

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Board of Foreign Missions once more greet the Convention of Nova Scotia, New-Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, at the close of another year of their labours, with a deep and solemn sense of the responsibility which in the Providence of God has been thrown upon them, in relation to the extension of his kingdom among the dark children of benighted India.

As most of the materials of information respecting the direct action of the Mission, furnished by letters from India, have been already laid before the public in the pages of the Christian Messenger and of the Christian Visitor, little detail on that head will be requisite on the present occasion: on the labours of the Board within the sphere of their own action it may be necessary to be more particular, and to this the attention of the Convention will be first directed.

It will be remembered that at the time of the last Report of the Board, and previously, the subject which pressed most weightily on their attention was the increase of the missions by the addition of another Missionary. Every one acquainted with the history of Missions feels the important application to them of the principle, "two are better than one," and of the example of the Saviour in acting out that principle when he sent forth his first Missionaries "two and two." Brother Burpee, bearing alone the burthen of his high endeavour to plant the standard of the Cross in Mergui, had most strenuously pressed, again and again, the fact of his own experience as one feeling, the need of the application of that principle; the Convention and the Public had concurred in the feeling; and with great earnestness this Board applied themselves to the task of seeking a suitable candidate for this important office. Much disappointment however attended their efforts. Mr. Edward Anderson, originally from Prince Edward Island, sprung from our own country and educated in the midst of us, seemed to be pointed out, by these and other circumstances, as likely to meet the present wants of the Mission. A correspondence was accordingly opened with him. He came to Nova-Scotia from Newton in the United States to confer with the Board, and for a considerable time they hoped he would have accepted the appointment. It was thought necessary, however, on the part of the Board, to connect with his appointment certain conditions, which he finally declared himself unwilling to accept, and so this negotiation eventually failed.

But while thus disappointed by the failure of their application and grieved by the delay it has occasioned, the Board can thankfully record the fact that they see as they trust in other circumstances cause of great encouragement. On these they cannot now more fully dilate other than to say that they are such as to awaken the confidence that the materials for future missionaries will ere long