

PICTON BRANCH.

Annual Report adopted 11th Oct., 1860.

The Committee in presenting their Annual Report, rejoice that it is still in their power to record favorably the success which has attended this Branch. During last year, there is not anything in its proceedings which requires particular notice. Silently has the work been going on. Quietly has it been pursuing its way. Our statement is fully borne out by a reference to the sales. We trust that God may bless our labors here, and give us a deep spiritual insight of what so nearly concerns our immortal welfare. May our minds be led to value His own heavenly blessings, and while thankful for temporal mercies which he has so abundantly bestowed upon us, may we cheerfully give of what is His own to forward His own cause—ever remembering that it is more “blessed to give than receive.”

The Colporteur, Mr. Dunnon, reports that there are many houses near us in which there are no Bibles. May these be led to value the Bible, and may its revivifying influences be felt among us.

Our collections are much smaller than usual; but we hope that with the returning prosperity of our County, they may again show an increased interest in our Society.

From this cause we have been unable to transmit to the Kingston Branch, their annual donation, which, from the expenses they incur, is much required.

During last year two of the earliest Members of the parent Society, have been removed from this earthly scene, viz—Dr. Steinkoff, and the Rev. J. Angel James. The former (Dr. Steinkoff,) was for twenty-two years, Secretary of the parent Society; and one of the first of that little band of 300, who on the 7th of March, 1804, laid the foundation of the Parent Society. Originally from Wurtemberg, his appeals and his representations of the spiritual wants of his countrymen to the compassion and munificence of British Christians, did much in favor of the Institution.

The Rev. J. Angel James, was one of the founders of the first Branch Association at Birmingham, and for 53 years he held the office of the Secretary. His name will ever live in remembrance from his connection with the scheme for providing a million copies for China.

Seeing that our Fathers are fast passing away, may we be up and doing. May we endeavor to forward God's own cause by distributing His Book; may we take it as the man of our Council. We are reminded by the death of these eminent servants how God prospers His own work. Let us reflect, that when these began their labors on the Bible Society, only a few, very few were engaged on the work—now there are thousands upon thousands, and Bibles are found in almost every part of the known world.

JAMES GRAY, *Sec. & Treas.*