

UPPER CANADA RELIGIOUS TRACT AND BOOK SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this institution took place in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Newgate Street, on Thursday evening, the 7th inst. at 7 o'clock.

The Rev. Dr. McCaul, Principal of Upper Canada College, in the chair.

The statement made in the report of the proceedings of the society during the past year were peculiarly gratifying. The circulation of evangelical truth has greatly encreased, and the receipts of the society more than doubled during that period. The different extracts which the report contains of the successful operations of tract visitation are extremely interesting, and specially commend this department of tract usefulness to the active co-operation of all who are desirous of doing good. There are now actively engaged 36 gratuitous visitors who distribute religious tracts to 1025 families in this city and neighbourhood, once in every fortnight throughout the year.

The report further states that the Sailors in the Harbor, the Soldiers in the Garrison, together with the Military and General Hospital and Jail, are visited with tracts by means of the society's agent.

The labors of the society in supplying sabbath schools, and in encouraging the introduction of tracts and books into various parts of the province are no less gratifying. Several of the speakers at the meeting were listened to with marked attention, and elicited the applause of the audience. The Rev. Mr. Baker, of Kingston, was particularly happy in his remarks relative to the distribution of tracts among seamen—he stated that he was an old man of war's man—and related some pleasing anecdotes of the good which has resulted from the distribution of tracts among that valuable but too much neglected class of our countrymen. It is much to be regretted that a meeting so interesting and useful, should be so thinly attended, especially by those who profess to be the disciples of a Master who went about doing good.

The Depository is at 23 Yonge Street, where in addition to a large supply of Tracts and Books, a select assortment of Sunday School publications, and a further supply of Twenty-six Libraries are expected by the first spring ships to Quebec.—*Com.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

DEATH-BED SAYING.

Mr. Edward Deering, on his death bed, in 1576, said, "There is but one sun that giveth light unto the world, there is but one righteousness, there is but one communion of saints. If I were the most excellent creature in the world, if I were as righteous as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, (for they were excellent men in the world,) yet we must all confess that we are great sinners, and that there is no salvation but in the righteousness of Jesus Christ, and we have all need of the grace of God. And for my part, as concerning death, I feel such joy of spirit, that, if I should have the sentence of life on one side, and the sentence of death on the other side, I had rather choose a thousand times (seeing God hath appointed the separation) the sentence of death than the sentence of life," Phil. i. 23.

ILLUSTRATION OF DEUTERONOMY, CHAP. XXXII V. 19.—Among the hardships experienced by the first settlers in North America, they were sometimes greatly distressed for want of food, which led the women and children to the sea side to look for a ship which they expected with provision, but no ship appeared for many weeks: they saw in the sand however, vast quantities of shell-fish, since called *clams*, a species of mussel. Hunger impelled them to taste, and at length they fed wholly upon them, and were as cheerful and well as they had been before in England, enjoying the best provision. It is added, that a good man, after they had all dined one day on *clams*, without bread, returned thanks to God for causing them to "suck of the abundance of the seas, and of treasures hid in the sand." This text which they had never before observed particularly, was ever after enquired to them.—*Whitcross.*