

Dr. Hodgkin, and A. A. Drummond, Colporteurs' reports were submitted from Messrs. Taylor, Jackson and Ness, and the meeting closed with prayer led by the Rev. S. J. Hunter.

On Tuesday, December 19th, the regular monthly meeting of the Board was held. The Hon. G. W. Allan in the chair. The Rev. Robert Wallace led in prayer. A Report was submitted from the Joint Committee on Building, recommending immediate steps to endeavour to get subscriptions for the erection of the new building. After some modification this report was adopted. The Rev. Canon Du Moulin was appointed a Director in the place of the Rev. J. S. Stone, who had removed from the city. A grant of Scriptures was voted for the inmates of the Mercer Reformatory. Agents' reports were submitted from the Revs. J. G. Manly, John Gray, Charles O'Meara, J. N. Douglas, R. D. Fraser. Dr. Hodgkin, and E. M. C. Botterill. Other routine business was transacted and the meeting closed.

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### EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

#### ENGLAND.

Mr. Edwards, Secretary of the Northern District, says in his report :—

“Last year, gifts to the extent of £3,500 within a period of about two years from one liberal hand were gratefully noted. The example of gifts on such a scale has not yet proved infectious in the district. But liberal givers, in proportion to their means, have not been wanting. In North Lancashire—outside his own district—Mr. Edwards called on a widow living quite by herself. He found her at work in her kitchen. She expressed her regret that her health had prevented her from being at the meeting, but she brought him a £5 note towards spreading the precious Book which was her own comfort. She wished her name not to be mentioned, but it is known to Him who noticed the widow casting into His treasury even “all that she had.”

One colporteur was employed directly under your Society in this district during the year. A grant of £25 enabled the Newcastle Committee to test the want of the Scriptures among working people. In about six months a colporteur made 28,579 calls. He received £46 19s. 9d. in payment for 1,272 copies sold, and the cost of the experiment was £24 2s. 1d. The Parent Society and the Newcastle Auxiliary have also united in special efforts for seamen. By river colportage 605 copies were sold on the Tyne, and 1,014 on the Wear, including Hartlepool. The Bible stall of the Tyne Mission Ship sold 757 copies.

“A large number of Chinese seamen and marines came to man a troopship, built for the Chinese Government. A special subscription was raised by a few Christian friends in Newcastle, and 240 copies of the New Testament in Chinese were distributed among these men, who were invited in batches to a social tea-meeting. Some of them could speak a little English. One who at first refused a book, afterwards took one, saying, ‘That book do the heart good. *Heart right, all right.* Another, calling it a ‘good book,’ said, ‘Me will always keep it : wherever me travel in China, me will show it.’ Some remarked, ‘If you will put down the opium trade, we will read your books.’ One, on being asked if he was a disciple of Confucius, answered ‘No.’ Of Buddha? ‘No, I am a follower of Christ.’ A quarter-