

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE.

MISSIONARY AND ECCLESIASTICAL.

It may be interesting to many of our readers to know, by a brief statement, what the Religious Societies of Canada East are doing in the various fields of their operations.

From the Report of the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society, we find that it has for its sphere of operations the districts of Montreal, St. Francis, and Three Rivers, comprehending 35 Counties of Eastern Canada and 12 Counties of Canada West, with a population in 1852 of 752,240, about two-thirds of whom are Roman Catholics. For the year 1856 there were issued from the Depository 3705 Bibles, 6149 Testaments, 161 portions, altogether 12,015 copies; making the issues from the first organization of the Society, 200,005. The total receipts are £1724 6s. 7d. Besides the agent at the Depository, the Society employs one travelling agent and two colporteurs.

— The twenty-first annual report of the Montreal Religious Book and Tract Society informs us that its operations extend over Canada East and the district of the Ottawa. Its whole issue of Books and Tracts for 1856, in the English, French, Gaelic, German, Danish, Swedish, Portuguese, Spanish, Italian and Greek languages, together with Tracts for the blind, was 237,017. The receipts and expenditure for the year were £1098 16s. 4d. Five Colporteurs were employed a part of the year, and two are now engaged as permanent laborers in connection with this Society, one in the city, the other in the country.

— From the twentieth report of the Canada Sunday School Union, whose head quarters are in Montreal, it appears that it employs two permanent travelling agents to visit existing Schools and to organise new ones. Of Library Books, Bibles, Hymn Books and Tracts, it issued in 1856, 18,601, making a total since the organization of the Union of 357,584. In 105 Schools connected with this Union there are 513 male and 480 female teachers. The scholars, male and female, amount to 6225, of whom 5328 can read, and 900, or nearly one-sixth, cannot read. 20,382 volumes are reported in the Libraries, and the oldest school is that of St. Gabriel Street Presbyterian Church, Montreal, established in 1820. The total receipts and expenditure have been £535 13s. 7d.

— From the eighteenth annual report of the French Canadian Missionary Society, we find that the Institution at Point aux Trembles for Canadian boys and girls is in a good condition. There are in it about 75 scholars, 42 of whom are boys and 33 girls, under the care of 4 male and 2 female teachers. In the Institute and Mission Stations there are 200 scholars. The Society, through its agents, occupies 11 stations, employs 7 ordained permanent missionaries, 10 catechists, 1 teacher, 2 colporteurs. The Lady Directress of the Girls' Institute, with her daughter and six of the wives of the Catechists, assist as opportunity offers in missionary work. The receipts are £2947 12s. 1d. The expenditure for Point aux Trembles is £1805 11s. 1d.; for evangelization, £151 6s. 8d.; for colportage, £573 3s. 1d.; for general agent and general secretary, £444 5s. 9d.; for miscellaneous matters, £180 4s. 6d.; total, £3220 9s. 9d. We understand that the Rev. D. Fraser, of Montreal, has been requested by this Society to obtain for its services, while he is in Europe, an ordained missionary and several colporteurs.

— The Rev. Mr. Stevenson, Missionary from the Presbyterian Church of Canada, has arrived after a long passage at his destination in India. After consulting with Dr. Duff and the Missionaries in Calcutta, it has been decided that he shall occupy the City of Bancoorah, the centre of a large and populous district, in which no Missionary has yet permanently labored. He is assisted by one of the native converts from the Free Church Institute, Calcutta. Mr. S.'s letters will be found in the "Record."

— The annual meeting of Coté Street Free Church, Montreal, was held in the Church on the 23rd ult., and from the report issued it appears that the congregation are in a very flourishing condition. Much interest was added to this meeting from the circumstance that the esteemed pastor, the Rev. D. Fraser, was on the eve of departing for a few months for Europe, partly and mainly as the deputy of our College Committee, with a view of soliciting aid from the sister churches in Britain on behalf of "Knox's College," Toronto. Several of the ministerial brethren of the city took part in the proceedings, and the Divine blessing was implored on Mr. Fraser and his family, for the successful issue of his mission, and for his safe return to his attached flock.

— The annual meeting of the St. Gabriel Street Free Church, Montreal, was held on the 27th ult., in the Church, and a gratifying report was given of the progress of the congregation during the past year. The numerous friends of this venerable Church, the oldest Protestant Church in the Province, will be pleased to know that it is still in a healthy condition.