

## REPORT.

THE revolution of time has brought to our view, as also to our proper improvement, another Anniversary of this Branch Missionary Association—and may we not venture to add, finds us in the possession of mutual, joyous and grateful emotions toward that Being to whom time, and all its events, are under subjection. To the reflecting portion of human society not a single day can be brought under retrospect without furnishing data for the above befitting feelings of the soul of man; and if it be so, then the passing away into eternity of the period of a year must, while it widens the field of past reflection, warrant us in urging the claims of this Society upon a proportionate exercise of those laudable, because enjoined, Christian virtues. To the religious world generally, occasions like the present are seasons of high and holy festivity. Here they find a *feast of reason*, without any incidence which can spread a darkening shadow over its sobriety and brightness—and a *flow of soul*, which, in proportion to its exuberance and overflowing, argues a heart dilated by the love of God, supplies demonstration of the strength of attachment to the best of causes—the world's evangelization and conversion—and returns to benignant Heaven, on its wide spread influence, the prominent fruits of those high and hallowed principles which are the immediate agencies in its origin and progress. On the hearts of those who not only avow, but maintain, allegiance to the Cross of Christ, are inscribed some of the most spirit-stirring passages of inspiration—such as “To do good and to communicate, forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased”—“Be not weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not”—“Freely ye have received, freely give”—“Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine”—and no times nor seasons can more fairly develop and more conspicuously exhibit the native force and efficiency of those heaven-born aphorisms than missionary meetings. Objects are here presented to our view which take to themselves indisput-