

A special engagement was made with Mr. Thos. Paton (formerly Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society in China) for a few months' work along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway between Calgary, N.-W.T., and Vancouver, B.C. Although Mr. Paton's sales were not very large, his personal contact with so many persons who have not had the benefit of Sabbath services for lengthy periods, as well as his visits to the men employed in constructing railways, at cattle ranches, mines and canneries, and especially among the Chinese and Italian labourers, will, we trust, be productive of much good. The principal sales were made to the Chinese, over 1,700 copies of the Scriptures or portions in their own language having been sold and distributed in a short time, the English-speaking portion of the community being pretty well supplied with the Scriptures, yet through force of circumstances and surroundings, it is feared that the Bible is but little used, while in many places and in various ways the Sabbath day is desecrated, if not entirely ignored. The urgent need in that vast section of our country seems to be regular Sabbath services, spiritual instruction and Gospel ordinances. Shall we not do our part in the endeavour to supply those needs, and assist in saving thousands of our fellowmen who are like shipwrecked passengers in open boats, helplessly drifting on the mighty ocean?

BOARD MEETINGS.

The regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 15th April, the Rev. Dr. Potts in the chair. The Rev. Robert Wallace led the opening devotional exercises, after which the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A report from the Agency and Colportage Committee was submitted and adopted. Letters were read from the British and Foreign Bible Society, thanking the Board for the handsome remittances received; from Mrs. John Macdonald, thanking the Directors for their resolution of sympathy with her in the loss of her husband, the late Hon. John Macdonald; and from the Rev. Arthur J. Cobb, applying for a grant of Bibles for free distribution in a poor settlement in Parry Sound District. Thirty-six Bibles were granted. A statement of Financial Receipts for the fiscal year 1890-'91 was submitted by the Permanent Secretary, showing a gratifying increase in revenue over any former year.

The Permanent Secretary reported that all arrangements for the Annual Meeting to be almost complete. It was decided to request the Permanent Agent, Rev. J. G. Manly, to give at the annual meeting some information respecting his work on behalf of the Society.

The meeting was adjourned to the 29th April, to receive draft of Annual Report, and was dismissed with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Thomas.

The adjourned meeting of the Board took place on the 29th April, Dr. Geikie, in the chair. The meeting was opened by the Rev. J. J. Hill leading in prayer, and reading from the Scriptures.

The Minutes of the meeting of the 15th inst. were read and approved.

Letters were submitted from Rev. J. Cobb, of Parry Sound District, and the Secretary of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, of Sault Ste. Marie, thanking the Board for its donations of Scriptures to them. The Treasurer, Mr. John K. Macdonald, submitted a report of the finances of the Society for the past year, showing a net balance of \$5,288.81 at credit, which was appropriated as follows:—

£600 stg. on account of purchases from the British and Foreign Bible Society.

£400 stg. as a grant to the Parent Society for general purposes.

\$500 as a grant to the Quebec Auxiliary Bible Society.