

tions of its constituents, containing, as Lord Shaftesbury said, the very pith and marrow of all the other religious societies. Allusion was then made to the extent of the Society's present operations—its circulation of nearly twelve hundred thousand bibles and testaments in 1852—the influence exercised on the world by the twenty five million copies of the Scriptures circulated by the Society: and we were urged to consider what might have been the state of many parts of the world at this time had this influence not existed.—this heaven not been mingled with the mass. The principles proclaimed by the Society, as dear to all hearts, is, *that every individual of the world has a right to read the Word of God, without note or comment.* It is our duty to maintain this principle; but, were it a question of expediency merely, and not of right or duty, and we had now to determine whether the prosperity of the Province would be best promoted by the free or fettered circulation of the Bible, could we hesitate a moment as to the choice,—comparing the state of those countries in which the free use of the Bible was denied to the people with that of those where it was open to all? By every consideration, then, we are urged to contend that the Bible should not be a sealed book in New-Brunswick. The position and prospects of the Bible Society are such as to call for deep and heartfelt gratitude to the Great Giver of all good, and for the hearty earnest co-operation of us all.

An abstract of the Report was then read by the Secretary, Dr. Paterson. This document contained a number of interesting facts in reference to operations of the Parent Society and of our Auxiliary; but our space will not admit of our noticing them at present.

The following resolutions, which were supported with great ability by the several speakers, were then passed unanimously:—

Moved by the Rev. Mr. Ferris, seconded by Charles A. Hartt, Esq.
Resolved. That the Report, an abstract of which has been just read, be received, and that the same be printed and circulated under the direction of the Committee.

Moved by Rev. L. W. D. Gray, Rector, seconded by Rev. Mr. Elder:
Resolved, That we most thankfully and cordially join with our brethren in England in the acknowledgment, that the increased amount during the year ending in May, 1852, both of the receipts and issues of the British and Foreign Bible Society, calls for an expression of deep gratitude to Almighty God; whose continual blessings this meeting would earnestly implore, to sustain the Society in its work, to clear a pathway for its progress where it meets with obstruction, and to crown its labours with success.

Moved by Rev. Mr. Bill, seconded by Rev. Mr. Smith:
Resolved. That this meeting rejoices to recognize the growing support which Bible Societies are receiving from all denominations of Protestant Christians, and to perceive that differences on this head are fast yielding to the vital and absorbing principles in which we all agree, that the Bible—the whole Bible—should be open for the free instruction of all men, being adapted to all conditions of society, and, therefore, most fitted for enlightening and purifying the world.