

REPORT OF THE CANADA BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY,

Held at the BAPTIST CHAPEL in the Rear of
CHATHAM, ThursDay, January 24, 1839.

In meeting you on this occasion, it would have given the Committee much pleasure had they been able to do so with the unqualified assertion that the last year had been one of decided success. Yet, while this is not the case, and but little may be said to have been actually accomplished, we cherish the expectation that, in giving you an account of our proceedings, it will be found that this want of success has not been the consequence of a want of interest felt, or attention given, on the part of your Committee, but of occurrences beyond their control.

One of the principal objects for which the Society was organised being the education of pious young men, for the work of the ministry in Canada, their first endeavour was to obtain a suitable person, qualified for the important situation of Tutor, and then to decide upon where it would be most desirable and convenient that the building should be erected. These matters have been the subject of much correspondence with our brethren in England, the result of which has been that Dr. Davies arrived in Montreal about the beginning of September last, to take the charge of the Institution, where he remains for the present, having made a temporary arrangement for the prosecution of his plans, until it shall be determined where the College is to be built; and you will be gratified to learn that four young men are now pursuing their studies under his superintendence.

While referring to this part of the Society's operations, the Committee would recommend to the different

Churches that where suitable qualifications appear to be possessed, enquiry should be made whether there is not such a desire existing to promote the cause of Christ as would induce an entire consecration to his service, in order that the object for which the Institution is established may be more extensively realised.

It must be quite obvious to those who have made themselves acquainted with the state of the churches throughout Canada, that there is a great want of intelligent, judicious, and devoted ministers of the gospel; such as can and will devote themselves wholly to the work. This was most strongly urged by Mr. Gilmour when in England, and has been frequently pressed upon the attention of our friends there when corresponding with them;—and we are happy to inform you that a public meeting was held in London on the 6th December last, when it was resolved to extend the plan and objects of the Baptist Canadian Missionary Society, so as to embrace other British Colonies, assuming the name of THE BAPTIST COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Your Committee have not yet received any direct information respecting the future plans of the Society thus organised, but indulge the hope that they will embrace a more extended sphere, and secure an active course of operations.

As it respects the location of the College, which has been so long delayed, your Committee, in conformity with the instructions received from the Committee of the Society in London, had at one time proceeded so far as to make an offer for the purchase of a building in Montreal, and were in the act of negotiating for it, when a letter was received from the Secretary of the London Committee, announcing the arrival of Elder Rees as a delegate from the Baptist Churches in Upper Canada, in consequence of whose representa-