

There are eighty-five Branches on the Auxiliary's list. Fifteen of these however have for several years made no returns and will in most cases be struck off when the Board resumes direct connexion with this part of the Society's field, as they are only a cause of expense. Forty two have sent free contributions to the amount of \$1773. In his letter forwarding the remittance, the Secretary of the Auxiliary calls attention to the gratifying advance of \$411 above the contributions of last year. The Directors gladly recognise this. They are pleased also to notice that the Branches which have indicated their approval of the judgment and final action of the Board have contributed \$742, being \$458 more than they did last year, whereas the total contributions of those which have expressed their desire for the continuance of the Auxiliary do not exceed \$103, including what they have sent to the Auxiliary itself, to this Society, and to the Parent Society in England. The Auxiliary has remitted \$650 on purchase account, being nearly \$500 less than the previous year.

In addition to those that have been under the superintendence of the London Committee, the Society had last year 366 Branches in direct communication with the Board. Of these, four have been struck off the list, and three have been reduced to the position of mere depositories. Only three new Branches have been formed and two new Depositories, so that now there are 362 Branches and five other Depositories. This looks at first sight like a reduction; but it is a real gain, the new Branches giving good promise of being effective helpers in the work, and not causes of unproductive expense. Zurich has already sent a free contribution of \$50, and Temperanceville \$32, and a remittance is expected from Burgoyne at an early date. One of the agents in his report expresses the opinion that a large part of the population is not canvassed on behalf of the Society. The Directors believe that this is the case in many parts; they think however that in most places the true remedy is, not a multiplication of Branches, which would increase the expense of Agency, but the appointment of more collectors by those already organized. It has been an encouraging feature of this year's work that many of the Branches, at the instance of the Agents, promised to widen the fields of their operations, and the officers of several of the stronger ones have undertaken to hold meetings at surrounding villages. Nevertheless there are some parts of the field in which room may be found for new Branch Societies, and the Agents have noted several places where they believe such may be profitably organized, when more prosperous times return.

Of the old Branches, Brantford still takes the lead in the cause of Bible circulation. Hamilton, Guelph and other leading Branches have done well considering the times, while Galt, Port Hope, St. Mary's and others have even increased their contributions.

The Winnipeg Branch is of course not a source of income; but the Committee there are doing a good work in directing and superintending the labours of the Society's Colporteur in that field, and endeavour to do what they can to supplement the Society's grant for his support. At the annual meeting of the Branch, held on the 11th March, the following resolution was passed: "That this meeting recognises with joy the important work of the Upper Canada Bible Society, and that our grateful thanks are due and are hereby tendered to that Society for the valuable assistance they have given, as well as for the sympathy and encouragement which they have invariably extended to us."

AGENCY.

In accordance with the plan adopted in 1875, the Board endeavoured to have every Branch visited in the past year. To do this, one Permanent and twenty-seven Provisional Agents have been employed. The interest mani-