

EIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

It will doubtless cause many of our readers regret to learn that this time-honored Society, whose labors for many years past have been increasingly abundant, has found it necessary to send forth an appeal to all its auxiliaries for special aid to meet an existing deficit in its resources. The causes of this deficit are set forth in the following extracts from the appeal, which show that it has arisen from extensions of operations:

"The Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society have for some time felt that the means at their disposal were inadequate to meet the growing expenditure which has resulted from the enlargement of their operations. They have, however, worked on in faith, and within a few years agencies have been opened or extended in Russia and Austria, Spain, Portugal and Italy. At first the expenditure was comparatively small, but it has gradually increased, until these three countries involve an annual outlay of £37,000.

"During recent wars the committee thought it right to sanction the sale of the scriptures to the military at a very reduced price, as well as a free distribution of them to the sick and wounded. The cost of such a work was necessarily very great. In the Franco-German war it amounted to £16,000, and in the Russo-Turkish it has reached the large sum of £23,000.

"The committee are most unwilling to withdraw from any country which they present occupy, or to reduce the staff of colporteurs whom they employ. They would far rather maintain their work in integrity, and at the same time press onwards to the fuller occupation of other lands, such as Africa, the Caucasus, Asia and the regions beyond.

"But the balancing of last year's accounts showed an excess of expenditure over receipts of £15,000, and an even larger deficit is expected in the accounts of the present year. To meet this deficiency the Committee have been compelled to draw largely upon their reserve fund, which has now been reduced to £7,000, or barely three months expenditure, a far lower figure than is con-

sidered prudent in view of the large engagements which must be punctually met.

"An imperative necessity is thus laid upon them to curtail their existing work and refrain from occupying new ground, unless such a response is made to their present appeal as will justify a continuance of the policy by which they have hitherto been guided."

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THE congregation of the Kirk at Lochside, C. Breton, received several visits during last summer from the Rev. Donald Sutherland of Gabarus, who preached and administered the ordinances of religion among them. They take eleven copies of the RECORD and pay punctually for them.

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WE have seen with great pleasure an eloquent sermon preached some months ago by the Rev. S. McGregor at the reopening, after repairs, of St. Andrews Church, Victoria, B. C., of which Mr. McGregor has charge. A new church has also been built at Mocha under the auspices of the Rev. George Murray. Messrs. Murray and McGregor are both natives of this county.

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WE have pleasure in stating that Stelarton has ordered twenty-five copies extra of the RECORD. Whether it is owing to the labour of their Minister, or that there is great virtue in the people themselves, the congregation of Stelarton and Westville stand in the very front rank in their support of the RECORD and other schemes. They now take 185 copies, being the largest number taken by any congregation. McLennan's Mountain has also considerably increased its order.