

new schools. It has during the same period distributed books gratuitously to the amount of £783. The collection at the meeting was £12 10s.

(Intermediately betwixt the two last mentioned meetings—i. e. on Thursday evening, was held the Anniversary of the Canadian Missionary Society. The meeting was intensely interesting. The church was densely crowded, and all seemed to hail with delight the prospect now so bright and cheering of spreading the Gospel of the grace of God, amongst the French population of our land. We hope to insert in our next a condensed account of the last year's proceedings of a Society which God has so signally crowned with his effectual blessing.—EDITOR OF HARBINGER.)

HIGH SCHOOL OF MONTREAL.

A meeting of the subscribers and friends of this projected institution, (of which the plan, constitution, and fundamental rules were published some time ago in the journals of this city,) was held on the 19th ultimo, in the Lecture Room of the Natural History Society.

The Hon. P. McGill was unanimously invited to take the Chair, and on doing so, expressed his cordial concurrence in the project, for the advancement of which the meeting was convened; and assured those present of his zealous co-operation in carrying out so excellent a plan for providing the youth of Montreal with the inestimable advantages of a liberal and enlightened system of education. Moved by the Rev. H. Wilkes, seconded by the Rev. J. J. Carruthers.

That, in the opinion of this meeting it is of immediate and urgent importance to the welfare of this community, that a High School should be at once established, in which provision should be made for a more enlarged and liberal course of education, on a scale corresponding with that of similar schools in the principal cities of the parent country.—Carried unanimously.

The Rev. H. Wilkes, in moving this resolution, stated his regret at the absence of the Rev. Dr. Mathieson, from indisposition, to whom it had been assigned. He expressed a deep sense of the importance of such an institution, as that now contemplated, to the welfare of this city; and doubted not, it would prove no small cause of thanksgiving alike to this and succeeding generations.

The Rev. J. J. Carruthers addressed the meeting in the following terms:—

The absence of the Rev. Doctor, who should have moved this resolution, places me, Mr. CHAIRMAN, in a somewhat embarrassing position, since his knowledge of those local exigencies which demand such an institution as that now proposed, is necessarily more accurate and extensive than my own. My remarks must be of a general character, and have exclusive reference to those general principles on which the expediency, necessity, and advantageousness of such institutions may be so easily defended and demonstrated. As a minister of religion I rejoice in this opportunity of avow-

ing my conviction, that in no way can you more directly further the interests and influence of our most holy faith, than by adopting and energetically executing such plans, as that now in progress, for the intellectual culture and improvement of the rising generation. It is for superstition, Sir, to court ignorance as her ally—since concealment is essential to the continuance of her manifold abominations. Religion claims knowledge as her handmaiden, she is never seen to greater advantage than when the light of science shines around her, and they of all men are best able to appreciate her credentials as a messenger from heaven, who are most thoroughly versed in the principles and processes of true philosophy. I hail, therefore, your present undertaking as an auspicious augury not only for the intellectual, but the moral improvement of our rising population. The earliest triumphs of the gospel were obtained, and its most glorious achievements have been since realized in cities, where the advantages of general knowledge, the intellectual habits it induces, the refinement it engenders, the liberty it fosters, the moral courage it creates have been peculiarly enjoyed. I have been long enough in Canada, to see that the establishment of such a seminary as that proposed, must exert a mighty influence on the colony at large. Whatever it may be politically, Montreal is morally the capital of the province, and whatever is done here, must have an important bearing on the best and highest interests of our colonial population. The enlightened and liberal principles on which the institution will be based are the best security for its popularity, and I cannot doubt that if your subsequent proceedings be characterized by that wisdom, prudence and enlightened patriotism, which so distinctly mark the project now before you, you may safely calculate on public approbation and support, and confidently expect that blessing from on High, which is never withheld from measures conceived in the spirit of the gospel, and, in their tendency, conducive to the glory of God and the welfare of mankind. With these remarks, I cordially second the resolution which has just been moved. Moved by the Rev. Henry Esson, seconded by the Rev. W. Squire.

That this meeting highly approve of the broad and liberal principles laid down in a paper issued in March last by several gentlemen in this city, entitled "Project for the Establishment of an Academy to be called the High School of Montreal," and that the principles of the said project be hereby adopted.—Carried unanimously.

The Rev. Henry Esson, after reading to the meeting the original printed project, spoke as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—Having read in your hearing the general views and leading principles which have guided the projectors of the High School of Montreal in the formation of the plan, and also the statement of the constitution and fundamental rules on which it is intended that the institution shall be based, I feel it unnecessary to detain you with any lengthened observations in recommendation of the design so clearly and fully set forth in our printed project and exposition. The great advantage, gentlemen, of liberal institutions is, that by ensuring responsibility on the part of those who administer them, they enforce the faithful and effective discharge of the trust reposed in them. No great abuse of corruption can