

work of the Christian Minister:—that he whose business it is to save souls must himself first be saved, and experience in his own soul the blessed verities he is to proclaim to others: that it is God's sole prerogative to appoint and call to this work;—and that no human designation can authorize a man to engage in it, who is not divinely called. Accordingly no one is received into our ministry, respecting whom there is not sufficient reason to believe that he is soundly converted, divinely called, and suitably qualified for the work. And we think we have the true "Apostolical succession," (to employ a much abused term,) in a continued series of men, converted to God by the same grace which converted the Apostles—called to the work of the ministry by the same divine authority—qualified by the same experimental knowledge of the truth—preaching the same doctrines—and producing the same effects in the conversion of sinners to God, and the edification of them that believe.

3. We have an efficient system of mutual edification, in our class-meetings, our band-meetings both private and public, our love-feasts, and our numerous prayer-meetings held not only in our chapels but also in the houses of our members scattered throughout most of the large towns and principal villages of the kingdom. By these means the good effects produced by the ministry of the word are rendered more permanent and perceptible; and various Scriptural precepts are fulfilled more extensively than they could be by any other method; those for instance, which require us to "exhort," "admonish," and "comfort one another," to "provoke one another to love and good works," to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ;" to "confess our faults one to another and pray one for another, that we may be healed," and to "rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep." The inexperienced are thus instructed, the timid encouraged, the feeble strengthened, the tempted succoured, the unruly warned, the incorrigible removed, and the whole body edified in love.

4. We have an extensive machinery of subordinate agents, including in one or another of its departments of usefulness a large proportion of the members of our various societies; so that every talent distributed by the Great Head of the church among its members, may be called into exercise and approved to the glory of God and the good of mankind. How goodly a number of our members are systematically employed in advancing the cause of Christ and promoting the best interests of men, as Local Preachers, Exhorters, Class-leaders, Prayer-leaders, Trustees, Stewards, Managers and Teachers of Sunday Schools, Missionary Collectors, Visitors of the Sick, Tract distributors, &c.! Whatever may be a person's sex, or age, or rank in society, or property, or attainments in knowledge, or experience in the things of God, the admirable system to which God in his merciful Providence led our venerated founder, finds some work for him, assigns him some post of honour and usefulness, and opens before him a path in which he may both get and do good, and be at once blessed and made a blessing.

(To be concluded in our next.)

THE WESLEYAN.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1841.

On the evening of Wednesday, the 4th inst., the annual meeting of the Upper Canada Bible Society, in connexion with the British and Foreign Bible Society, was held in the Congregational chapel, in this city. The chair was taken by the Hon. J. S. Macaulay, who called upon the Rev. W. Rintoul to open the services with prayer. Several resolutions were submitted to the meeting by the Revs. J. Stinson, J. Harris, and J. Richardson, Agent of the Society; J. Ketchum, Esq.; Revs. W. Rintoul and J. G. Manly; Major Burgh, of the 93d Regiment; Rev. Mr. Thompson, Agent of the Parent Society; E. W. Thomson, Esq., Warden of the Home District, and the Rev. E. Ryerson. The Report gave an interesting and encouraging account of the Society's operations during the past year, stati-

that about twelve thousand copies of the Sacred Scriptures had been circulated, and that thirteen thousand copies, or upwards, were ordered for the year next ensuing.—Resolutions, thanking the Parent Society for its prompt and generous aid, the Governor General for his kindness in becoming the Patron of the Society, and Captain Macaulay for presiding over the meeting, were adopted. The labours of the Rev. James Richardson have been found very useful in strengthening and enlarging the Society's operations. About ninety auxiliaries are reported to be labouring, in this part of the Province, for the general circulation of the Word of God. The congregation was respectable and attentive; the collection amounted to £78s. 7½d.; and the services were closed with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Thomson.

Several appropriate and important remarks were made in relation to the objects and exertions of the Bible Society, which we trust, will produce a beneficial effect. Who that considers the aims and labours, the difficulties and achievements of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, can stand aloof or remain indifferent? The word of life, in whole or in part, has been published and distributed in upwards of 150 languages and dialects, and to the amount of more than twelve millions of copies, during the past thirty-eight years; nor will the hopes and designs of this noble Institution be realized, till every human being possesses a copy of the word of God. The Bible, the Bible alone, the Bible pure and unadulterated, without note or comment, is sent forth by this Society, without sectarian aims or selfish feelings, in accordance with the immortal Chillingworth's imperishable declaration—"The Bible, I say, the Bible is the religion of Protestants." Whoever dreads or declines the simple circulation of the Scriptures gives ample room to question the purity and truth of his religious principles. The reading, as well as the hearing, of the truth of God is a divinely-appointed means of instruction and salvation which has already, in a thousand instances, proved eminently beneficial, and which every enlightened and decided christian should diligently encourage and promote. It is both a duty and a delight to distribute "the Scripture of truth;" and we rejoice to know that the excellent and laborious men who contemplate the universal circulation of the Bible are not labouring in vain or spending their strength for nought. The word of God will not return unto Him void, but will have free course, in every direction and in every region; and will run and glorified.

On the following evening, in the same place, the annual meeting of the Upper Canada Religious Tract and Book Society was held. The same gentleman presided; and the principal speakers were Revs. W. Rintoul, J. Richardson, J. Thomson, E. Ryerson; and Joseph Wenham, Esq. The Report gave a very encouraging statement of the operations and condition of the Society, as respects receipts, issues, and tract distribution. The collection amounted to £510s. 2½d. Several Sabbath School libraries have been sold during the past year, and some facts were reported at the meeting as proofs and illustrations of the beneficent designs and influence of the Institution. Incalculable good has been done by the circulation of tracts; many careless and profligate persons have been awakened and reclaimed, and to thousands consolation and aid have been abundantly administered. Often have small books and

tracts distilled a gracious influence, as dew upon the tender herb; while larger works and more prominent exertions have operated as showers that water the earth. It is the wisdom and the duty of churches and individual christians to employ every appropriate and available agency and instrumentality, in spreading the knowledge and favour of the Redeemer's name. Hitherto the Lord hath helped and prospered his servants; but for the future are reserved far more glorious triumphs and achievements. Nations are yet to be born to God; millions are to be visited, reclaimed and saved; and happy will be the man, in the day of audit and decision, who shall be recognized and honoured as having diligently and perseveringly laboured, by various means, to hasten the universal coming of the Saviour's kingdom. "Be thou faithful unto death; and I will give thee a crown of life."

We copy from the *Watchman* the following highly interesting and gratifying account of "The Mysore Rajah's Free School," at Madras, Hindoostan:—

To the Editor of the *Athenaeum*.

Sir,—An examination of the pupils in the Rajah's Free School, took place in the Palace on the 17th of this month, in the presence of His Highness the Rajah, Colonel Stokes, the British Resident, and several Civil and military Officers, besides a crowded audience of respectable Natives.

About 12 o'clock, the 1st Class was called into a most magnificent room, where the Rajah and several European Officers were conveniently seated for seeing and hearing. The boys commenced by reading a small portion of the New Testament in English. They then translated the same portion in Canarese correctly and idiomatically.

They were then examined in the History of Mysore from the earliest periods to the present time. They gave the dates and all the chief events of each reign with a correctness which was truly surprising. This part of the examination was conducted, first in the Canarese language and afterwards in English. The Rajah took a lively interest in this part, and exhibited a surprisingly correct knowledge of dates in Mysore, detecting the smallest error with the greatest readiness. We have never witnessed a stricter examination in History, or one in which boys acquitted themselves better.—Questions in the same History were then proposed in English by one of the Military Officers present. They did as well in English as they did in Canarese, and received the commendation of all who were present. This being finished, they entered upon English History during the reign of George the III. This lesson was also gone through in Canarese as well as English, with great credit.

In English Grammar also, they did exceedingly well. The Rev. J. Street (Chaplain,) who chanced to be on a visit at the Residency, had been invited to attend, and kindly took part in the examination. He proposed a variety of questions in grammar, which were all answered correctly, with little or no hesitation. He then gave them a few sentences to parse, some of them rather difficult ones, but they went through them without a mistake. All the gentlemen present were astonished at the correctness of their grammatical knowledge.

The same Rev. gentleman examined them in Geography. They answered various questions on Europe and Asia, readily mentioned all the chief towns, rivers, mountains, capes, islands, &c. &c. of any country either in Europe or Asia, and pointed out their position on the map with the greatest ease. They exhibited specimens of penmanship in various languages, viz. Canarese, Tamil, Telooquo, Hindoostani, Marahitta, &c., as well as English. A few maps drawn by some of the 1st boys in Canarese and English were deservedly admired. Some essays on different subjects were also brought forward by their respective writers. They shewed the mode of thinking, as well as the mode of expression of various native minds. One was read to the assembly and much praised. The examination of this class, containing about 15 boys, occupied at least two hours.

The 2d Class having been called for, the boys were examined in a similar manner

and in lessons of the same kind, the only difference being that these boys were not so far advanced, and their specimens of writing not so good; in this class there were about 15 boys.

The third Class were all beginners. It was divided into two or three divisions, making altogether about 40 boys. They read and spelled, and gave the meaning in Canarese of simple English words, and repeated some easy pieces of poetry, and for the time they had been at school they did well; with this Class the examination closed. The Rajah ordered Rewards from 10 Rs. and under to be given to every boy. Some medals with suitable inscriptions are being prepared.

This school has been in operation about one year, so that the above is an account of the first examination. It is under the management of the Rev. T. Hodson, Wesleyan Missionary, and the whole expense is paid by His Highness the Rajah of Mysore. He grants regularly 120 Rs. a month, and readily meets any incidental expenses which may arise; not out of ostentation, because there can be none in so small a matter, but does it evidently from a sincere desire to benefit the rising generation.—And it was a fine sight on the day of examination, to see a native prince presiding in a meeting for the education of the young. One may fancy ALFRED doing something of this kind in the eighth century to encourage learning in England. And India would have been like England in knowledge and greatness of conduct like that now mentioned, had it been universally adopted. The time however has not all escaped; the regeneration of India may and will yet be effected. Let but the native princes and rich native gentlemen, imitate the conduct of the Rajah of Mysore, in supporting English schools and in presiding at public examinations, and a glorious state of things will soon be the result.

TESTIS OCULATUS.

Mysore, October 13, 1841.

The Canada Western District Meeting commenced its Session at Hamilton, Gore District, on Wednesday, the 11th inst., and closed on Thursday, the 19th. There was a full attendance of the Ministers in the district; and the proceedings were characterized by brotherly-kindness and unanimity. The review of the past year afforded much encouragement and cause of devout thanksgiving to Almighty God.—The erection of several chapels, and proposals and arrangements for the erection of others; numerous and pressing invitations, in various directions, for the labours of Ministers in connexion with the British Conference; the spiritual and financial success and prospects of the Parent Missionary Society; the formation and prosperity of some new circuits; together with an increase of eight hundred members, or upwards, in the district, during the last year, all combined to awaken gratitude and enkindle hope. The preaching of God's holy word and the administration of His ordinances have been accompanied, in various places, with the blessing of the Most High; and the purpose, the power, and excellency of the Gospel have been delightfully illustrated and displayed in the promotion of "glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will to men."

Divine service was held each evening, except on Thursday and Saturday; and also on a few mornings, at 6 o'clock. On the evening of Thursday, the 12th, an interesting tea-meeting, in aid of the chapel fund, was held. The assemblage was large and respectable; and appropriate addresses were delivered by the Chairman—Rev. J. Stinson—Rev. Messrs. Case, Addyman, Richey, Sunday, and Chase—the two last Indian. The tea and its accompaniments were served up in excellent style; and the Choir, under the direction of its estimable and skilful Leader, Mr. H. Clarke, supplied the charms of sacred music. The chapel itself is a neat and substantial edi-