

not merely in private households, but in manufactories and large places of business—has received appointment to a similar work in Greenock. Several Bible-women, supported by different congregations, draw from our repository. The two agents whom we directly maintain are Mr Currie and Miss Cameron. The former has made 8631 visits during the year, and distributed 759 Bibles and 215 Testaments—in all, 974 copies; the latter has distributed 83 Bibles and 61 Testaments—in all, 144 copies. Last year there was reported an increase of 175 new subscribers, and this year the list of ordinary subscriptions—the staple revenue of the society—is greater than ever it has been in any former year, and this too in a year when the largest amount of special donations have been at the same time received.

An important step has recently been taken by the committee in Edinburgh by the purchase of more commodious premises.

*Bible-Women in Glasgow.*—Twenty-one of these useful agents receive their supplies of Scriptures from this society. In the majority of cases their salary is entirely defrayed by congregational or private subscriptions, but in some instances the society has contributed a certain weekly sum in aid, which, by a recent arrangement, will in future be given as a discount on Bibles sold; the directors being of opinion that, valuable as is the domiciliary influence of the Bible-women for the religious and social amelioration of the poor, the funds of the Bible Society can only be expended in the direct circulation of the Scriptures. Notwithstanding the depression in the employment of the working classes by which 1861 was unfortunately characterised, the Glasgow Bible-women disposed of 2635 copies or parts of the Scriptures—obtaining on the average the full cost price, which amounted in the aggregate to £213.

*Bibles Sold in Glasgow Mills.*—1150 copies of the Scriptures have been sold, without loss, to the society, to the work-people employed in various mills and public works. This effort originated in the zeal of one of the Bible-women, and is capable of great extension. The report then alludes to the good done by Testaments given in loan, which are highly prized, especially by the aged poor.

*Circulation by Ladies.*—So large a number of Bibles, has been circulated by ladies, that directors deem their labours worthy of special notice. A Ladies' Bible Society, in connection with the Anderston Church, Glasgow, has sold at the full or at reduced prices, 405 copies to mill-girls, Sabbath scholars, ferry-men, cabmen, carters, errand-boys, &c., for which they have received the large sum of £76 13s. 6d. The lady of a city clergyman, by taking payments in instalments, was instrumental in supplying 113 of her husband's congregation with Bibles of which several were octavos, suitable for family use, and five quarto reference Bibles. Another lady has

conducted a congregational association in a similar way, in connection with Greenhead, United Presbyterian Church, and has sold 130 copies. Without multiplying instances, the directors commend these facts to the consideration of Christian ladies in town and country, in the hope that others will be induced to engage in this auspicious and delightful agency.

The Rev. Dr Norman McLeod rose and said he regretted much that Lord Aberdeen was obliged to leave them, having to travel immediately to the North: but he thought their regret would be very much increased if they permitted his Lordship to leave without their expressing the very great sense they entertained of his kindness in presiding over their meeting to day. Lord Aberdeen had declared, what he most heartily believed, from what they knew of his public and private character, that he esteemed it an honor to have been called upon, and to be able, by the providence of God, to assist by his presence and influence in strengthening this society. This did not free them, however, from the obligation of expressing their very sincere thanks for his kindness in coming here to-day. (Cheers.) Let him say that he earnestly hoped that their National Society would succeed. He did not himself comprehend the genius of the Protestantism that could not, or the Christianity that would not, unite on a platform like this, in advancing the Word of God; and certainly it was perfectly true that the best argument and best answer to every attack on the Bible was the Bible itself, and the best commentary on the Bible was the character of those who believed it and obeyed it; and he hoped they would be among those who believed it with their hearts and who would help its dissemination with their hands. (Applause.) He proposed—"That the Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen be appointed one of the vice-presidents of the society, and that the best thanks of this meeting be rendered to his Lordship for presiding on this occasion, and for his kind attention to the business of the day."

## THE CHURCH IN NOVA SCOTIA.

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,  
PICTOU, March 5, 1862.

Which time and place the Presbytery of Pictou met according to adjournment, and was constituted. Sederunt—Rev. Daniel McCurdy, Moderator; Messrs. Herdman, Pollok, McMillan, McGregor, and Sinclair, ministers; Messrs. John McKay, McKenzie, Grant, and Hugh Ross, elders; and Mr. Christie, Clerk.

Inter alia,

The minutes of last regular meeting were read and sustained as correct; also the minute of the brethren met after the funeral of the late Dr. McGillivray, was read and ap-