

MISSIONARY REGISTER.

MONTREAL BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held in the Vestry of the Baptist Church, on Monday evening, January 13; when the Office-bearers for the current year were elected by ballot. There was only one Teacher absent. The Secretary read the Annual Report, which,—in accordance with a Resolution unanimously passed,—we insert in our columns.

REPORT.

In tracing the progress of our School through the revolution of another year, we find ourselves called upon to express our gratitude to the Source of all Good for a degree of prosperity, and a train of pleasing events, such as it has not been our lot to experience for some time previous. The comparative statistics of the School may tend, in some measure, to account for this fact. During the year preceding the one just ended, the average attendance throughout the year was thirty-seven Scholars and nine Teachers: during the past year, the average attendance appears to have been forty-seven Scholars and eleven Teachers; although, during the last few months, the attendance has been considerably more than this number. At the assembly on Christmas-day last, there were eighty Scholars present. During the year, there have been admitted two female Teachers, one of whom has left the School: four male Teachers, one of whom has subsequently resigned the appointment; another of the male Teachers has left town. We have also to regret the loss of one of our visitors, who has, likewise, left town; leaving five female and nine male Teachers, besides one member of the Visiting Committee.

Some circumstances, which have lately transpired, may tend to inspire in us a hope that the time—the set time—is come, when our Lord will graciously acknowledge this feeble portion of his vineyard; or, at least, to produce an assurance, that, as far as we are competent to judge, our labours, hitherto, have not been utterly in vain:—an assurance which we may remark, in this, as in every other work requiring action is, or ought to be, the greatest possible stimulant to perseverance. A few Sabbaths ago, we were permitted to see one of our female scholars, in imitation of the example of her great Lord

and Master, descend into the watery grave, and being buried with him in baptism, visibly professing her faith in his name, and her hope for salvation through his grace. We have also the pleasure of knowing that several of the scholars are so far concerned respecting the “one thing needful,” as to be engaged—perseveringly we believe—in asking the solemn question—“What must I do to be saved?” Let us hope and earnestly pray, that they may find the pearl of great price, even salvation through a crucified Redeemer.

Nor has the hand of our remorseless enemy, Death, been idle. He has been at his post; ever, as time rolls into the boundless ocean of eternity, carrying hence the fated victims of his power; forcibly reminding us of that, which we are, alas! prone to forget, the shortness and the exceeding uncertainty of time. What a motive to useful employment, that we may be found to “act as wise,” redeeming the moments as they fly.

In the month of July last it pleased the Lord to call, suddenly, from among us, one of our female scholars: a young child, who, until a few days previous to the termination of her mortal existence, continued regularly to attend the instruction of the School, in the bloom and the vigour of life and health;—another convincing example of the fact, that the messengers of Heaven, the winged arrows of the destroyer, when obeying his mandates, are alike regardless of the circumstances and the ties of life, fulfilling the decrees of Heaven with a reckless majesty, worthy the ambassadors of that power, who

“Guides the whirlwind and directs the storm.”

We rejoice in being permitted to hope, that in the case before us, the change was a passage through death unto eternal life, and that the young disciple was called hence to the bosom of the Lamb.

In conclusion, we would express our conviction, that to the good sense and the punctual and persevering vigilance of our respected Superintendent, in the discharge of the arduous duties of his office, we are, by the blessing of Heaven, indebted for much of that prosperity which we have experienced during the year that is past.

Surrounded, then, by circumstances so encouraging, let us, during the year that lies before us, be inspired by a feeling of love to God, and to our fellow-creatures, and united by a corresponding love to one another, labour