

REPORT.

ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

To the Friends, Collectors, and Ministers,

Of the Primitive Methodist Missions in Canada :

DEAR FELLOW-LABOURERS :—At the close of another year, we are permitted to address you in language of thankfulness and congratulation. The twelve months we now review have been marked by many trials, and by measureless mercies. As a nation, God has signally blessed us in Canada : there is now a degree of prosperity in our Dominion, which has probably never been surpassed in our annals. The resources of our vast territories are being opened up ; a tide of emigration is pouring in upon our shores ; trade is healthy ; and in other countries Canada is attracting a larger share of the attention of statesmen and capitalists, than it has ever done before in a time of peace. We accept these signs of national vigor and prosperity, not only as an indication of the grand and widening future which is before us as a nation, but as an additional reason why we who are striving to lay the foundations of that future in the fear of God, and in the principles of Christianity, should increase our diligence, should extend our labours, should renew our covenant, and consecrate ourselves afresh to the holy work in which we are engaged. Nations owe more to their Christian labourers, than to their astutest statesmen. The men whose earnest prayers, holy examples, and self-denying faith, leaven society with the principles of purity, of justice, and of piety, do more to strengthen the state, and to build up the bulwarks of the land, than the political leaders, whose work is merely to give legislative enforcement to the public sentiments which have been created by other forces : in making the world what God would have it to be, the churches lead, and do not follow, the secular governments of the age.

We thank you most heartily for the earnest and cheerful co-operation which the committee has received at your hands during