

QUEBEC CITY MISSION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

(From the Quebec Gazette, Friday, June 10, 1864.)

We have to apologize to our readers for the delay which has occurred in publishing the proceedings of the annual meeting of the Mission on the 26th ult. Owing, no doubt, to the advanced period of the year, and the fact that the greater portion of the population are employed to a late hour, the numbers present were very small; but from the interest manifested by those assembled, it was evident that the work of the Mission was regarded with very favorable consideration.

The Chair was occupied by the Rev. W. B. CLARKE; who opened the meeting by giving out a hymn, and calling upon the Rev. D. MARSH to engage in prayer.

The Reverend gentleman introduced the business of the evening, by observing that the object of the City Mission was more especially to provide for the spiritual wants of those who were not connected with any congregation, and do not enjoy the benefits of pastoral instruction. City Missionaries were intended to supplement the Christian ministry, and had grown out of the institutions of the times. Cities had increased with extraordinary rapidity, and had outgrown the means of regular Christian instruction provided by the different churches; and before the cumbrous machinery could be brought to bear upon those classes whom it was sought to reach, many had sunk into perdition. City Missionaries had been of vast service in warning, instructing, and reclaiming many to church-going and respectability. In Quebec it could not be said that the Protestant population had outgrown all the means of instruction; but the floating population certainly demanded the attention and the strenuous efforts of just such an agency as the City Mission provided. Our port was visited annually by 20,000 seamen, and the number who availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting our churches was exceedingly small; it was therefore important that they should be visited and the gospel brought to them. The labours of the City Missionary had been carried out with success. He conducted the services on board ship on the sabbath, and in addition visited the vessels in port during the week, holding meetings at different points; and he was certain that wherever men were treated with tact, such as the City Missionary had shown, the agents of the Society would be generally treated with respect, whether they were successful or not. He believed that if the necessary