

The annual Report of the Society was read by Dr. John Watts, junior; whereupon, on motion, *Resolved* unanimously, that the Report be accepted.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

On presenting the third annual Report to the Auxiliary New-York Bible and Common Prayer Book Society, the Managers feel it incumbent upon them, first, to acknowledge the divine blessing upon their exertions, and to express their sense of gratitude for the prosperity, which, under Providence, has attended the labours of the past year.

In the infant state of the Society, it became the duty of the Managers to reflect upon the several methods of accomplishing their objects. Repeated and matured deliberations determined the course to be pursued. The smallness of their funds precluded the purchase of stereotype plates of the Bible: stereotype copies of it were to be had at a moderate price, while the Book of Common Prayer had not yet been stereotyped in this city. The copies of the Prayer Book which were obtained during the first year of the Society's operations, were disadvantageously circulated; as they were found, relatively speaking, to exceed greatly the price of stereotyped works. With due consideration, therefore, to the usefulness of the Society, and the economy and increase of its funds, in accomplishing its two-fold object, viz. the more general circulation of the Bible, and also of the Book of Common Prayer, they resolved to possess themselves of stereotype plates of the Prayer Book. Since that time, the Managers have reason to believe, that a similar advantage to the Society, from an improvement in the economy and increase of its funds, would attend the possession of stereotype plates of the Bible also. They had long contemplated and ardently wished to procure them; their funds,

however, still remained inadequate to the object, and they did not feel themselves authorised to withdraw any part of the money then employed in circulating the Book of Common Prayer. The necessity of an appeal to the members of the Church was urged, and the result has fully justified the appeal.

By the bounty of individuals, emulating each other in their patronage of the Society, the Managers have been enabled to conclude a contract for a set of stereotype plates of the Holy Scriptures in duodecimo; to be completed by the month of July next. The type and convenient size of the volume adapt it to almost every age and condition of life, and render it appropriate for the school, the closet, and the Church. Directions have been given to commence the execution of the plates with the New Testament, so as to enable the Society to furnish an edition of that part of the holy volume, for the use of schools, and of such persons and societies as may desire to have it, in a cheap and convenient form. These plates will be finished in the course of five or six weeks, and shortly thereafter the New Testaments will be ready for delivery. By this arrangement the ability and usefulness of the Society have been consulted and enlarged, and an additional evidence is given of the unceasing desire of its members to aid in distributing the word of life. The list of subscribers to this work of Christian charity will be published as soon as the subscriptions are completed. Eighteen hundred dollars have already been collected and paid by the Managers on account of those plates—five hundred dollars more will become due on the final delivery of them to the Society. For this sum the Managers have made themselves responsible, in full confidence that it will be subscribed by those to whom application has not yet been made.

By an arrangement made the last year with Messrs. Kirk & Mercein for the printing and sale of the Book