

Aid Association, granted; from the Toronto Mission Union, praying that some Bibles be granted to Miss A. McKenzie to aid her in her mission work, it was decided to donate six Bibles to be called for as required; from Mr. Thos. Houston, Secretary of the Branch at Sarnia, recommending a grant of Bibles for the Women's Christian Temperance Union, granted; from Mr. P. De Sailliers, applying for fifty French Testaments and twenty-four French Bibles, for the use of a French-Canadian Mission in Toronto, granted. The usual routine proceedings were gone through, and the meeting closed with prayer.

The monthly meeting of the Directors took place on Tuesday, the 19th March; the Rev. J. G. Manly in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer, led by Thos. Kirkland, Esq., M.A. The previous minutes were read and confirmed. A report from the Agency and Colportage Committee was submitted and adopted. The report of the Joint Committee on Colportage in Manitoba and the North-West was submitted, amended and adopted. Platt Hinman, Esq., Treasurer of the Branch at Vernonville, was elected a life member on account of long and faithful services. The application of Mr. John H. Jackson, of the Queen Street Baptist Church, for a reduction in the price of four dozen Bibles, was referred to the Secretaries to be dealt with. The application of Mrs. Kinton, of the Salvation Army, for a grant of twenty-four Bibles for the Drunkards' Home, was acceded to. The usual routine proceedings were disposed of, and the Board adjourned after prayer.

### THE POWER OF THE PRINTED BIBLE.

We present herewith portions of the paper prepared by Secretary Gilman, for the General Conference of Missions, held in London, in June, 1888.

The object of this paper is to maintain that *the circulation of the Holy Scriptures among the nations is no less important than the oral preaching of the Gospel*. We maintain that the conversion of souls and the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom are ever to be sought by bringing men into contact with the Bible as one book, complete, entire, and unique; by putting them under the influence of the written word, translated into their own familiar speech, reproduced by pen or type, circulated so freely that every man may see with his own eyes the words of the law and Gospel, and then, if need be, expounded and applied, until they believe to the saving of the soul. And this involves the whole work of translating, printing, and circulating the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments among all nations.

I. We are led to this conviction by considering the end which is sought. The heralds of the Gospel go to proclaim a coming kingdom; to found an institution; to organize a new order of things; to set in operation a train of influences for generations and centuries. It is sought to build an enduring structure on the foundation of apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone. Teaching, discipling, preaching, evangelizing (whatever the term used to designate the act enjoined in the great commission), employs and must employ the written word addressed to the eye, no less than the spoken word which reaches the ear. The two methods must go together, with the assurance that no nation can be said to be evangelized until it has the entire Bible in its native tongue, put within the reach of all its people.

These two methods of publication move on parallel lines. When the words of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, they were emphasized and made permanent by being written down in a book from which they could be read, again and again, to all the crowds that assembled at Jerusalem. When