

REPORT FOR 1896.

"Encouragement" is the keynote of the Seventy-sixth Annual Report of this Auxiliary. The friends of the Bible Society here cannot indeed rest satisfied with what has hitherto been done, but past evidences that their labour is not in vain stimulate to renewed exertion henceforth.

We are very glad to be able to submit without alteration last year's list of Office-bearers and Agents. But from our General Committee four valued names have been removed by death, those of Canon Henderson, D.D., the beloved and honoured Principal of the Diocesan Theological College, for nearly twenty years at the helm of one of our most important religious institutions, who entered into rest on October 20, 1896; of the Rev. W. J. Smyth, Ph.D., for many years the zealous pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church; of the Rev. John McGillivray; and of the Rev. A. M. Phillips, B.D., pastor of Douglas Methodist Church, called suddenly home at an early stage of his useful career. We trust that new friends, as earnest and able, may come forward to fill these gaps in our ranks.

The Anniversary Meeting on January 29th, 1896, will always be remembered as one of the most successful ever held in Montreal. The presence of a number of our Colporteurs added to the interest of the proceedings; and the speeches of the Rev. F. M. Dewey and of the Rev. Donald Grant were regarded at headquarters as of such special value in setting forth the purpose and character of the Society's work, that they were reproduced in full in the *Bible Society Monthly Reporter*.

A very interesting meeting was held on September 28th, 1896, in connexion with the Protestant Ministerial Association, to take counsel with the ministers of Montreal as to our work.