

VIEWS ENTERTAINED OF THE VIRGIN MARY.

We stopped at the door of a cottage, and sitting down began to talk to an old man who was at work. We were soon joined by another man who came up and saw what we were and began to argue with us, and then by a third who jumped out of his cart and seating himself by our side began to argue in a vociferous tone. He undertook to explain the origin of the Reformation as he had been instructed in some lectures given by the parish schoolmaster. "Luther and Calvin," he said, "were disappointed priests who were not allowed to preach, and to shew their spite began this movement." At length he asked us what were the errors of the Church of Rome. On mentioning prayers addressed to the Virgin Mary, he defended it by repeating what he maintained was the angel's salutation "Hail Mary, blessed art thou above women. All men shall adore thee." He illustrated the regard entertained for her by supposing a severe father; the son could not go direct to him when he was offended, but turned to his mother and she made everything right by her intercession. God was too high. We were not worthy to go to him. We went to the Blessed Virgin, and she interceded for us and God heard her.

We replied that the more true illustration would be the case of a governor of the country who was offended, and sent his son to the people who had offended him, saying, "I leave everything in my son's hands, go to him and to no one else. He will make everything right." If any refused to go to him as being too high, they were really insulting the governor of the land. Christ has said, "come unto me," &c. We must not say we are not worthy to come. This was in fact saying that he was not worthy to undertake the office.

CONFESSION—TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF PROTESTANTS.

A woman argued stoutly with us against the Protestant system, saying that the way to heaven was a narrow way. We Protestants made it too easy by not confessing. I replied by asking if she found that Protestants sinned more easily than Roman Catholics. She said No. The Protestants for example, observed the Sunday better than the Roman Catholics. She fully admitted that their lives were as good. I explained to her that we had a motive to enable us to lead a holy life in our system of faith. As her child who loved her would not wish to vex and displease her, so if we loved Christ we had the strongest motive and the only sufficient one to lead us to live unto Him.

The same testimony, coming from the consciences of Roman Catholics, was given by others against the Romish way of keeping the Lord's day, and in favor of the Protestant observance of it. During the three weeks' tour we lent and sold 9 Bibles or Testaments, and gave away 2.

REPORT OF PETERBORO' LADIES' AUXILIARY.

The Ladies of the Committee of this Association, in closing their first year's report desire to do so with mingled feelings of thankfulness and regret—thankfulness that their efforts in this great work have not been altogether in vain; for by reference to the F. M. Report of 1861, it will be seen that the Deputation expressed the hope that \$100 might be realized by his visit to Peterboro'; and including the collections on that occasion, at the meeting and after sermons, the amount raised in the past year considerably exceeds his anticipations. In this the Committee desire thankfully to recognize the hand of God working with them; and regret that they have failed to extend the interests of the cause in the town and neighbourhood. The Quarterly Meetings have been but thinly attended; and where they can now report dollars, pounds might have been named, had there been more united, persevering effort, more prayer, more zeal, and a greater love for the souls they seek to rescue from the bondage of papal superstition. To facilitate the work to those who are kind enough to undertake the office of collectors, they would take this opportunity of suggesting that the town be divided into separate districts and regularly canvassed, and that an increased number of the *Mission Records* be supplied from the Parent Society for general distribution.

The Committee desire to express their thanks to Mrs. Haultain, their much-valued President, Mrs. Best, and Mrs. Charles Rubidge, for the material aid they have afforded the Society by the sale of work, which has so considerably swelled the amount now handed over by the Treasurer.

DEPUTATIONS.

Deputations have, during the course of the year, visited several towns and cities of Canada and the Lower Provinces, some of which were never before visited on behalf of the Mission. They have everywhere met with encouragement and a satisfactory measure of success.

In the month of August, a Deputation, consisting of Rev. W. Bond, Incumbent of St. George's, Montreal, and Rev. N. V. Fenn, Principal of the