

excellent wheat soil gave 3 parts in five of silicious sand, and the finely divided matter consisted of 28 parts of carbonate of lime, 32 silica, 29 alumina, 11 organic matter and moisture. Of these soils the last was by far the most, and the first the least, coherent in texture; in all cases the constituent parts of the soil, which give tenacity and coherence, are the finely divided matters, and they possess the power of giving those qualities in the highest degree when they contain much alumina.

[To be continued.]

Communications.

MIRAMICHI LADIES BIBLE SOCIETY.

The 26th Annual Meeting of the Miramichi Ladies' Auxiliary Bible Society, was held on the 15th inst., in the Wesleyan Chapel, Newcastle; Mrs ABRAMS, President, in the Chair.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. John McCurdy.

The Report having been read by the same gentleman, it was ordered that an Abstract of it, along with a list of the Subscribers and Benefactors, be published as usual in the Gleaner.

Ordered, that the Funds be appropriated as usual, the whole forwarded as a donation to the parent society, except so much as the Secretary may deem necessary for purchasing Scriptures.

The meeting expressed its cordial approval of the diligence of the Collectors during the year, and tendered to them its best thanks.

The undernamed ladies were appointed Office Bearers for the ensuing year:—

President—Mrs Abrams. Vice Presidents—Mrs Clarke, Mrs Johnstone, and Mrs Perley. Treasurer—Mrs McCurdy. Secretary—Mrs C. Thomson.

Committee—Mrs Porter, Mrs Kerr, Mrs Dr. Thomson, Mrs A. Fraser, Mrs T. Little, Mrs Allison, Mrs Spratt, Mrs Hea, Mrs Harkins, Mrs J. Cunard, Mrs H. Cunard, Mrs James Thomson, and Mrs John Urquhart.

And the following were nominated Collectors:—

Miss Thomson and Miss Spratt for the lower part of Chatham; Miss A. Thomson and Miss Clarke for the upper part of do.

Miss Johnstone and Miss Chalmers for the lower part of Newcastle; and Miss Reeves and Miss Foster for upper part of do.

Miss Davidson for Nelson.

Miss Johnstone and Miss Campbell for Napan.

ABSTRACT OF 26TH ANNUAL REPORT.

There was remitted last year to the parent society the sum of £55 14 7, sterling, (currency £68 2 3 1-2) which was directed to be appropriated as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes For China Fund, For General Purposes, To purchase acct. for Bibles, &c.

A letter from Mr Jackson, assistant Foreign Secretary, dated March 29, 1847, acknowledging the receipt of the above, informs your society that the directions would be strictly attended to.

A box containing 159 Bibles and Testaments, as the proceeds of remittance for purchase account, was duly received by your depository in June last; which books have been eagerly purchased by members of the society and others, being afforded at very low prices.

There have been sold during the year, 45 Bibles and 69 Testaments, at the Societies' prices; and 29 Bibles and 25 Testaments have been bestowed gratuitously, 6 of which were given to sailors visiting the port, 12 to Mrs Meiry's school, 1 as a pulpit Bible in a new settlement, and the remainder to persons in the community not considered well able to pay for the Scriptures.

The free contributions for the year amount to £50 5, and the sales to £10 13 9 1-2, making a total for the present year, from all sources, of £60 18 9 1-2.

Your committee offer their grateful acknowledgments to the God of Truth for the measure of prosperity which still attends the society, and for the increasing good will which is manifested towards it by various sections of the community. These tokens of Divine goodness are strong pledges for the future, and should stir us up to increased exertions. "The God of heaven, he will prosper us: therefore we have servants will arise and build."

The subjoined is an extract from the Report of the parent society, for the year ending May, 1847:—

"The entire receipts for the year amounted to £117 440 9 3; being an excess over those of the previous year of £16,131 14 3, and nearly £6,000 more than in any previous year. The receipts for Bibles and Testaments, during the year, amounted to £61,438 1 5; being an increase over those of the preceding year of £5,459 10 8. The amount applicable to the general purposes of the society, £56,004 7 10,

including £30,851 11 11 free contributions from auxiliary societies. The issues of the society had amounted to 1,419,233 copies; 22,368 copies less than in the preceding year, but 437,223 copies more than in any former year. The total issues of the society were 19,741,770 copies. The expenditures during the past year had been £123,325 5 3, being £26,749 7 more than the previous year. The engagements of the society exceed £48,000."

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.

CHATHAM, UPPER DISTRICT.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for Chatham, Upper District, including names like Mrs W. Hay, Mrs J. Henderson, Swayne, H. Cunard, Spratt, G. Johnston, etc.

CHATHAM, LOWER DISTRICT.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for Chatham, Lower District, including names like Mrs A. Fraser, T. Spratt, J. Cunard, W. J. Fraser, C. Thomson, etc.

NEWCASTLE, LOWER DISTRICT.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for Newcastle, Lower District, including names like Mrs Reany, Miss Creighton, Mrs W. Stohart, Norman, Mr R. Wilson, etc.

NEWCASTLE, UPPER DISTRICT.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for Newcastle, Upper District, including names like Capt Younger & officers, Pomona, Mrs Allison, etc.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for Nelson, including names like Mrs Henderson, Mrs Harkins, E Williston, C Simonds, Esq., etc.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for Napan, including names like Mrs Kerr, J Jardine, J Campbell, J Creighton, etc.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for Napan, including names like Mrs Kerr, J Jardine, J Campbell, J Creighton, etc.

ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER, 1847.

Table showing financial summary: Received, On hand last year, Interest, etc.

Table showing financial summary: Free Contributions, Per Miss Thomson, Miss Spratt and Miss A. Thomson, etc.

Table showing financial summary: Miss Maltby and Miss Reeves, Miss Johnstone & Miss Chalmers, etc.

Table showing financial summary: Miss Davidson, Miss Johnstone, Sales, etc.

Table showing financial summary: Rev J McCurdy, Mrs McLaughlin, gent's B.S., Do. Do., Mr Grimley, etc.

Table showing financial summary: Remitted to London, Sterling, Mr Pierce, balance account with gentlemen's society, etc.

Table showing financial summary: Do. balance printing for Ladies' society, Duty on Books, Postage, Stationary, etc.

Table showing financial summary: Printing Notice, Other incidental expenses, On hand to be remitted, etc.

Table showing financial summary: On hand to be remitted, £129 1 1

COLONIAL POLITICS.

Mr Editor, The third objection would seem to proceed rather from an interested incumbent than from a disinterested reasoner. Why should the honest and honorable man fear to appeal to the decision of his fellow men? It is only he who has shamefully neglected or basely betrayed the trust confided in him, that can fear the event of such an adjudication. And, indeed, who could wish it to be otherwise? Where many competitors exist, equally qualified as to intellectual attainments, whose brow should the laurel grace but that of the popular favorite? Why should he who is rejected by his fellows, obtain the prize which is due to merit alone; and what voice is more capable of discerning merit than the popular voice? What inducement is there to cherish even the lowliest aspirations, if none but a select few, almost independent of popular opinion, can enjoy the highest offices in the province? Well indeed may the sneer of want of talent be made, when the brightest ray which genius could shed, unable to pierce the native element, would be obliged to glimmer in mid darkness and obscurity.

The two objections should ever accompany each other; they are fitting associates, and as connected as cause and effect. One thing, however, is certain, no public man, in a public assembly, dare use either.

We now come to the last objection, to answer which, perhaps, requires more delicacy than argument. "The sceptre would be wrested from the Queen's representative, and entrusted to an executive council dependant upon popular will; democracy would be the guiding

spirit in our councils, while the genius of republicanism, wafted across the border, would smile over the ruins of monarchy." Such is the idea (if not the language), stripped of all embellishments, that might mislead, and displayed in its naked virtue, which constitutes the objection to be combated.

Now, what is a Governor but the connecting link between a colony and the throne? what is the Sovereign but the connecting link between the commoner and the noble? Sever the link in either case, and (like two planets uninfluenced by the principle of gravitation) the extremes, no longer attracted by any mutuality, must rush into mad confusion, or clash in an elemental war. If then the Sovereign, restricted within the bounds of constitutional privilege, is capable of curbing the lawless will of the democracy, and of calming the chafing spirit of haughty pride; why should not the representative of sovereignty, confined within similar limits, and feeling but the force of a single pressure, be capable of restraining within its natural flow, the tide of popular influence? As it is not from any inherent virtue in the throne, that it thus mutually attracts and binds repellant natures, but rather from a strange commingling of political elements, from a singular array of neutralizing passions, may we not expect the same magic influence will be centred in the throne which majesty raises in these colonies? If we look upon the image, as Britons look upon the form, in a constitutional light alone, why is there more fear that the image should be defaced, than the form destroyed?

The only possible objection which can be raised is, that imperial instructions and colonial desires may come in collision. Unless this should unfortunately happen, what reason is there to presume, that sovereignty in the colonies and sovereignty in the mother country would not alike enjoy the same reverence and secure the same love?

So long as affairs glide smoothly on, producing their just consequences, it were of little moment, practically speaking, though Mehmet Ali were administrator. Regarded apart from his social qualities, we admire the representative of majesty only as a necessary element in a constitutional government; and thus admiring, pay a constitutional veneration. And as it is now, so it must be ever. Why then should we feel an abatement in that true British sentiment, doing honor to the understanding and to the feelings, when the same cause for distrust exists now, has existed hitherto, and continually must exist.

What guarantee had we yesterday, have we to day, or can we have to-morrow, that a collision may not take place? Our only true security consists in the firmness and moderation of the one, the sound sense and forbearance of the other. These are securities more to be confided in than parchments and despatches,—securities for which the lofty character of a nation stands pledged. If they, guaranteed to us by nature, should fail, we may heap artificial distinction upon distinction, and create as many offices as existed in the Jewish and Roman economy; but no art could neutralize our loss, no power arrest our doom. Should a crisis ever arrive, the connecting link may vibrate powerfully, may be snapped asunder, or rivetted more closely; but a nation must become faithless, and a colony become reckless, ere either can happen.

An objection of a practical nature is offered in the constitution of our legislative assembly. It is contended, as that body is dependant upon the executive for its existence, and the latter would be dependant on the Assembly for its being, too great an infusion of democratic spirit would pervade the legislature. The force of the last reasoning should not be lost on this objection, but as its tendency may possibly be of that character, it would be uncandid not to notice it.

In regarding the constitutional design of our legislative assembly, it is too apt to be confuted with that of the analogous institution in the parent country. Co-extensive in many of its aims, in many others it necessarily must and should differ. The Peerage have long been identified with feelings, habits, aims, desires and character exclusively distinct from those of the commonalty; and have consequently become the necessary guardians in parliament of those varied sentiments, feelings, and views. Our legislative assembly (on the contrary) represents no interest separate and distinct from that of the other house. Neither time nor circumstances have as yet permanently created interests so distinct, or feelings so isolated, that may not mingle with, or merge in each other. We recognize no caste, we make no classification, we admit no superiority, but the superiority of ability and energy. What then is the object of the legislative assembly? To curb, to correct, to control the hasty and ill advised legislation of a body more immediately animated with the popular feeling, because more immediately dependant on the popular will. It is not the representative of exclusive interests, for to that extent they do not exist.

[To be concluded.]

Colonial News.

New Brunswick.

Saint John Observer, September 21. "Cold Water Army."—A highly interesting spectacle was presented to our citizens on Sunday afternoon last, by the children,—boys, and girls,—amounting, it is thought, to nearly a thousand, of the "cold water army," marching in procession through several of the streets and King's Square, to the Mechanics' Insti-