

South Africa Aux. Bib. Society 1820
 Montreal Aux. Bible Society 1820

We forbear to extend this list.—Our readers will now be able to form some idea of the magnitude of the Bible Society, although many of the principal ones, are not enumerated. There are upwards of two thousand now in existence.—The prospect of establishing them in Spain, is becoming more and more favourable; and we have good reason to believe, that the time is not far distant, when they will be instituted in every Kingdom and Principality throughout Europe. Asia and the East-India Islands are enlarging their numbers—they are likewise multiplying in Africa, and the West-Indies. South America exhibits some signs of a willingness to receive the word of life, and steps are now taking, to place the Bible within its reach. North America is following close upon the footsteps of Great Britain, and storming the strong holds of ignorance and superstition, for the admission of this heavenly light. We cannot better close these remarks, than by the concluding part of the EARL of LIVERPOOL'S Speech, at the formation of the ISLE of THANET AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY at MARGATE. "It was a duty (he said) we owed to divine providence, to make all mankind feel, that in acknowledging the favours, Heaven has so bountifully conferred upon us, we were anxious to convey to them the greatest blessing Heaven can bestow, by circulating as extensively as possible, the word of eternal life."

From the Records of the United Brethren's Church.

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE WALDENSES.

Frequent mention being made in the ancient history of the brethren of that society of christians, commonly called Waldenses; it may be proper to introduce our extracts by inserting a brief abstract of their history. There is no certain account of their origin. It appears most probable that they had regularly descended from those, who in

the apostles' days, heard and believed the gospel. As long as those congregations, which in the first ages of christianity, had been gathered together in the various countries, remained faithful to the doctrine of Jesus Christ, and his apostles, they constituted the true Christian church, united in one spirit. But when, in process of time, and especially after the heathen persecutions had ceased, the great body of christians had deviated from the pure doctrines of the gospel, and proportionably declined in true piety, then all who saw and lamented the prevailing apostacy, sought fellowship with one another, covenanted together, faithfully to maintain the truths as revealed in the Bible, and to make them the rule of their lives; and regulated their congregations according to the practice of the apostles. Being on these accounts hated and persecuted, by the more degenerate christians, they sought rest and shelter in remote and sequestered situations. In the eighth century, and according to some historians, much earlier, a considerable number of these upright people, who refused to participate in the daily increasing depravity of the Romish church, had taken up their abode in the deep vallies situated between the highest Italian Alps. Hence they obtained the name of Valenses, or Valley-men.—They and their posterity traced their doctrines, and the succession of their bishops from the apostles and the primitive church. Original and authentic documents are indeed wanting to prove the date of the first formation of this remarkable society. Probably in their first beginnings, they did not commit their history to writing: and even supposing them to have done so, it would be no wonder, if, amidst the constant persecutions which they suffered from the Romish church, all their original records had been lost. It is, however, worthy of remark, that the testimony of their most inveterate enemies seems to confirm their apostolic origin. Among many other adversaries, was Reinerus Sachon, who lived in the 13th century. He