

The Annual Bazaar of your Society was held on the 17th and 18th December: and the collection of useful and fancy articles for sale, is thought to have been unsurpassed by that of any previous year. It was hoped, as the embarrassed state of the finances of the Parent Society rendered increased aid most desirable, that a larger sum would be obtained, than had been in former years. This expectation, however, was disappointed, as the gross sum realized, was £113 14s. 6d. which is nearly £45 less than that obtained the previous year. Of this sum £13 10s. 5d. was raised by the exertions of young ladies connected with the American Presbyterian congregation. After deducting the various expenses incurred, £84\* has been appropriated towards the payment of the third instalment for the farm Belle Riviere.

It has been thought by some that it would be best during the coming year to dispose of any articles now on hand, and any which may be made for the benefit of the Society, as opportunities offer, leaving the question whether or not a Bazaar shall be held at the close of the year, open for future decision. It is hoped, however, that *none* will allow any discouraging circumstances to prevent future exertion; for the Society of which this is an auxiliary, is at the present time in peculiar need of assistance; and all who desire the education and evangelization of the benighted people around us, should feel bound to exert themselves to the utmost of their ability, to assist in sustaining so noble an enterprise.

The question naturally arises, why is it, that with greater advantages, our success has been less in this than in future years? And although several circumstances may partially account for it, your committee are inclined to believe that none of them can adequately explain it; and they feel disposed to enquire, may not the cause rest with us? Have *we* not failed in diligent, vigorous, continuous effort, in the deep interest which we should feel in so great and important a work? Above all, has there not been too little dependence placed on an Almighty arm? Though acknowledging a Divine hand in our past success, has not the language of our *hearts* in view of it, too often been, *my* power, and the might of *mine* hand hath gotten me this? and have we not neglected fervent prayer for the blessing of Him, who *alone* "giveth the increase"? If so, we need not be surprised at the event. The word of God which declares, "Blessed is the man who trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is;" at the same time affirms, "Cursed is the man who trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord."

While then in the anticipation of the coming year, we would urge all engaged in this work to redouble, rather than remit their exertions; and would earnestly invite the co-operation of all who may be disposed to unite their efforts with ours, in this truly Catholic enterprise; we would yet more deeply feel the necessity of a prayerful dependence upon God, a single aim to his glory, and a spirit of fervent prayer, for the outpouring of his gracious influences on our own souls, on the institution in whose aid we are labouring, and on the mission generally. Then may we humbly hope that He, in whose hands are the hearts of all men, and whose is "the silver and gold, and the cattle upon a thousand hills," will cause many to pour liberally of their substance into his treasury; and will grant the influences of His Spirit to crown the labours of His servants with success, until the beautiful language of the inspired Prophet shall be fulfilled in the moral desert around us, and "the wilderness, and solitary place shall be glad, and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose."

M. C. LYMAN,  
Secretary.

\* A farther sum of £16 has since been realized by private sale, making £100.

J. C. BECKET, PRINTER, MONTREAL.