

REPORT, &c.

No injunction of the exalted Saviour is distinguished by clearer marks of perpetual and universal obligation, than his great command, to "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Thus the farewell commission given just before the heavens received Him out of the sight of mortal eye, is a perpetual injunction from the Lord of Glory, to foster and maintain the spirit of Christian Missions.

This is the spirit of pure benevolence, and impartial love. It was this that devised and consummated the plan of mercy for earth's unnumbered myriads. The very genius of the Gospel,—all its eternal provisions—all its promises—all its moral power—all its magnificent and unfading rewards—are directed with an undeviating aim to the salvation of sinners; to break down their obduracy; to pour into their minds the light and joy of heaven.

The Christian duty, and distinguished privilege of sustaining and diffusing the Gospel, every devoted disciple of the Divine Redeemer will, therefore, unhesitatingly acknowledge. And no relaxation of effort in this glorious enterprise must be allowed, until "the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea."

In unison with the high behest of our ascending Saviour, and in humble dependance upon His guidance and blessing, this *Missionary* Society has been formed, whose first Anniversary we are now assembled to celebrate. The present, however, is only a day of small things with us; yet we thank God, and take courage. This is the first organized Society in Eastern Canada, to promote the spread of the Gospel, in unison with our distinctive denominational principles. Hitherto, our Churches have prosecuted their efforts in connexion with other organizations. The objects of our Association are to aid feeble *Congregational Churches in sustaining their Ministers, and for other general Missionary objects of the Congregational body.*