

## Report of the Committee.

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THE Committee of the Micmac Mission, at the close of their term of office, are happy to avail themselves of the present opportunity afforded by the usages of Society, to make to their friends and to the public a few statements relative to the origin of the Mission, and their proceedings during the past year.

On the evening of Nov. 12th, 1849, a Public Meeting was held in the Baptist Chapel, Granville Street, according to notices given by different Ministers of the Gospel from their respective pulpits, and by several Editors of Newspapers; to hear a Lecture from the Rev. S. T. Rand, then of Charlotte-town, on the Micmac Indians. The Meeting was very numerously attended, and the audience embraced various Christian denominations. The Lecture contained a sketch of the history, language, customs, literature, religious opinions, and present moral condition of that tribe. It shewed that although they were at present living in a rude and comparatively degraded condition, and retrograding rather than improving, yet that they were susceptible of improvement, and that their attention might be gained by approaching them in their own language. The lecturer spoke of our obligations to do something for their moral and intellectual improvement, and urged upon the friends of evangelical truth, a well-directed and well-sustained effort to give them the Gospel of the blessed Saviour, and if possible, in their own tongue, the Word of God.

The statements made were felt to be true, the reasoning to be conclusive, and the appeals affecting. Many had previously reflected on the subject, and in their own minds had arrived at similar conclusions, some had conversed with other brethren, on the duty and desirableness of an energetic and sustained effort to improve the Micmacs of Nova Scotia, while all felt that such a result was greatly to be desired. Now however Providence appeared to be opening up a way, by which something might be accomplished. An individual, in some respects at least, peculiarly qualified, had been studying their language, had made not a little progress in the study, had conversed with them on spiritual subjects, and found many of them willing to receive instruction, had made a translation of one of the Gospels, and appeared willing to devote a larger measure of his time and talents to their religious improvement. A want had long been felt: here was an opportunity of having it supplied.—In fine, the indications of an opening for Missionary labour appeared to be such as the friends of the Indian ought not to overlook or to delay in improving.

Resolutions, expressive of these views, were then called for by the Meeting and passed without a dissenting voice; and the Protestant Clergymen present were requested to act as a Provisional Committee, (with power to add to their number,) and to consider and report what measures were in their opinion best adapted for promoting a Mission among the Micmac Indians.