

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING,

Held in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, on Wednesday Evening,
January 7, 1846.

His Honor, Judge PARKER, President of the Society, in the Chair.

The Meeting was opened by singing the following Hymn :

The Heavens declare Thy glory, Lord,
In ev'ry star thy wisdom shines ;
But, when our eyes behold thy word,
We read thy name in fairer lines.

The rolling sun, the changing light,
And nights and days thy power confess ;
But the blest volume Thou hast writ,
Reveals thy justice and thy grace.

Nor shall thy spreading Gospel rest,
Till through the earth thy Truth has run,
Till Christ has all the nations blest
Which see the light, or feel the sun.

Great Sun of Righteousness, arise !
Bless the dark world with heavenly light !
Thy Gospel makes the simple wise,
Thy laws are pure, thy judgments right.

Thy noblest wonders here we view
In souls renew'd and sins forgiven ;—
Lord, cleanse our sins, our souls renew,
And make thy word our guide to Heaven.

His Honor, the PRESIDENT, in his opening address, after alluding to the title of the Society as sufficiently indicating that it was Auxiliary to another, that great body whose name was spread throughout the world, "*The British and Foreign Bible Society*," spoke of the period and circumstances in which that institution was formed—the simplicity, yet vast and overpowering importance of its object, namely, the sending the Holy Scriptures, the only authentic written record of the Revelation of God to man, without addition, to all people, nations, and tribes, in their own native language ;—that the Bible Society sought not to swallow up other Societies, or interfere with their operations, much less to intrude on the office of the ministry or supersede the labours of missionaries—it was a distributor, not an expounder, of the Scriptures. The President then referred to the two leading rules of the Parent Society, as clearly declaring its object and principles ; and in answer to objections, which from time to time were made to the Society, urged on every member, and every person favourable to its object, to search and satisfy himself on these points,—