

Communications.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STUDENTS' MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—KNOX COLLEGE.

At the close of another year, we are once more permitted in the good Providence of God, to assemble in this Hall for the purpose of celebrating the Sixteenth Anniversary of our Missionary Society, and in looking back upon our past history as a Society, we feel constrained to say, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad." One year more has closed upon us, and while from time to time we meet for purposes similar to the present, it behoves us with grateful hearts to return our sincere thanks to the Supreme Ruler of all, and to recognise the kind hand of Providence by which we have been sustained, since we last met in this capacity. We feel specially thankful for the health which our members have enjoyed, and for the prosperity which has attended our efforts in the Mission-field or otherwise, during the past few months of our separation from each other. It is also a matter of joy to us, that we are free from the painful duty of recording the death of any of our members, all have been brought back in safety with a large accession to our number, so that the work of the session has been begun under favourable circumstances—we hope it shall so continue to the close.

In accordance with the usual custom of this Society, it is now the duty of your Committee to submit a short Report of last year's procedure, with the view of increasing the interest of its members in Missionary labour, and that all may be mutually encouraged and aided in the great work to which we, as a Society, have given ourselves. We feel confident that the review of our labour during the past year will be pleasing and profitable to us all.

Our regular monthly meetings were well attended, and great interest was manifested in the business which occupied us; and if we have not been so successful in our main design, as we anticipated—this much however we can safely say, that there never was a session during which more harmony and brotherly love were manifested, all our deliberations were marked with kindness towards each other, and with due respect for each others' feelings. We hope that all our duties shall be so discharged this year as shall enable your Committee to give a similar account in the next Report.

As usual, besides the transaction of ordinary business relating more immediately to the Society, our general meetings were rendered still more interesting by the reading of Essays on various subjects by certain of your members. The following are the titles of the essays read at successive meetings. "The Rise of the Papacy and the Progress of the Reformation in Germany to the Peace of Augsburg, 1655," by Mr. Mackey. "The necessity of Effort in connection with our Mission," by Mr. Thompson. "Auricular Confession," by Mr. Labelle. and "Three Reasons for spreading the Gospel," by Mr. Gillies.

Also, as on previous years, many of your members employed themselves during the Saturday afternoons in the work of tract distribution, thereby bringing an influence for good to bear upon the minds of many who live in destitute parts of the city whose homes are the dwellings of ignorance and vice; many interesting accounts could be given regarding this part of our work, but we feel it to be unnecessary to do so since they were in part laid before you in the Reports given in by the tract committee, only we take this opportunity of publicly testifying our deep gratitude to the Upper Canada Tract Society, for kindly placing at our disposal, tracts to the number of 4,000, all of which were distributed, and though in certain places we were not well received, yet in others considerable interest was manifested. In connection with our work in the city, we would also notice the Gaelic Meeting, which was conducted each Sabbath afternoon in the Temperance Hall by some of your members, and we have the great satisfaction of saying, that these meetings were well attended during the