

ting monies to support the mission and to pay for the land. For this purpose he has visited with success, various countries in both provinces, in the direction of Pictou, Liverpool, Fredericton and Miramichi. In these tours his object was kindly promoted by Christians of every name. But the collection of money however important, has been regarded by the missionary as only of secondary moment. He has made it his chief employment to visit the Indians in different places and to labour for their spiritual good. He has neglected no opportunity of reading and expounding the Scriptures,—in this way “preaching publicly and from house to house” in the various Indian encampments, by the way side, in their villages, their wigwams, at the houses of the white people, and wherever they were to be found. He has also distributed various portions of Scripture and tracts to those who can read. In this way he has distributed copies of the printed gospels and of the Mic-Mac spelling book, which were often received with great eagerness. Copies previously distributed were found carefully preserved and read, though they have some times been destroyed.

Mr Rand has also, even in his travels, prosecuted the study of the Indian language, and the work of translation.—During the past winter the latter half of the book of Psalms was translated, completing the book; and the books of Genesis and Luke were revised. The gospel of Luke was copied for the press; the last proof sheets have been corrected, and sent to the printer in Bath, England, and will soon be issued. He has begun to copy Genesis for the press. In his late tour to Fredericton the missionary visited settlements of the Maliseet Indians, and translated into their language one of the Mic-Mac Tracts, and a portion of the Psalms. The language of this tribe being similar to that of the Penobscots, the benefit conferred upon the former will also be available to the latter. Both the Maliseet and the Penobscot tribes can read their own language in the script character. Thus the Word of God may be conveyed to them also through the medium of the press, and the influence of the mission may be felt beyond the sphere of our more immediate operations. “They shall come out of every nation and kindred and tongue.”

The committee would not close their

report without referring thirdly, to the state of the Indians.

The Micmacs in the three Provinces number, so far as can be ascertained, about 2000. Micmacs are to be found also in Canada. They perform pilgrimages from these provinces to the great cathedral in the city of Montreal, expecting thereby to procure salvation.—Who would not rejoice in turning their minds from these lying vanities to the true Saviour, in freeing them from a ruinous superstition, and bringing them under the influence of genuine piety? They usually receive the missionary with great cordiality not only an account of their remarkable hospitality to strangers, but from their strong religious character, and the deep interest they feel in the glorious truths of the gospel. Many of them will not be persuaded by the Romish Priests that the Bible is a bad book after they have heard it read in their own language. With eager interest do they gather round the missionary in their wigwams and listen to the word of life as read and expounded by him. A few of them can read and are becoming acquainted with the literature which has been supplied for them in their own tongue. They now possess in Micmac—the gospels of Matthew and John, together with a couple of tracts, and a spelling book. And many are awaking to the necessity of education for their children. Instances of bitter hostility to our missionary and his mission do sometimes occur, but they are few and far between. On the other hand they often regard with great favor, the work of transferring the scriptures into their own language. Our missionary in his letters from New Brunswick, makes honourable mention of individuals who aided him there in his work, despite all attempts to prevent them.

But the committee would mention particularly the case of Benjamin Christmas, who was referred to in the last year's report, as rendering valuable assistance to our missionary, in the work of translating, and who was desirous of removing to Hantsport with his family. A proposal was made to that effect, which was accepted, and about the 12th of Dec. he arrived with his family from Cape Breton. This family, consisting of a wife and three children, have adopted the costume and customs of the whites, have ever since their arrival resided in a house, and have no wish to return to