

This memorandum was forwarded on the 23rd of July, and is as follows :—

MEMORANDUM *expressing the views of the Board of Directors of the Upper Canada Bible Society with respect to the recent proposal of the Committee of the London Auxiliary.*

The Board of Directors of the U. C. Bible Society having carefully considered the facts connected with the London Auxiliary, and having heard the proposal submitted by that Auxiliary, is unable to accept the changes suggested, for the following reasons :—

In the first place the Directors believe that, notwithstanding the sincere desire of the present Committee of the Auxiliary to continue the connection, the proposed plan, in its further development, would lead to the disintegration of this Society, and that the acceptance of the proposal would be but the first step leading to results in the highest degree prejudicial to the interests of the Bible Cause.

Secondly. Under these circumstances the Board feels that it would not be true to the trust reposed in it by the founders of the Society were the members to consent to the practical severance of the Branches in the London field from this Society without, at least, consulting those Branches as to their wishes in the matter, and laying the whole case fairly before them, and the consequences to the cause itself of such a severance.

Thirdly. The Board is far from being convinced that the present unsatisfactory state of the Society's interests in the London field has been caused by any lack of freedom accorded to the Committee of the Auxiliary to prosecute its plans. This Board has never interfered with any action of that Committee in the management of its distribution of the Scriptures, whether by grants or colportage ; nor yet in the management of its Branches. For the past two years the Board has invited the stronger Branches under its more immediate supervision to try the experiment of doing their work without the help of paid Agents. The result thus far has been satisfactory, besides saving several hundred dollars. There is good reason to believe that some of the Branches in the London field would have liked to have done the same, yet the Board, although paying the Agents, has been careful not to interfere with the free action of the Auxiliary in this matter. The Agents have always been under instructions to confer with, and act upon the advice of the Secretaries in London. If any of these Agents neglected to correspond with, consult, or report to the Officers of the Auxiliary it was the duty of those officers to have notified the Secretaries of this Board of such neglect or omission.

Fourthly. The Directors are of opinion, and the history of the Society confirms it, that the interests of the cause are not so well looked after in districts occupied by smaller Auxiliaries as when the territory covered by a Society is sufficiently extensive to engage the chief attention and care of its officials. That this has been the case in the Kingston District is well known. That it has not been otherwise in the field of the London Auxiliary is apparent from the fact that its free contributions have decreased from an average of \$28.77 per Branch in 1864-5 to an average of \$16.42 per Branch in 1876-7 ; whereas the free contributions of the field under the immediate supervision