

THE HARBINGER,

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF GENTLEMEN.

In malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.—*St. Paul.*

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WESTERN CANADA. REPORT

Submitted to the fourth Annual Meeting of the Congregational Union of Canada West, held in the Congregational Chapel, Toronto, on the evening of Friday, the 3d June, 1842.

Another year of the loving-kindness of the Lord has passed over us, and we are again met to recount his goodness and to encourage one-another in our common engagements for the promotion of His cause. May that presence which is the Church's safety and glory be with us, and that wisdom which is its guide be imparted to us, that our intercourse may be happy and invigorating, and our deliberations and determinations such as shall contribute to the accomplishment of the Divine purposes of mercy and grace towards this young and interesting land.

In accordance with a resolution passed at last Annual Meeting, special and continuous religious services have been held during the past year, wherever practicable with much success. A growing interest in divine things is evinced by the Members of our Churches, and numbers have been led, in the judgment of charity, to a knowledge of Christ.

With most of the Churches, Sabbath-Schools are connected, which are generally in a prosperous state; promising to yield to the instructed and the instructors, to the Churches and the community, the happy fruits which they have produced so largely elsewhere. Bible-classes too are in some places in operation and with the happiest effect. These, your Committee would affectionately recommend to the adoption of all the Churches, whose circumstances will admit of their introduction, as a means pre-eminently adapted to raise the standard of intelli-

gence and piety among those to whom we look with hope as the future Members of our Churches, and to provide a supply of suitable agents for the carrying forward of our various operations; and they would press on their Members and the young people connected with them the importune of encouraging them by their presence. By tract distribution also, which is pursued by most of the Churches with vigour, considerable good appear to have been done during the past year.

To your Committee it is a source of much pleasure, and they deem it a matter of congratulation to the body; and thankfulness to God, that your Ministers *without an exception*, and the Members of the Churches very generally, identify themselves with the cause of Temperance, which they regard as among the most important instrumentalities which God is at the present moment employing to prepare men for the reception of the Gospel.

An object has been realized during the past year to which the anxieties of your Committee have been directed for a considerable time, namely, the commencement of Missions among the destitute settlers. Three stations have been taken up, at which respected brethren; two of them the first fruits of your infant Academy, are labouring with acceptance and encouraging success; and a fourth is about to be supplied by a young brother who is now leaving the Institution. Those of the Churches, which have been called upon, have contributed liberally in aid of these operations, and deputations have been appointed which are about to pay a general visit to them to prove their co-operation in the good work. Your Committee indulge the hope that this appeal may be so met as to enable them soon to enter on a department of labour to which they attach very great importance, but from which they are yet held