

Books, books suitable for a Sunday School, and Tracts for distribution amongst the people at Berlin, in the Diocese of Huron, where Mr. Stimson was now exerting himself to build a church, an application in behalf of which was recommended by the Bishop of Huron at the last General Meeting.

It was agreed to grant books to Mr. Stimson to the value of £10.

The Bishop of Fredericton, Oct. 10th, 1860, forwarded and recommended an application of the Rev. S. Jones, Harford, for aid for completing the church at Upham, one of the three parishes of his mission. The people were poor, and had put their church in its present condition without aid from England.

A grant of £20 was voted towards this church.

A letter was received from the Bishop of Toronto, dated Toronto, October 17th, 1860, recommending to the favourable consideration of the Society the petition of the Rev. W. E. Cooper, S. B. Harrison, Esq., Judge of the County Court, and others, for aid in erecting a church in the village of Brockton, near Toronto. A site had been conveyed to the Church Society of the Diocese on condition that the building were carried into effect forthwith. Work being scarce and material cheap, the cost now would be less than if the building were delayed. £60 had been collected in the neighbourhood. £50 additional had been subscribed, and perhaps more might be obtained in a few months. Notwithstanding the financial pressure during the last three years, the building had been begun. Funds would fall short by £50, which they could not expect to collect "there at home."

It was agreed to grant £25 towards this church.

Tuesday, December 4th, 1860.

The Venerable ARCHDEACON SINCLAIR in the Chair.

In pursuance of notice given at the last General Meeting of the Society, on Tuesday, November 6th, the Standing Committee proposed to the Board to place the sum of £1000 at the disposal of the Bishop of Mauritius, to be appropriated for the purposes of church and school building in his diocese.

This grant was voted accordingly.

The Standing Committee presented the following report on the two references made to them on the subject of Foreign Translations of the Holy Scriptures and the Book of Common Prayer.

"The Standing Committee have considered the two references made to them on the subject of Foreign Translations of the Bible and of the Liturgy. They have conferred with the Foreign Translation Committee, and have received from them a memorandum which is now laid before the Board. This memorandum will best represent the principles upon which the Foreign Translation Committee have acted, and the amount of work which has been done.

"The Standing Committee see no reason to be dissatisfied with the progress made in the important work of supplying the Holy Scriptures and the Book of Common Prayer in foreign languages; and they are not prepared to recommend any other mode of operation than that in which the Society is now proceeding.

"The Standing Committee do not think that the adoption of the proposal to subject Foreign Translations to the approval of additional referees will be found beneficial or even practicable."

The following portions of the memorandum addressed to the Standing Committee by the Foreign Translation Committee, were read to the Board:—

"The references which have been made by the

Board to the Standing Committee upon the subject of versions of the Bible and of our Liturgy, have suggested the desirability of drawing attention to the circumstances under which a Foreign Translation Committee was originally appointed, and to the work which has been done since that time.

"We have the account of this appointment in the report for the year 1834 * * *

"The following statement contains an account of each translation which has been issued under the supervision of the Foreign Translation Committee."

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"The Foreign Translation Committee think it necessary to make separate mention of the interesting subject of Indian versions.

"It is the opinion of persons most competent to judge, and experience has fully borne out the opinion, that these versions must be made in the countries where the languages are spoken; and it is manifest that scholars who reside in those countries, and who have studied and are studying the languages as they are spoken, are most competent to supervise such translations.

"The Foreign Translation Committee have therefore considered it to be the wisest course to correspond with the persons in India most deserving of confidence, to encourage them to undertake translations of the Holy Scriptures and Liturgy in the native languages, and to obtain from the Board grants for defraying the expenses of such translations.

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"This detailed account of the proceedings of the Foreign Translation Committee will best represent the method of their operations, and the extent to which they have been enabled to carry out the object for which they were appointed.

"The Foreign Translation Committee have in accordance with the resolutions of 1834,

"1. Adopted and published translations of the Scriptures and Liturgy, which have already been recognised as of standard authority, when they perceived that there was need of such editions of these translations as were not elsewhere to be procured.

"2. Revised and published translations which, while generally excellent, were from their ancient date, or from other causes, not entirely satisfactory.

"3. Promoted and prepared new translations, where there were either no existing translations, or none which seemed worthy of approval.

"In the course of this report, it will have appeared that the reliable sources of new translations are necessarily limited. They are generally supplied by missionaries who, having been labouring among the people whose wants are to be supplied, have become acquainted with their language, and been made aware of the difficulties attending the representation of religious truths and theological statements to their minds.

"Missionaries generally feel the want of a translation of our Liturgy for the purposes of their ministrations, and for this reason it is usual to obtain translations of our Prayer Book, before we can obtain versions of the Bible.

"The foregoing account will show the extent of the labours of the Foreign Translation Committee in this department, and it will not, it is presumed, be unsatisfactory to the members of the society to observe, that it is in the translation of our Liturgy that most has been effected. The amount of Scripture that is contained in our Prayer Book supplies in part the want of the Holy Scriptures, and experience has shown what might indeed have naturally been expected, that a translation of the Liturgy in any foreign language leads to the translation of the Bible in that

language; such translation being produced in successive portions, and never appearing at once in the form of a complete version of the Holy Scriptures.

"Missionaries are not indeed our only translators. In the Indian languages especially we have the benefit of scholars who have made and are making these languages their especial study, and in the professors of Bishop's College there is a body of learned men in constant communication with natives, and with every facility for increasing their knowledge of the various dialects of India, who are obviously the persons under whose superintendence such works can be best carried on.

"But in the less known languages of America and of Africa, it is to the missionaries that we must mainly look. But while translators are thus secured whose character is approved by their ministerial labours, it is manifest that these labours must necessarily interfere with the work of translation, and it is only occasionally that the undivided services of persons competent for this work can be procured, in reference to those languages in which it is most desirable that new translations should be provided.

"Besides this, those who have listened to reports from the Foreign Translation Committee from year to year, will have heard continually of unexpected causes of delay. The occupations, the state of health, the removal or the death of persons engaged in translation, have constantly retarded the works in progress and called for fresh arrangements; so that the Foreign Translation Committee are quite aware that in presenting a summary of the labours of twenty-six years, they may not improbably fall short of the hopes and of the expectations of many earnest advocates of the cause of the circulation of Scriptural truth.

"The Foreign Translation Committee have no wish to form an undue estimate of the labours of themselves or of their predecessors; but they trust that by the blessing of God they have produced results sufficient to encourage them to proceed in the path which they have pursued, and to continue to carry out those plans of operation which experience has shown to be most effective.

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"They must now address themselves more particularly to the motions of reference to the Standing Committee, which are thus worded:—

"(1) 'That it be referred to the Standing Committee to consider whether any, and if any, what further steps should be taken to supply the want of complete copies of the Holy Scriptures in the various languages in which the Gospel is preached among the heathen, and in the colonies.'

"(2) 'That it be referred to the Standing Committee to consider and report, how far it may be convenient to empower and request the Foreign Translation Committee to take active steps as soon as practicable to procure, and so far as may be to co-operate, from time to time, with other bodies in providing a perpetual supply both of the Sacred Scriptures, and of the Book of Common Prayer, in faithful and complete editions, whether by more accurate and new translation, or by diligent comparison and careful and exact revision of all former versions, into every tongue wherein the gospel has been, or shall be preached.

"Provided always, that all grants in aid be made contingent on approval of the work by competent examiners and referees; and, that no grant made shall become due or payable till after such examination and approval."

"The Foreign Translation Committee are at all times ready to receive any suggestion as to the