

suggestion of this Board, of the annual grant of £200 sterling from the British and Foreign Bible Society. In its early history, when the Society was unable of itself to pay for the agency necessary to develop its resources, this grant was of the greatest value, and it is difficult to say how much its firm establishment in the Province is due to the fostering help thus given by the Parent Society, which was quite willing to continue it so long as wished by this Auxiliary. But the Society has now been able for some years back to carry on the work in its own field, to give liberal grants wherever needed to weaker auxiliaries in the Dominion, and to remit a fair surplus to the Parent Society for its work in Roman Catholic and heathen lands. Under these circumstances the Directors thought the money would be better spent in more needy quarters, and communicated their views to the Committee in England in a resolution which will be found in the November number of the *Recorder*, carefully premising that the tie which binds this Auxiliary to the British and Foreign Bible Society should continue as strong as ever. In their answer to this communication the Secretaries of the Home Society say:—"Be assured that we have no suspicion that your present action in this matter carries with it the slightest intention to weaken the bonds that unite the Parent Society and its valued auxiliary. We regard it as inspired by an honourable feeling which we highly appreciate, and we trust that the career of the Upper Canada Society may be marked in the future by the same gratifying progress as that by which its past course has been distinguished."

It is true that the actual increase in the income is altogether from payments on purchase account and that there is still a decrease in the free contributions from the Branches; but it should be understood that many of these payments are largely made up of moneys which have been freely subscribed by the people. This practice of paying "on purchase account" money raised by subscription has been considered by the Board, and a better method has been recommended to the Branches, which the Directors have reason to hope will soon be adopted by all, several having acted upon the suggestion as soon as their attention was called to the matter. It is also to be noted that the reported income of the twelve months does not include the returns from so many Branches. There are always, unfortunately, some that do not send their remittances in time to be included in the year's receipts; but this year without any fault on the part of most of them the number of these is considerably increased. As a Permanent Agent was engaged in September, it was necessary to leave some of his visits to be made in spring and summer, and the sections thus apparently neglected have of course yielded no fruit during the year just closed, but will do so early in that just begun. Moreover the expenses of the society have been less, so that the net results of the twelve months' operations have yielded at least \$1,500 more than those of the previous year for the spread of God's Word.

#### AGENCY.

One of the first matters which occupied the attention of the Board when it came into office, was the system of Agency. A special com-