

pointed an Honorary Governor for life, and who has each year rendered essential services for all the forty-nine years since—the Rev. Carr John Glyn, rector of Witchampton.

Out of the many valued friends who have rendered, and do render, essential services to the Society, six have been enrolled among the Honorary Governors for Life : Mr. George Thomson, who has so often kindly gone through the accounts ; Mr. James Franklin, for forty-four years connected with the Publishing Department at the Bible House, and succeeded, upon his retirement therefrom last August, by Mr. J. J. Brown ; Mr. Henry Tottie, the Society's Honorary Correspondent in Stockholm ; the Rev. George Sargeant, who travelled for it on deputation through the West Indies ; the Rev. James Calvert, who has just crowned past services by correcting and carrying through the press the New Testament for Rotuma, and the whole Bible for Fiji ; and Mr. C. H. Hooper, of Eastington Lodge, Gloucester, than whom few harder workers for the Society are known.

3. Many old friends in the front rank are gone. Others have stepped into the breach. Labour and love have not failed. But what of finance ? In trade and in tillage depression has reigned over the earth. Men's hearts are misgiving them for looking after those things which are coming. How has this Society fared ?

Anxiety has not wholly spared your Committee. As the months went by, and income seemed to be retreating even faster than outlay was advancing, conscientious doubts pressed for a reply. Was it right still to persevere in plans for advance which had been framed when prospects were better ? Should the new men who offered be sent out ? Should new fields be entered, and fresh languages be yoked to the Bible car ? Should the loss of thousands of pounds incurred for the "Penny" Testament in English be swelled by adding a "Penny" Testament in Welsh ? Should the grants to other Societies for Bible-women to work behind the purdahs of the East be renewed ? Not in haste, and not in presumption, but calmly, and humbly, with prayer at every step, your Committee have answered each of these questions with a "Yes."

And how do things stand at the close ? While, as compared with last year's figures, the income is indeed above £15,300 *less*, and the expenditure is above £9,700 *more*, on placing both the payments and the receipts for this year in the scales of the balance-sheet by themselves, the preponderance on the wrong side is found to be little more than £2,300. In all the circumstances of the case, this is a financial deliverance which takes rank high among the special mercies of the year ; and for it your Committee can only lift up the voice of thanksgiving unto God.

The deficit threatened to be of far more serious dimensions. The receipts for Scriptures sold at home and abroad have fallen off by over £3,000. Donations stand more than £8,000 below the last figures. But, once more, as was said in the Report of last year, what the living could not spare dropped into the Society's treasury from the hands of the dying. Although below the unprecedentedly high figures of last year by some £8,000, Legacies have again been far above the average, having reached the sum of £45,048 18s. 3d. The magnitude of this sum emphasizes in its own way the fact, already only too clear, that the Society has of late become the poorer by the death of many a generous friend. It strengthens the call upon others to befriend it in their stead. The names of fresh Annual Subscribers and of Donors to replace those who are gone would be gladly received at the Bible House.

Stated more exactly, the Free Income of the Society for the year ending March 31, 1886, has been £132,771 1s. 9d., while the sum received for Scrip-

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