

them. I see that, in the sixty-three years of this Society's existence, thirty-six millions of portions of the Scriptures have been issued, and that is about the population of the island empire of Japan. When I saw those figures, I thought of the thirty-five millions of Japanese. I said to myself—What! has this great American Bible Society, through the sixty-three years of its existence, done nothing more than to supply one portion of the word of God for each inhabitant in Japan? Why, in our apprehension, if an earthquake should sink that little island empire back to its original home beneath the waves, it would hardly be missed from the great world's surface. What is Japan to the rest of the world? Is that all that the Bible Society has been able to do, just to give one portion of the Scriptures to a generation of that empire? And what is to become of the rest of the world? Or, if we take the entire publications of the great British and Foreign Bible Society in the seventy-four years of its existence, giving an aggregate of eighty-two millions in the two hundred and twenty-five languages or dialects in which its publications have been issued, we will find it would be insufficient by five millions of copies to supply one for each English-speaking inhabitant of the globe. What of the one billion four hundred millions of all tongues and kindreds still remaining of the world's reputed inhabitants? How are they to be even once supplied with the leaves of the tree of life, and each generation requires an equal edition for its own edification? A stupendous work, truly, is that of giving and supplying the nations with the word of life! Brethren, I congratulate the Bible Society upon what has been accomplished; but, surely, it is no time for vain congratulations, when but a moiety of the earth's population have been furnished with the word of life. Rather let us ask ourselves, what are these among so many? Let us not be discouraged. Let us remember the gold and silver are His in whose hands are the spirits of all flesh, and He can give the words of eternal life to every soul of man. Let us remember, He shall not fail nor be discouraged until He has set judgment in the earth

Bible Society Recorder.

TORONTO, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1879.

Since our last issue a sudden stroke of the hand of Death has taken away another of our Vice-Presidents, and made pastorless a congregation who have often welcomed the Society to the use of their large and commodious church. On Monday, October 6th, while visiting a sick member of his flock, the Rev. Dr. Topp, Pastor of Knox Church, in this city, passed away suddenly, but without a struggle, to his everlasting rest. Though he had been in very poor health for some time, no one thought the end of his course on earth was so near at hand. During the past summer he had gone to Scotland and visited Elgin, where he yielded to the Scotchman's characteristic love of "Auld lang syne," and preached to his old congregation though forbidden by his medical adviser. This, unhappily, aggravated the heart disease from which he was suffering, and when he returned to Toronto he tendered his resignation of his pastoral charge, which however had not been accepted, when his sudden decease removed him from the post which he had held so faithfully and honourably for twenty-one years.