

Children, Arab and Syrian Immigrants ; several grants by Col-porteurs in remote country districts, and through Branch Bible Societies.

3.—THE REV. H. GOMERY'S REPORT OF THE BRANCH SOCIETIES.

The year 1896 is one to be remembered by all the officers of Missionary Societies on our continent, owing to the great difficulty in meeting their financial pledges through the falling off in contributions ; while the demand for still greater endeavours to supply the needs of the nations who know not God are more and more apparent to those who are privileged to live in close communion with Him who commands us to "*Disciple all the nations, baptising them into the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*"

Compared with these, the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society has great cause for thankfulness in the fact that its members and friends have so well maintained their liberal support, notwithstanding the increasing local demands of the various organizations. There is an increased attendance at our meetings. Our Collectors merit our warmest thanks for their earnest and laborious work, while our local officers evidence their interest by their careful appointment of fit collectors, and I am sure our work finds place in their prayers.

Our ministerial friends have responded to our appeals for their co-operation nobly, not only with their presence and noble words, but many a dollar has come from God's servants who had but few left ; yet the heart full of sympathy yields more real joy than hoarded money.

I have visited all our working branches and also twelve new places of more or less promise, and I have still invitations to others during the coming year.

With all the many risks of travel, my health has been good, so that I have been enabled to keep all my appointments.

The friends of the Bible Society are as hospitable as ever. To the owners of my many homes I offer my grateful thanks for their kindness. One of the remarkable incidents in the days of the early church was the tribute borne by the pagan lookers-on, "See how these Christians love one another ;" and while in the world "the old order changeth," yet the Word declares, "Beloved, thou doest a faithful work . . . toward them that are brethren and strangers withal : who bare witness to thy love before the church : whom thou wilt do well to set forward on their journey worthily of God : because that for the sake of the Name they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles. We therefore ought to welcome such, that we may be fellow-workers with the truth."—III. JOHN, 5-8 (revised version).

Very many of our friends note with pleasure the monthly Bible Society column in the *Witness*.

We feel that the blessing of the Holy Spirit has indeed rested upon our feeble efforts to glorify His Name and spread the Word of His Grace. To Him with the Father and the Son be all the glory.