for that the life giving and sanctifying "oracles of God" may be spread abroad throughout our poor and scattered population. It is to be hoped that the rising generation may be better qualified by education than in many localities their predecessors have been, to take avail both of saving and of secular knowledge. One vastly important instrumentality which the committee most earnestly desire to see in operation among ourselves is that of the Colporteur system. How efficient this has proved in other countries some of us are aware. The Lord bishop of Cashel in his speech at the last anniversary of the Bible society in London says—"I think it is a peculiarly beautiful feature of the last year that that admirable system of Colportage, which I have for many years felt a great desire to see introduced into our country, has been introduced with such exceeding great success. During the last year Colporteurs going through Ireland have circulated and sold, which I think is a very important feature in the work, they have sold and received the money from the poor, to the amount of forty four thousand copies of the Scriptures. This system of Colporteurs has always appeared to me exceedingly in character with the way in which the gospel has ever been spread. It is not by setting up depositories here and depositories there, putting it within the reach of every one that would go and provide themselves with the Scriptures; but it is going with the bible in hand to offer it to those who were not perhaps thinking about it. It is really in the spirit in which our blessed Lord says, "I stand at the door and knock."

In conclusion the committee would urge upon the friends and members of this auxiliary the duty of unity of aim and effort. Let this be done as Christians—as Bible Christians. For such are united in the holiest and most veritable union which is realised upon earth. It is an oneness which death will not dissolve—which eternity will confirm. The members of Christ and of one another should strive to realize it more and more. They will find of their experience that co-operation in a bible society is powerfully promotive of this unity of the Spirit. Such catholic co-operation checks and corrects the sectarianism that frail and sinful human nature is too apt to imbibe and to entertain. Here we rise above party spirit and assert our genuine fraternity, if we act in the true spirit of the discipleship of Jesus. May the spirit of Christ rest upon us and upon all who are engaged in the work of circulating the Holy scriptures.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, NOV. 23, 1847.

The Subscriber having been compelled to consume a large amount of time, and incur considerable expense, in his too often fruitless endeavours to collect his far-spread Outstanding Debts, hereby notifies all persons to whom he is not indebted, and with whom he has not a running account, that orders for

advertising in the Gleaner, and for Printing, in future, must be accompanied with the CASH otherwise they will not meet with attention,

JAMES A. PIERCE.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND.—It appears by papers published in this Island, that Sir Donald Campbell, Baronet of Dunstaffnage, is appointed to succeed Sir Henry Huntly, as governor of this Colony. He is expected in the December steamer.

CANADA PRESS.—The conductors of the Press in Canada are talking of holding a meeting "for the purpose of entering into a distinct understanding on subjects of general interest, and obtaining the benefits of personal acquaintance." A good suggestion, and if entered into with a proper spirit, must prove a benefit to the editorial corps, and may be of essential service to the interests of Canada.

ST. JOHN.—Twelve square rigged vessels from ports in Britain bound to Quebec, have arrived at St. John during the last fortnight.

THOUGHTS ON THE SEASON.—We clip the following beautiful thoughts on the Season from an American print.

We have seen it coming, but lo! 'tis here. How swift the seasons roll round! It appears as though it were but yesterday when balmy Spring first breathed upon us, and the lovely Queen of May waved her garland and shed on us her happiest smile. And later still, we enjoyed the happier prospects of summer, reigning in its full strength around us, clothing the hills with corn, spreading the meads and lawns with their rich burdens, and wrapping the surrounding forests in the deep green foliage but how soon we saw the reddening tinge of September, a sign that autumn was coming. Its gentle winds whispered it is coming, even near at hand. But it has come; the tempest as it comes rushing over the hills from the chambers of the North, us with the voice of a trumpet, proclaims Autumn has come; and obedient nature proclaims the fact, she bows at his command, she fades at his rude touch, and then shrinks under the influence of his cold breath. How changed everything appears. The sun itself presumes not to rise so high in the heavens, and sheds on us an oblique and feeble ray: the hills look barren, and the grazing herds are beginning to cluster around their winter quarters, lowing in sad-sounding accents, as though conscious of the forbidden aspect; the forest songsters that so lately sung in the brightness of morn and poured out their strains to enliven the shadows of evening as the day faded away, have ceased their warbling, and retired from our groves to seek a more genial climate; and even the leaves of the trees, that so lately appeared fresh and green, have faded and fallen, and left the branches that bore them all naked, to sigh in the cold wind.—But is there not moral instruction to be derived from this? There is, for as autumn precedes winter, coming as his herald, to proclaim the approach of the cruel monarch with his chains and bars of frost to bind and imprison during his reign, so life has its autumn, with its cold winds, its stiffened limbs and frosty locks, which are harbingers of death's dreary winter. Let us then learn from the falling season, that this world is not our home! and let us secure an interest in that spirit land, where the seasons never fade.

RICHIBUCTO.—The St. John Courier says:—

The Revd. W. N. Boyer, Assistant Minister in the Parish of Portland, having been appointed to Richibucto, proceeded on Thursday morning, with his family by the land route for that place, followed by the good wishes of many of the Parishioners, who highly appreciated his valuable services.

EMIGRANTS IN BOSTON.—The citizens of Boston were to hold a meeting, at which the following subjects were to be discussed:—

The City Authorities of Boston had given notice of a public meeting to be holden at that place on Saturday last, to take into consideration the following matters—"To consult upon the common good, to see whether they will instruct the Overseers of the Poor to take the requisite steps so have such Paupers as may be found in the City having no lawful settlement within the State, to be sent and conveyed beyond seas, or otherwise where they may belong. Also to take such further action upon the subject of foreign immigration, the employment of foreigners by the City Authorities, and the calling of a special session of the Legislature, as the citizens may think fit and just."

ST. JOHN.—The Observer of Tuesday says:—

The admissions into the Emigrant Hospital

last week, was 73, discharged 34; died 21—remaining on the 12th inst. 495.

AMERICAN MAGAZINES.—By the last mail we received from the publishers, a copy of Graham's Magazine for the present month. It contains a number of interesting articles in prose and verse, and is highly embellished. The following is its contents:—

ORIGINAL PAPERS.—Reminiscences of Watering Places, by J. F. Grund. The Village Doctor, translated from the French by Leonard Myers. The Deserted Road, by T. B. Read. The Old Man's Comfort, by Lieut. A. T. Lee, U. S. A. Ida Bernstorff's Journal, by Anna Duval. Lucretia, by Henry B. Hirst. The Early Taken, by W. H. C. Hosmer. Sunset in Autumn, by Harriet M. Ward. The Islets of the Gulf, or Rose Budd, by J. F. Cooper. The last Adventure of a Coquette, by T. M. Reid. Death of the Gifted, by J. Wilford Overall. Lines at Parting, by T. Trevor. The Three Calls, by H. L. Jones. Fair Wind, by J. T. Fields. Kitty Coleman, by Fanny Forester. The Silver Spoons, by the Author of "Key West and Abasco." The Rustic Dance, by Elschen. Rural Life, (Illustrated.) Flowers, by S. E. T. Game-Birds of America. Fort Mackenzie, (Illustrated.)

EMBELLISHMENTS.—Rural Life.—A beautiful and life-like picture, engraved expressly for Graham's Magazine, by J. Banister.

Fort Mackenzie.—A spirited view of the Indian Battle of 28th August, 1833, engraved for us by Rawdon, Wright & Hatch.

Paris Fashions.—We present our readers this month with another of those beautiful plates, which would prove an ornament to any work of taste. They are procured at a great expense for the gratification of our subscribers.

Music.—The Fisher Boy Jollily Lives. A Glee of Four Voices. Words by Eliza Cook. Composed and Arranged by W. R. Wright.

ALMANACKS.—By the last mail we were favoured through the attention of the publishers, with a copy of THE NEW BRUNSWICK ALMANACK, for 1848, printed at St. John by Henry Chubb, & Co., It is well got up, and contains a large amount of useful matter.

A few weeks ago we received a copy of Mr. LLOYD'S SHEET ALMANACK, the calculations being made to suit this section of the Province. In its present shape, it will be very serviceable to post up in public offices, but for private families it is unhandy. We think it would be more saleable in pamphlet form.

THE MEXICAN WAR.—The American Journals state that this war has already cost the American government the enormous amount of one hundred and twenty millions of dollars.

FREDERICTON.—Trial of the Rioters.—The Head Quarters of Wednesday informs us that the trial of the rioters on the 12th July last, was brought to a close about half past eleven on the previous Saturday night. It had occupied the Court from the morning of Tuesday. The defence of the prisoners was entrusted to L. A. Wilmot, and William Watts, Jun. Esqrs. and the prosecution was conducted by J. A. Street, Esq. Fourteen out of twenty-one individuals included in the indictment, were found guilty, under one or other of the nine counts which it embraced. We give below their names and sentence:—

Daniel Sullivan, James Linick, John Burke, Lawrence Sullivan.—Twelve months imprisonment in the Provincial Penitentiary, with hard labour.

James Mullins, James Hogan, Michael Dooly, Jeremiah Mahony, Michael Kennedy.—Six months imprisonment in the Provincial Penitentiary, with hard labour.

Daniel O'Leary, Edward Corbet, Jeremiah Sullivan, Thomas Griffin, Lawrence Gallagher.—Four months imprisonment in the Common Gaol of this county, with hard labour.

We give the address of Judge Carter before passing sentence on the prisoners. His advice is most admirable, and we trust will have the effect, together with the result of the trial, in checking the lawless propensities of parties, who foolishly imagine they can set the laws of the country at defiance when they wish to gratify a personal animosity, or to resent an imaginary insult.

His Honor then called over the names of the prisoners, and before passing sentence, told them that they had been convicted by a Jury of their own country, after a patient impartial, and laborious trial. That considering the