

The Church at Indian Lands having applied to the Committee to aid them in procuring a pastor, the Committee have recommended to them Mr. M'Phail, who has just finished his studies in Hamilton Institution, and who has gone forward to that station.

Various other stations are in equal need of preachers, and equally desirous of obtaining them. The Committee regret they are unable to send out any others at present; but they will keep the subject before them, and use every effort to procure suitable labourers from Britain. This is now felt to be the great and pressing want of the Society. Immediate action is necessary, and it is earnestly to be desired that suitably qualified persons will be found and sent out from Britain, to cultivate the moral waste, and sow the seeds of Divine Truth in every accessible spot throughout the whole Colony. Could we now be supplied from this source, the Seminary, it is hoped, would provide for the future.

A letter from the Secretary of the Society in London states that the Rev. Dr. Davies, Tutor of the Seminary, sailed on the 17th July in the *Stately*, for Quebec. His arrival, therefore, in Montreal may be daily expected.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The twenty-second Report of this Society, as presented at the Anniversary held in New York, contains many interesting particulars connected with Bible distribution throughout the world. One hundred and fifty eight thousand copies of the Bible and New Testament have been issued during the year, making an aggregate since the formation of the Society of two millions three hundred and fifty three thousand two hundred and ninety eight copies.

Under the head "Collation of the English Bible," we find the following important statement:—

"Many friends of the Society are aware, probably, that suspicions were awakened, a few years since in England, in regard to the integrity of the present English Bible. Charges of numerous and wide departures from the first edition of the translators had been freely circulated. Many letters and

some pamphlets were published to substantiate those charges.

In these circumstances the authorized printers of the Bible at the Oxford University published a fac-simile of the first edition of King James, issued in 1611, in order that it might be compared with modern editions. This fac-simile copy is prepared with great minuteness, not only as respects the text, but the orthography, punctuation, and even the embellishments. Having procured one of these copies, your Board felt it their duty to institute a rigid comparison between it and the standard copy of this Society. To secure perfect fairness as well as thoroughness in such an undertaking, a Supervising Committee was appointed by the Board, consisting of one member from each religious denomination connected with the Society. A skilful proof-reader was first directed to compare the early and modern copy, word for word, and to note down all the discrepancies. Professor Bush, the Editor of the Society's publications, having in the library a great variety of Bibles issued during the last three centuries, was then requested to go through the same, and learn where and when the changes found commenced. The Committee then, each with a copy of some age in hand, carefully followed the Editor and examined his investigations. The whole subject was then laid before the entire Board for their adjudication. The task has been arduous, though one of great interest. While it has been found that numerous variations exist between the early and the present copies of the English Bible, it is also found that they pertain only to unimportant particulars; such as capital letters, commas, italic words, &c. not affecting the sense. It has been a matter of unfeigned satisfaction to the Board to find, on such careful investigation, that the books which they have sent forth from the Depository have been so conformed in meaning to the first editions issued under the eye of the translators. Little motive has been presented to make any changes. Those which have been made were of trivial importance, and usually for the purpose of return and conformation to the early copies."

The Bible Society in this city are indebted to the American Society for very effectual aid in their endeavours to supply every family in the Province with a Bible.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

A copy of the proceedings of the Bible Convention held at Philadelphia in April 1837, and of the first report of the above