

into effect, we will not rest satisfied until we obtain legal and practical prohibition.

A committee was appointed to make arrangements for celebrating the centenary of Presbyterianism in the County of Pictou.

Mr. Scott was appointed Commissioner to Assembly in room of Mr. Donald.

E. A. McCURDY, Clerk.

### BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY MEETING.

The Annual meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society founded in 1804, was held in Exeter Hall, London on May 5th. The Earl of Harrowby the new president occupied the chair. He said he could not take the chair for the first time without asking the meeting to ponder for a few moments on that great and good man, Lord Shaftsbury their late president, who since their last meeting, had passed away full of years and honors. For thirty years he had presided over the annual gatherings of this society, during which time he had never missed a meeting. He regarded their late president as the leader of a new host of good men in the upper class of society, who were doing what they could to bridge the gulf which divided the rich and poor. The secret of Lord Shaftsbury's useful life, was not in his courage, zeal, or sympathy, though he possessed these characteristics in a very marked degree, but rather in the fact that he was completely saturated with the Holy Scriptures.

An abstract of the annual report was presented by the Rev. John Sharp, Secretary. It stated that the past year had been one of "death's oft," and that many voids had been made which would be difficult to fill. The committee would weave a tribute of grateful remembrance for one and all of those they had lost, and would also thank God for those whom he had raised up to carry on the Society's noble work.

The total income of the Society for last year had been £238,391, 18, 6, while the expenditure for the same time had been £240, 718, 15, 5.

During the past year the Society had circulated over four million copies of the Word of God; while the total issues since the formation of the Society had been considerably over one hundred and eight millions of copies.

A "penny," new testament in the Welsh language had been printed, and the amended version of St. Luke's Gospel in Irish is at present being distributed in the Sister Isle.

The B. and F. Bible Society with its branches extending to the ends of the earth, is the grandest association in the Queen's vast empire. It is the one great centre around which Christians of every name can rally and unite. Its single aim is to circulate the Word of God among all nations. Its work has been signally blessed in the past.

And now a great door and effectual is being opened unto it. God is at this moment pointing it to every nation and kingdom under heaven, and saying "Behold I have set before thee an open door and no man shut it." In the face of every obstacle its work must increase until its high missions shall be fulfilled, when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea and when the kingdoms of the world shall become the kingdoms of the Lord and of His Christ.—*Ex.*

### ALWAYS NEW.

"How many years have I stood in this place?" asked Mr. Spurgeon, "and preached to congregations just like this Sabbath after Sabbath, morning and evening! Now suppose I had preached on some scientific subject, I should have been spun out a long time ago. If I had any other doctrine to preach than Christ crucified I should have scattered my congregation to the winds of heaven long ago. But the gospel is always new. Jesus Christ is the great attractive magnet, and when he gets hold of any of us he turns us into magnets, and we turn somebody else, and they in like manner turn others, and more and more the kingdom grows. Christ is still the working power, but he works through those who have received him." If men are in Christ it matters little how or when they are converted.

The American churches which call themselves evangelical claim 11,318,287 communicants. In a year they have contributed \$3,830,531 for foreign missions. The number of missionaries in the field is 2,393; and these are assisted by over 10,000 native workers, representing nearly 370,000 converts.