

short speech." He had no doubt that the speakers who were to follow would expound the principles and claims of this Society in a way he would not hope to rival.

Mr. Baldwin, the Permanent Secretary, then moved the adoption of the report, which will be found elsewhere.

Dr. Geikie seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr C. A. Morse moved the following resolution:—"That thanks be given to the officers, committees, and collectors of the various branches throughout the country, to whose zeal and energy the Society is so much indebted, and that the following gentlemen be officers and directors for the ensuing year.—(See names, page 5.)

Rev. Dr. Robb seconded the resolution, which was carried.

W. H. Allen, LL.D., President of the American Bible Society, then addressed the meeting.

*Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Upper Canada Bible Society.*

When the Managers of the American Bible Society tendered me the honour of presenting their salutations to your Society, I requested them to send you a good platform speaker, in preference to one who is no orator; one who, like Moses, is slow of speech and of a slow tongue, however unlike him in other respects. I was the more desirous that such an one should be selected, that we might reciprocate the compliment which you paid us last year by sending us as your representative a very eloquent and brilliant speaker, to whom we listened with delight. But I was informed that your secretary had done me the honour to suggest my name as one that would be acceptable to your Society. I know no reason for so kind a suggestion, (unless it be that some forty years ago I invaded your city and carried off a subject of Her Majesty the Queen, and made her a sovereign in my own country. I am, therefore, not only your brother in Bible-work, but, in some sense, your brother-in-law.

I am happy to say, however, that the Pennsylvania Bible Society has remedied the mistake of the Managers of the Parent Society, by associating with me its worthy Secretary, a gentleman eloquent of speech.

If, then, you will accept the plain words of one who does not blow a silver trumpet, I have the pleasure to tender to you the fraternal greetings of the American Bible Society—a Society, second only, in age and the magnitude of its work, to the British and Foreign Bible Society. We salute you as brethren beloved—co-workers with us in distributing the Word of God among men; labouring, as we labour, for human emancipation, and civilization, and salvation; prosecuting with equal zeal, and as your report proves, with equal success, an enterprise unsurpassed in grandeur by any philanthropic effort of this nineteenth century.

At the recent Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, where the Dominion of Canada made exhibits which gratified all visitors, and surprised many who had been previously uninformed of the productions and wealth of your country;—at that Exposition the British and Foreign united with the American Bible Society, and exhibited the Bible, or parts of the Bible, in two hundred languages.

Who can estimate the brain-work and hand-work of which that exhibit was the exponent? What time and study in the mastery of those two hundred languages preparatory to the work of translation! What thorough scholarship in making the translations! What anxiety to render the exact meaning of the Word of God! What critical scrutiny in the revision! What carefulness in the correction of the proof sheets! What fear to add to the Holy Book, or to subtract from it a single thought or shade of thought, lest God should "take away their part out of the book of life!" And when the