

## CURRENT TOPICS AND EVENTS.

## THE MISSIONARY REPORT.

No document published by the authorities of our Church is studied with greater interest than the annual Missionary Report. That report, for the year 1876-77, is one of great importance, and presents ground for most thoughtful and prayerful consideration. It contains much ground for gratitude to God for the signal mercies vouchsafed our missionaries, and for the great success granted to their labours. Never, we think, in the history of the Society were there so many conversions to God

on the several missions as during the last year. It is also cause for grateful congratulation that, during a period of such financial stringency as has not been experienced in the country for a score of years, the noble sum of \$146,000 should have been laid upon God's altar for the blessed work of breaking the bread of life to a world perishing for lack of knowledge. We give below an abstract of the financial statement of this report, as presented at the late anniversary of the Missionary Society at Brockville:—

## INCOME.

	INCOME.	DECREASE.
Subscriptions and Collections from Circuits and Missions.....	\$115,909 88	\$2,350 41
Juvenile Offerings .....	18,264 27	1,486 29
Legacies .....	3,423 67	6,785 33
Grants from Wesleyan Missionary Society .....	4,866 07	.....
Donations on Annuity .....	250 00	3,516 30
From the Indian Department for Indian Schools.....	2,061 00	1,768 23
From the Indian Department, British Columbia, for School Purposes..	287 50	512 50
From Other Sources.....	936 93	173 05
Total .....	\$146,993 92	
Decrease under 1875-76 .....		\$16,640 81

## EXPENDITURE.

Domestic Work (including Missions to Settlers in Mission Districts).....	\$57,037 13
Indian Work (including the Mount Elgin Industrial Institution) .....	31,653 67
French Work in the Province of Quebec .....	5,625 00
German Work .....	2,310 95
Chinese Work in British Columbia.....	600 00
Foreign Work (purely), Japan and Bermuda .....	9,743 69
Special Grants for Purchase, Erection, and Repair of Miss'n Property, Furniture, &c.	7,610 95
Special Grants on account of Affliction .....	1,082 00
Overdrafts by Conferences last year .....	1,113 48
Appropriation towards Allowances of Superannuated Missionaries and Widows of Missionaries .....	4,750 00
Chairmen's District Expenses, Conference Committees, &c.....	1,335 70
Circuit Expenses (Deputations, Advertising, &c.) .....	3,065 63
Annuities, in consideration of Donations to the Society .....	820 00
Publishing and Contingent Charges.....	5,346 89
Salaries, Office Charges, Auditors, &c.....	5,582 85
Interest, Discount on Bills of Exchange, &c .....	5,311 86
Travelling Expenses of Central Board, Committees of Consultation, Finance, Secretaries, &c .....	1,245 82
	<u>\$174,255 92</u>
Increase over 1875-76 .....	\$15,578 28
Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year.....	\$28,257 00

The only unfavourable feature in this report is the serious decrease, as compared with the previous year, in the total receipts. Even that decrease is not so alarming as might

at first sight appear. It indicates no drying up of the springs of the Society's prosperity. Of that decrease, \$10,341, or nearly two-thirds, is in legacies and donations on