

REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION

IN AID OF THE

COLONIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL SOCIETY.

A meeting was held in the City of Montreal, on Friday, the 10th October, 1851, in the School-room attached to St. George's Church.

The purpose for which this meeting was convened was to form an Auxiliary to the Colonial Church and School Society of London for the District of Montreal, Province of Canada. It was called to order by A. F. Holmes, Esq., M. D., who moved, seconded by Colonel Wilgress, That Deputy Commissary General Robinson do preside for the evening, and that Mr. W. C. Evans, be requested to act as Secretary.

After the Rev. William Bond had opened the meeting with prayer, the Chairman stated the purpose for which those present had been called together. He further remarked that what he knew of the Society was very favourable to its character, and spoke from having seen its operations and from having been personally engaged in the Society's work for the last eleven years in other parts of the British Colonies, especially had he seen its usefulness in Nova Scotia, even in the immediate neighbourhood of Halifax. He thought the Society had many, very many, claims upon good Churchmen in Canada, because the instrumentality which it employed was exactly suited to the wants of this country, while its orthodoxy was beyond question. The advantage of being able to obtain good schoolmasters which could be done by means of this Society at a very trifling expense to the country, he (Mr. R.) considered a very great benefit to a young and extensive country like Canada. The Chairman then adduced several very interesting instances that came within his own knowledge where the Society had been the means of doing lasting good in Nova Scotia, and in two cases, where by first establishing schools and employing the Society's Catechists, in what were perfectly destitute Districts, Churches were subsequently established and are now in a flourishing state, and are attended by large congregations who had *previously* been without any of the public ordinances of religion whatever.

The Chairman then called upon the Rev. John Irwin, Incumbent of St. Thomas' Church, Montreal, to move the first Resolution.

The Rev. Mr. Irwin, in moving the 1st Resolution, spoke in substance as follows:—

He wished to give expression to his approval of the sentiments it contained, especially the acknowledgment of that great Society in England, to which the Church in this Colony owed so much; but when he looked around him and *felt* all we wanted, he would say without fear of contradiction that three great Societies could not do all that ought to be done in this country, we therefore should hail with joy the aid proffered to the Colony by the Colonial Church and School Society. He (Mr. Irwin,) liked the constitution of the Society, and was of opinion that it would work well here, for the 3rd Rule provides that all Clergymen employed by the Society shall be subject to the Ecclesiastical jurisdiction of their Diocesans, and the Schools shall be open at all times to the visits of the Diocesan and the Parochial or Missionary Clergy in their respective Districts.

He liked the Society too, because of its Evangelical character, and he was glad to see by the 4th Article of its constitution that true Church principles were to be combined with Evangelical Protestantism. Though he called himself a Catholic, yet he would not give up the title of Protestant, for he would go back 1600 years