

MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL MEETING,

HELD IN THE

HALL OF THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, ON THURSDAY
EVENING, 13th JANUARY, 1859.

His Honor Judge PARKER, President of the Society in the chair.

The Proceedings were opened with singing a hymn, followed by the reading of the Scriptures, and a very appropriate extemporary prayer by the Rev. Dr. GRAY. Judge PARKER, the President, then made the opening address. Dr. PATERSON, the Secretary, read an abstract of the Report, especially that part of it which detailed the special operations of the Auxiliary during the past year.

The PRESIDENT, in the opening of his address, expressed a fervent hope that the solemn exercise, in which they had been engaged, in invoking the Divine blessing on the proceedings of the evening, would have a suitable influence on the minds of all, and lead them to feel that they were met together, not merely to indulge in the gratification of hearing eloquent speeches, but to show the interest they took in the great work of the Bible Society, and recognize the duty of exerting their individual efforts to promote it, each according to his means and opportunities.

The New Brunswick Auxiliary had now been in operation forty years, and had certainly been much blessed in its work. In the merciful providence of God several of its first office bearers still remained, able and willing to labour in its cause; their much respected secretary, Dr. Paterson, was such at the formation of the Society, and a few members of the original committee were still on its list. Of one valued member, Mrs. GIBBERT, the death had but recently deprived them. The President then referred to the double sphere of duty, shown by their designation, as a New Brunswick Bible Society, and as a Society Auxiliary to the great parent Institution, and the efforts they had made during the past year by the employment of Mr. Clay in the city and its vicinity to visit from house to house in order to ascertain and supply Bible distribution, and in the re-engagement of that zealous and experienced travelling agent, Mr.