

ANNUAL REPORT

QUEBEC AUXILIARY.

Our friends in Quebec are labouring under great difficulties, and are much in need of the sympathy and assistance of God's people. From a letter recently received from the Rev. Edward J. Stobo, secretary, we make the following excerpt :

"We are grateful indeed for your interest in our work, and marked liberality in sustaining it. Kindly think of us still and remember us in your prayers."

As in former years, this Society has donated \$500 to assist in colportage work among the French in Quebec.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

Abstract of the Eighty-second Report, presented at the Annual Meeting held in Exeter Hall, London, May 5, 1886.

1. In meeting the members of the Society on its eighty-second Anniversary, the Committee must place foremost among the notes of the year of which they bring up a Report, that it has been full of those signs from heaven which are each God's call to some left behind to fill a void and to countervail a loss. It has been a year of "deaths oft."

The first void it will take many to fill, so manifold were the Christian enterprises in which Lord Shaftesbury led. The Earl's name was in itself a host. His farewell words and his look none present at this Society's Anniversary last year can ever forget. His industry, his courage, his zeal, were through a long life ever bent upon serving Christ and doing good to man. "Blessed is he that considereth the poor. He shall be blessed upon the earth"—how much more so in heaven!

In thirty-four years, as President of this Society, Lord Shaftesbury took his part in sending forth eighty million copies of the whole or a part of God's Word. That work cannot die. It lives on in its fruits; and it will live for ever.

The affixing of his signature as President to the inscription in the Bible presented upon her marriage to the youngest child of our beloved Queen was not an inappropriate close to the long services which Lord Shaftesbury had rendered to this Society. He died, as he desired to die, "in harness;" and for such a President the Committee give God thanks.

With much loving regard they name next the Society's Treasurer of the last sixteen years, a Vice-President, and the usual Chairman of their meetings. Long will Joseph Hoare, the hearty, manly, generous believer, be missed in the Bible House. His memorial remains in the "Penny" Testament, for which he was pleader-in-chief. Two million copies of that Testament will have gone forth within two years of its issue.

Two members of the Committee's own body have been taken. Ill could they spare one so active and so kind, so liberal, so laborious, and so devout, as John Hampden Fordham, their senior member, one of thirty-two years' standing.

In Thomas Percival Bunting they lost a pattern of that well-instructed, unselfish catholicity of spirit with which the welfare of this Society is so closely bound up.

"There are diversities of gifts, but the same spirit."

And what shall your Committee more say? Time fails, and other topics press. They weave a grateful tribute of remembrance for one and all of a noble band, who saw in this Society a choice instrument wherewith to serve Christ the Lord; and for His sake they helped it much.