

The resolution was seconded by the Hon. Senator FERRIER, of Montreal:—He was glad that he had been preceded by such eloquent speakers, and was to be followed by the learned Principal of Victoria College. But he was altogether too much exhausted to speak. He felt it to be a pleasure to bear his testimony, and to unite with the ministers in labors to spread the Gospel. He was happier to-day than at any time since the meeting of this committee last year, at Port Hope. Speaking of this country, he was sure that the church, with which he was identified, has done much in laying the foundations of the Dominion, increasing the prosperity, and moulding the society of the whole country. And he had much gladness in thinking of what our children will enjoy in the future, through the benign influence of the church. He noticed a very remarkable thing in the Report. There is a surplus on hand—a thing that, to his knowledge, never happened before. Another remarkable thing is a decrease in the expenditure, that is a great error. There should be no diminution of the expenditure. There should have been two or three more missionaries employed. In fact we should always spend a little more than our income. We get on always more successfully when we are a little in debt. He feared the influence of this surplus of the income of the society this year. We are looking forward to a largely increased immigration. In order to be true to our antecedents and faithful to God, we must provide for this increase of our population.

The Rev. Dr. NELLES, President of Victoria University, in supporting the resolution, spoke as follows:—I am no heresy-hunter. Being eminently sound myself, I am not inclined to suspect the soundness of others. But I have seen in some influential papers, of this country and the United States, indications of what I may call an anti-missionary heresy, against which we should be on our guard. I refer to the notion of those who tell us that we are not to hope for the conversion of the world. There is a large number of Scriptures which we have been wont to quote, as giving a prophecy and promise of this great event; but it seems that the belief is a delusion. If so, I con-

fess I have been, along with others, the victim of that delusion, and I am not even yet disenchanted of the beautiful dream. I trust, sir, they will at least grant us one thing—the universality of the provisions of the Gospel. I trust they will not deny, what most of us here to-night hold so fondly, that Christ died for all men. We cannot do without this. When I stand up to preach the Gospel, I want to feel with the poet Faber, that

“There is a wideness in God’s mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea.”

I want it not to be in the power of any one to rise up and say, “Are all not included in your message? Then perhaps I am not included;” and thus both the faith of the hearer and the tongue of the preacher be paralysed. Such, sir, is our belief of the infinite compassion of the Saviour, that if it could possibly turn out in the final winding up of human history, that one, only one, of the whole race, had been forgotten or overlooked in the great atonement, we doubt not the Redeemer of the world would die again for that one, rear His cross again the second time, though it were upon the burning marl of hell, give a second time His hands to the nails, His side to the soldier’s spear, and His brow to the crown of thorns, that His redeeming work be truly finished and stand out in its unrestricted amplitude before the gaze of angels and of men. Equally free and unrestricted is the grace of the Spirit. And the experience of the Church corroborates the statements of the Scripture. If all have not been converted, there has been at least the conversion of some of every kind. There is no form of sin that has not been over me. If you speak to me of limitations, I ask, what are they? Are they geographical limitations? Where is the country? Is it Asia? It was in Asia the Gospel began, and there she won her first marvellous victories. Is it Europe? In Europe the Gospel has achieved her noblest work, not only in the conversion of millions now in heaven, but in giving birth to new literatures, new schools, new works of justice and charity, new securities for freedom and order; in a word, to new types of civilization, as