

wishing to have another depository at Fort Simpson, on the Mackenzie River. Grants of Scriptures were made to the Methodist Indian Mission, and for the Young Men's Christian Association work in the Volunteer Camps. Very encouraging reports were submitted from Mr. Taylor, the Society's colporteur, who has been labouring all summer in Manitoulin Island, and on the North Shore of Lake Huron, and also from Mr. Jackson, who has been labouring in the County of Bruce. The Depository's cash account was submitted, and other routine business disposed of, and the meeting closed with prayer.

EXTRACTS FROM ADDRESSES AT THE LAST ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE PARENT SOCIETY.

The Bishop of BATH AND WELLS said:—"My Lord, my brethren in Christ, I rise at the bidding of our chairman, to propose the adoption of the report. That report, as I doubt not you have all felt with me, has led us through a very deeply interesting course of operations. It has made our thoughts and our interests travel over a very wide portion of the surface of our habitable globe, and it has brought our Christian sympathies and human interests into contact with a great number of men of those various tribes and races and nations which are scattered all over the face of this world of ours. The more we know of these different countries, of their natural features, of the individual races who inhabit them, and the more we can throw ourselves into an attitude of sympathy with their various conditions either of happiness or unhappiness, their various capacities or their various incapacities, the more shall we enter into the interest of a report like that very interesting one to which we have just been listening. It must be a very great satisfaction, I am sure, to all of you, to feel that in the progress of the work of this Society over the globe, and among those various races to which I have alluded, its operation has been invariably, and in an unmixed way, a beneficent one. It has been the diffuser of good, and of no evil whatever. We are often told and no doubt there is some truth in it, that even the terrible ordeal of war itself, with all its miseries, is very often the harbinger of civilization, that it breaks down barriers which could not be broken down in any milder or softer way, and that though the immediate effects of war are so terrible and so sad, yet we may sometimes be compelled to look upon it as a necessity, and comfort ourselves with the hope that hereafter it may bear good fruit. It may be so, but at all events it is a very great comfort to feel that the operations of our Bible Society carry unmixed benefits, and that there are no drawbacks of any kind whatever to interfere with the blessings of the conquests it makes.

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"But there is one special effect and benefit of the distribution of the Scriptures such as that carried on by this great Society which has very much engaged my attention lately in reading that great missionary book, that book of books as illustrating missions—I mean the Acts of the Apostles. I think we learn most distinctly from that book, that one of the great providential purposes of the diffusion of the knowledge of the Holy Scriptures is to prepare the ground for the future work of the evangelist. It has not, I think, been sufficiently noticed—though, of course, it has been noticed—that the great success of the first preachers of the Gospel—St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Barnabas, and the rest of them—was, in the first instance, always among those who had been prepared to receive the preaching of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by a previous knowledge of the Scriptures of the Old Testament. And I have no doubt that this was the reason, under God, why we find that those first great missionary apostles in every case went first of all to where