

utes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretaries reported that in response to their call for tenders to print the Annual Report and the Recorder, that of Mr. C. Blackett Robinson was found to be the lowest and most satisfactory. The Board resolved that the tender be awarded to Mr. Robinson. The reports of the Committees on Grants of Scriptures to Sunday Schools, and on Agency and Colportage, were submitted and approved. A letter of thanks was read from Miss Scott of the Young Women's Christian Temperance Union, for the donation of 24 Bibles. A grant of 24 Testaments to Mr. Robert Hall, City Missionary, for the Volunteer Camp at Niagara, was approved. The usual routine proceedings were gone through, and after prayer led by Rev. Chas. Duff, the Meeting adjourned to the third Tuesday in September (being the customary summer recess).

The Board held their usual Monthly Meeting, on Tuesday evening the 18th Sept., at 7.30 o'clock, Mr. Brown in the chair. The Rev. H. G. Baldwin opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes of the last Meeting were read and approved. A report from the Agency and Colportage Committee was read and adopted. A letter from Rev. A. Fraser, asking for the establishment of a Branch at Comox, B.C. was referred to the Agency and Colportage Committee. Applications from Mr. Henry O'Brien for 48 Bibles for a Mission School, and Mr. Wm. Gooderham, for 100 Bibles for the Christian Institute were granted. In consequence of the removal of the Rev. Mr. Jolliffe from the city, the Rev. D. G. Sutherland, M.A., LL.B., was chosen to replace him on the Board, and the Committee on Agency and Colportage. The Rev. A. F. McGregor, handed in a donation from Mr. T. H. McCaul, of \$100 on behalf of his wife and daughter, who were elected Life Members of this Society. The general routine business was disposed of, and the Meeting was closed with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Caven.

THE BIBLE, AND WHAT IT DOES.

BY REV. W. M. BARBOUR, D. D., MONTREAL

Why have a society for the distribution of this book?

1. Because of the information it conveys. One can learn more in an hour from the first page of the Bible than he can learn in a thousand years from the wise men of this world. How much have these wise men been telling us? Upon the creation of the world, very little in advance of Moses. Much on the ways and means of creation, but nothing of satisfying fact beyond this primal utterance, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." From Democritus and Darwin we get much interesting speculation, but our last and best word is from the Lord, who only confirms the Mosaic records in saying, "God clothes the lilies of the field, and adorns them with a glory exceeding Solomon's." But of the process he says nothing. If out of the earth and the atmosphere he weaves the sun's robe, and makes the sun painter, good and well, still it is God that is the Creator, as the Bible said at first. And after we go through all sorts of theories of creation, we have to come back for intellectual satisfaction to what is told us here. We desire, then, to keep this and a thousand other like pieces of information before the world for its enlightenment. Hence the existence of a Bible society.

2. For its laws and principles of law. Were the Bible's laws obeyed to the letter, little legislation of our own would be called for. And as to its principles of right and wrong, plain jurymen and skilled *nisi prius* lawyers alike fall back on them for their arguments and judgments.

3. For its quickening of conscience. What a power over the moral nature of man has this book been! Not in its words only, but in its lives of both the good and the bad. How many heroes has David led against the Goliaths of every age? How many collections have the widows' mites increased?