

urgent claims upon them for assistance in the maintenance of many and worthy schemes of benevolent and Christian work, not only within this city, but all over the Dominion, consequently the contributions to this Society—though in some cases generous—have not been commensurate with the ability of our people, or with the magnitude of the work, and the pressing need of the world. However, it has been decided to establish Branch Societies in different parts of the city and vicinity, under control of a Committee of the Board, with the object of stimulating the interest of the community in the work of this Society.

It is with gratification that we are enabled to report a continued advance in the revenue of the Society. This increase is partly owing to an advance in the revenue of the "Ketchum Trust"—for distribution in Bibles to the Sunday Schools in the City of Toronto.

For the fiscal year which closed on 31st March, the ordinary revenue amounts to \$35,054.52 which is \$1,610.11 beyond that of any former year.

In addition to this we have received \$5,000, being one-half of the "William Gooderham Bequest," which has been placed as a separate investment, the interest of which is to be used annually for specific purposes in connection with the work of this Society. Thus the grand total of our revenue for the past year amounts to \$40,054.52.

We desire to acknowledge the continued interest and valuable assistance rendered by hundreds of active Officers, Collectors, etc., etc., many of whom have performed noble and faithful services to this Society for periods extending from twenty-five to fifty years, in connection with our local branches.

Invitations having been received and accepted to send representatives to take part in the Anniversary Meetings of other Bible societies, by appointment of the Board the Rev. B. D. Thomas, D.D., visited the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society, and the Rev. John Burton, M.A., B.D., was sent as our representative to attend the 75th Anniversary of the American Bible Society, at New York.

While the work of the Society has been enlarged and extended, there is nothing unusual or eventful to record.

Since our last Annual Meeting four of the members of the Board have been called from time to eternity, thus reminding us who remain of the uncertainty of human life. The names of the deceased are as follows:—Rev. John M. Castle, D.D., a Vice-President since 1882, died on 11th June, 1890, at Rochester, N.Y.; Rev. Samuel Rose, D.D., a Vice-President since 1881, and Chairman of the Committee on the "Ketchum Trusts" for many years, died 16th July, 1890, in the 84th year of his age; Rev. John Gemley, a Vice-President, and formerly the Permanent Secretary of this Society (Sept., '69 to July, '74) died on the 6th January, 1891; Mr. Alderman George E. Gillespie, an active member of the Board since 1884, was suddenly cut down in the full vigour of strength, while on a visit at Pasadena, California, on 11th April, 1891.

AGENCY AND VISITATION OF THE BRANCHES.

The responsibility of visiting the Branches devolved upon the Permanent Agent, and Provisional Agents, each of whom visited the several districts assigned to them respectively. In order to save expenses the officers of a number of the Branches conducted their annual meetings, and performed all the necessary