

among the Karens, into whose language the translation of the whole Bible has been recently completed. The sum of £6 7s. 7d. has been paid in full for Bibles and Testaments previously received, and there remains now in hand £5 8s., and Books in the Depository to the amount of £2 5s. 3d.

The pressing calls which are continually reaching the American and Foreign Bible Society, for extensive grants to aid in supplying the necessary demands for the Scriptures in Germany and France, as well as in China and among many nations in India, embracing innumerable multitudes of immortal beings, render it peculiarly necessary to put forth strenuous efforts immediately for the furnishing of the necessary.

After an Address by the Rev. John Francis, A. L. Blenkhorn, Esq., moved the following:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed by this Meeting to address a Circular to the several Baptist Churches and congregations in this County, inviting them to form Branch Societies, and solicit subscriptions to aid in disseminating the Scriptures more widely in heathen lands, and assist said Churches in carrying out the same, personally or by substitute.—Carried unanimously.

On motion of Rev. John Francis—

Rev. Charles Tupper, E. B. Cutten and A. S. Blenkhorn, Esqrs., were appointed a Committee in conformity with the foregoing Resolution.

On motion of Thomas Logan, Esq., Rev. John Francis was added to said Committee.

Moved by Moses Lowe, Esq.—

That E. B. Cutten, Esq., be appointed a Delegate to form a Bible Society in Pugwash, during a series of Meetings to be held in that place next week.—Carried unanimously.

Moved by Rev. John Francis—

That the Report, list of Officers, Resolutions, &c., be forwarded for publication in the "Christian Messenger," and "Christian Visitor."—Carried unanimously.

The Subscription List was then opened, and the sum of £8 3s. 1½d. subscribed.

OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

Rev. Charles Tupper, *President*.

Rev. John Francis, } *Vice Presidents*.
E. B. Cutten, Esq., }

A. S. Blenkhorn, Esq., *Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer*.

W. F. Cutler, Esq., *Recording Secretary*.

A. W. Marsters, Esq., *Depository*.

Committee.—Thomas Logan, Esq., James Page, Esq., John Bent, Esq., Moses Lowe, Esq., Mr. Samuel Taylor, Mr. Robert Embree, Mr. John Logan.

Collectors.—Miss Elizabeth Logan, Miss Hannah Bent, Miss Mary McCully, Miss Almira Black, Miss Sarah Seaman, Miss Margaret Logan.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Amherst, April 5th, 1851

DEAR BROTHER VERY,—I am obliged for your expression of sympathy; and am glad to be able to inform you that, though I have suffered much distress, the Lord has graciously sustained me, and I am now recovering. I am still confined to my bed, but the distress is much abated, and my leg is evidently gaining strength.

I have deemed it my duty to write an article respecting the revision of the common version of the Bible in English. I have just sent it to the Christian Messenger. I would freely send you an original copy, if it were not too much toil, and it would be difficult for you to read. When you see it, if you deem it adapted to do good, I would be glad to have it copied into the Christian Visitor. Many of our people need to be informed on the subject. I wish to prevent disunion by giving a candid statement. I detest pedantry, but it has been needful for me to refer to my acquaintance with the subject. If a man has no knowledge of a subject his opinion is of no weight.

I rejoice to perceive from the Christian Visitor that you are having a revival. The state of things here is encouraging. There are five to be baptized to-morrow.

With kind regards to all my friends,

Ever yours in Christ,

C. TUPPER.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Amherst, April 12th, 1851.

DEAR BROTHER.—We desire to praise God with you for His great goodness towards Portland and other Churches in the City. You and the friends of the Redeemer will rejoice to learn that our adorable Lord is still riding forth gloriously, and that this day we expect to baptize five young sisters, all teachers of the Sabbath-school. Amongst them Miss A. M., of Saint John, and an aged sister who realizes it to be her duty also to set to her seal that God is true.

Let us pray much for each other, that we may be accounted worthy instruments in carrying out the eternal counsels of Jehovah's love.

In great haste, very respectfully yours,

JOHN FRANCIS.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

FRIENDSHIP.

Amid all the influences that contribute to the comfort of life, none is at the same time happier and more safe than well-directed and reciprocal friendship. Those in the pursuit of such friendship should look well to the basis on which it is to be erected. Good principles are indispensable; real friendship cannot exist without them. But we do not think with some that congeniality of taste and pursuit are requisite, but rather that it would tend to fetter originality of thought, and abridge freedom of intercourse. When we have selected one in whom we can place perfect confidence (for perfect confidence is the very key-stone of friendship); when we have laid aside unlovely self-interest, sympathized in each other's joys and sorrows, and borne each other's burthens, then we will realize that friendship is "a sweetener of life." When we seek for seclusion from the din and bustle of active life, in some retired spot where we may be surrounded by the beauties of nature, the society of such a friend will heighten our enjoyment. The perfumed air will be more fragrant; the rich foliage will assume a deeper hue, and the mellow warblings of the feathered inhabitants of the forest will fall more softly and sweetly upon the ear. Then we may, without restraint, unburthen the soul of every secret emotion, whether pleasurable or painful; or we may "listen to the voice of complaint, and whisper the language of comfort," with the happy assurance that those words thus spoken will be mutually treasured up in the heart as a sacred thing. But we can never, when in the sunshine of prosperity, fully realize the value of such a friend. When affliction comes upon us with its withering influences, and other friends forsake us, how sweet to rest the weary head upon the faithful bosom of such a friend, and drink in the words of consolation and encouragement made eloquent by sympathy, that are whispered in the ear! How sweet, when the heart is well-nigh crushed and we shrink from an application of the rod, to have the sacred volume opened to us and those precious passages which were designed for, and are so well adapted to, the Christian in affliction brought to our remembrance! How sweet, when our minds are distracted and we feel inadequate to any mental effort, to be led to the verge of the fountain of living waters, where we may drink and be filled!—to be guided to the foot of the Cross, where we have but to raise the voice of supplication, when he who has promised will pour in a healing balm upon the wounded spirit! And how inexpressibly sweet is it to realize that the prayers of that friend are ascending as sweet incense in our behalf, and will find a place at the foot of the throne!

But, alas! how few—how very few—appreciate and afford such friendship as this. With what a cold atmosphere,—with how much hollow-heartedness are we surrounded.—Would that we could lay aside the garment of selfishness in which we are so closely enveloped and awake to a sense of our duty to our fellow-man. How often might a kind look, an encouraging smile, or a sympathizing word relieve a heavy heart of its burthen; and yet those little kindnesses are withheld. How often, if we could know the heart of those around us, we would find the keenest anguish concealed beneath a serene countenance and cheerful manner. But few consider how large a portion secret sorrow adds to the bulk of human misery. Let us make the solemn inquiry of our own hearts, whether we are among the number who, wrapping themselves up in cold selfishness, turn a deaf ear to suffering

humanity, refuse to accept the friendship and sympathy of others, or to bestow ours in return? And if we feel compelled to make the humbling acknowledgment that we are among that number, let this lead to a second inquiry, What are the duties devolving upon us? We will find that it is our first duty to secure the friendship of one who will stand by us in all the complicated trials of life, support us in the hour of death, and be our never-failing source of happiness in eternity. Then, if we will turn to the pages of inspiration, we will find for our example the almost inimitable friendship existing between Jonathan and David, and between Ruth and Naomi. These examples require no comment; let us read with care, and endeavour to follow as closely as possible in their footsteps, that we may be blest, and a blessing in life, and which shall keep our remembrance fragrant when we have found the repose of the grave. MARY.

REV. MR. REMINGTON'S RESIGNATION OF HIS SEAT IN THE BIBLE UNION.

We learn that Rev. Stephen Remington, of the Stanton street church, has resigned his seat in the Board of the Bible Union. The reasons that have prompted brother Remington to this step are mainly, we believe, that the Union has not confined itself to the procuring an English translation, the object which alone, as he understood it, justified its formation. By taking in the foreign field the Union has brought itself into antagonism with the Am. and Foreign Bible Society, there being now two societies for doing the work of one. This he considers an additional expense upon the churches that is not justified, and also a cause of collision analogous to that which is produced by the action of the Free Mission Society in the field of the Missionary Union.

We suppose that the funds of the Union are now amply sufficient to meet the expenses of carrying forward an English translation in which they proposed to engage. If they then would withdraw from the foreign field, leaving it to the old Bible Society, which was never better organized or more efficient than at present, and confine themselves to that simple work, we cannot but believe that they would remove a cause of unkind feeling that may produce great difficulty in the churches, and prevent the useless expenditure of much money in agencies. This course certainly involves no sacrifice of principle on the part of these brethren, for the translations circulated by the American and Foreign Bible Society are the same that they have always circulated, and whatever new translations are made into foreign tongues will be made on the same principles with those already existing.

We are glad to learn that after nearly a year's reflection, with the best opportunities for observation, brother Remington has arrived at the same opinion in reference to the practical working of two rival Bible Societies for the same denomination, that we expressed in the columns of the *Recorder* many months ago. Brother Remington deserves honor for the promptness with which he has followed his convictions of duty at the expense of much personal feeling.—N. Y. Recorder.

Estimate of the Success of the Karen Mission.

The only other mission whose success approaches that of the one we are now regarding, is the Baptist mission among the Karens of southeastern Asia. There are now about 14,000 Karen converts, connected with a Christian population, variously estimated from fifty to seventy-five thousand. In some respects the two people, the Islanders and the Karens, originally presented the same encouragements to missionary labor, while in other respects their character and condition are widely unlike. In both instances the people were uncumbered with the two greatest obstacles to missionary success, a priesthood, and a written literature. The success of the Karen mission will appear the more remarkable in this comparison, when it is considered that it was established about ten years later than the mission in the Pacific, and has been maintained at a much less expense of men and of money. Besides this, while at the Islands the missionaries have always had access to the natives, and have resided among them uninterruptedly from the beginning, the Karens, as a people, are cut off from all communication with the missionaries during about seven months of each year. We regard the conversion of both these nations as designed to exert an important influence in different quarters of the globe. At first view it would seem that beyond the

spiritual good of the individuals converted, the event will prove to be of small importance to the rest of the world; that both of the races are too singularly isolated, the one by geographical position, and the other by their social inferiority to the Burmese, to justify the expectation that their Christian example and moral and intellectual improvement will accomplish much for the benefit of other tribes.

As to the Karens, however, the history of Christianity leads us to expect that these singular people, underlying the more conspicuous grades of society beyond the Ganges, are destined, first to carry the gospel throughout all those distant regions, and then through the elevating power of their principles and Christian life, gradually to change places in the social scale with their neighbors, and to rise to that rank and influence which superior knowledge and character, by a beneficent law of Providence, always ultimately attain. It is a striking fact that the intellectual and moral constitution of the Karens, as developed by Christian cultivation, exhibits to a large degree the qualities necessary for such a destiny.—Rev. J. N. Granger, in *Christian Review*.

MISSIONARY UNION.—We have received the joyful intelligence that the contributions to the Missionary Union for the month of March were \$37,929 36, making the whole amount for the year, from all sources, a little more than \$120,000, or upwards of \$15,000 more than the whole amount received the year ending with March, 1850. There is now a certain prospect of meeting all the expenditures of the year with its receipts. Such a result ought to fill all hearts with gratitude to God.

A Missionary Voyage.

We take the following from the New York Tribune:

It will be recollected that on the 10th of December last, eight missionaries sailed from this port, destined to Kaw-Mendi, West Africa, under the care of the American Missionary Association. Intelligence has just been received of their safe arrival at Freetown, Sierra Leone, in thirty-six days passage. Some of the circumstances connected with their passage are interesting. Almost every vessel that has taken missionaries to Africa has been freighted with rum. This strange incongruity has been the subject of frequent remark, but however disagreeable it might be for the missionaries to go out in such bad company, there was no alternative. The owner of the brig in which the missionaries were to sail, had determined to take rum. He was remonstrated with, but was unwilling to forego the profits. The missionaries and their friends deeply deplored the necessity of their going in a vessel thus loaded. Only a few days before the time set for sailing, the owner announced that he should not take rum, "as recent advices showed it would not pay."

The missionaries write that they had a delightful passage—light winds, pleasant weather, ample supplies, kind treatment, and more than all, the continued presence of God. They had sermons and a regular service on the Sabbath, and a prayer meeting in the evening. In addition to other religious exercises, they had, at the request of the captain, a Bible class two evenings each week, in which he and his crew uniformly took part.

The varieties of character in the persons on board this vessel—the distant places from whence they came, and the remarkable union and religious friendship among them, render these circumstances unusually interesting. The crew of various nations—missionaries from different parts of the country, personally unacquainted before coming to New York to embark—one of them being the son of a slaveholder, another a fugitive slave—a praying captain, and a pious colored steward—the good effected among the crew, all seem to present a picture of unusual interest, and afford a pleasing anticipation of usefulness to this missionary band. They and their fellow voyagers will never forget each other.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The financial year of this society closed a few days ago. The receipts are understood to have exceeded by a considerable amount those of the previous year—a result which will be gratifying to the friends of the Society, and to all who desire the communication of the word of life to the perishing nations.—N. Y. Recorder.

A Printing Machine, for composing and distributing, on an entirely new principle, is to be shown at the Exhibition.