

POETRY.

A CHAMBER SCENE.

She rose from her untroubled sleep,
And put aside her soft brown hair,
And, in a tone, as low and deep,
As love's first whisper, breathed a prayer!
Her snow-white hands together press'd—
Her blue eye sheltered in its lid—
The folded linen on her breast
Just swelling with the charms it hid!
And from a long and flowing dress
Escaped a bare and slender foot,
Whose fall upon the earth did press,
Like a snow white flake, so soft and mute?
And there, from slumber soft and warm,
Like a young spirit fresh from heaven,
She bowed her light and graceful form,
And humbly prayed to be forgiven.

Oh God! if souls unsoiled as these
Need daily mercies at thy throne—
If she, upon her bended knees,
Our loveliest and our purest one—
She with a face so clear and bright,
We deem her some stray child of light—
If she, with those soft eyes in tears,
Day after day, in her first years,
Must kneel and pray for grace from Thee,
What far, far deeper need have we?
How hardly, if she win not heaven,
Will our wild errors be forgiven?

Biblical Intelligence.

NEW BRUNSWICK AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

[We took notice some weeks ago, of the annual meeting of this flourishing Auxiliary Society, and we have now the pleasure of publishing extracts from some of the excellent speeches delivered on that occasion, which have since appeared at much greater length in the St. John, N. B. papers.]

The Rev. Mr. GRAY spoke as follows:—

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen.—I have listened with great pleasure to the Report which has just been read to us, particularly that portion of it which relates to our domestic concerns. This, Sir is new to me. The rest of it is not so. Having attended the annual meeting of the Parent Society, in May, I of course have had the general operations of the Society previously brought under my notice. Still I have had much satisfaction in hearing them recurred to this evening. They comprise a variety of delightful topics which will bear to be repeated again and again. It is impossible for the Christian to renew his reflections upon them, without finding fresh cause for rejoicing and thankfulness. And, indeed Ladies and Gentlemen, I shall have to presume upon this being the case, while speaking upon the Resolution, which the Committee have called upon me to move this evening. I refer to the Foreign operations of the Parent Society. These you have already heard adverted to in the Report, and in the observations that have been made upon it. It will be necessary for me, however to touch upon them again in order to impress them upon your memories, and to do justice to the Resolution entrusted to me.

The Resolution speaks of two things—the success which has attended the operations of the Society, and the gratitude we owe to God for that success.

In reference to the first of these points, I fully agree with the terms of the Resolution.—The success of the society has been very "remarkable." To prove this, it might be sufficient to refer at once to the aggregate statement of their receipts and distributions, during the year. What has been the amount of their Receipts? No less a sum than £105,000 Sterling, being an excess of £8,000 over the previous year. And what have their Issues amounted to? To 658,000, being an excess of no less than 63,000 over the previous year. Here, Sir is an adequate proof of their successful operations.

And hence we see the propriety of the concluding words of the resolution before us, which call upon us while tracing the useful labours of these humble instruments, to offer a fervent expression of gratitude to God. This Sir, is undoubtedly our bounden duty upon such an occasion. For any temporal blessing upon ourselves or others, we, who are miserable and fallen sinners, without any claim whatever upon the bounty of heaven, owe our thanksgivings to the author of our happiness; how much more then for blessings which elevate the soul to God, and make us happy in Eternity! And were it only a single society, or a single individual that had received these spiritual mercies, that should call forth our warm ex-

pressions of gratitude. How much more then, when it is not a single individual, or a single society, or a single nation, or a single quarter of the world, but the World itself, almost every nation and kindred and tongue and people under heaven! We should be grateful, Sir, for the powerful encouragement thus afforded us to go forward in this cause. We see abundant proofs that God is with us. We see that he employs the agency of this Society, notwithstanding all the opposition it meets with, to effect the most important results, to carry the everlasting Gospel to the ends of the earth, and thus lay the foundation for the millennial glory of his Church. And seeing all this, shall we withhold our grateful acknowledgements or stay our hands from supporting this Institution? No Sir! we will bless God for its establishment, bless Him for its increase, bless Him for its preservation and usefulness, and pray Him to enrich and extend it, till every nation and every tribe and every family and every individual of our species shall possess the treasure of God's Word.

Objections, Sir, to this Society, I often hear, but the simple statement of its operations is the best answer to them all. They tell me the machinery is imperfect. I say look how it moves. They tell me it is useless. I say, look at its effects. They tell me we must send out Missionaries. Sir, I agree to the proposal. We ought to send out Missionaries, and to send them in far greater numbers than we ever yet have done. We cannot however send them, unless God disposes their hearts to go. Most sincerely do I pray that He who has at his disposal the hearts of all, may prepare many for this arduous work, and incline their hearts to enter upon it. But in the mean time, send them the Bible. Send them the Missionary that is at all times prepared for the work. Send them the Missionary that can encounter all climates without injury to the constitution, than can tread the burning sands of Africa without being scorched, and traverse the Polar snows without being congealed. Send them the Missionary that now speaks all languages of the earth, and speaks them with effect, because it speaks to the heart and speaks with the power of God.—Send them the Missionary that can associate with every form of human government, without interfering with the political rights of any; associate with the limited Monarchy of France, the Imperial power of Russia, and the Republican Institutions of Greece and America. Send them the Missionary, that without ceasing one principle of truth, can wend its way among the people of all religions, telling the Pagan to renounce his Idols, the Mahomedan to give up his false Prophet and his Koran; the Jew to turn to the despised Messiah; the Greek to relinquish his Images; the Romanist to trust in the only Mediator; aye and the Protestant, not to think it sufficient to protest against error, but to embrace and exemplify "the truth as it is in Jesus." Send them, I say, the Missionary, that can thus traverse the length and breadth of this fallen world, speaking to every class of men, the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; that can do all this, without ceasing one essential tenet, or renouncing one valuable principle, but remaining, like its glorious Author, unchanged and unchangeable, "the same yesterday, to-day, and forever.

May God, sir bless the Institution that sends forth such a Missionary! May the people of this community, and the people of our nation universally, be willing to contribute their labour, their money, and their prayers, for the promotion of this exalted object!

Capt. O'HALLORAN, in seconding the Resolution, said:—

SIR—In giving my support to the resolution of the eminently pious, and eminently talented gentleman, who has just preceded me, permit me in palliation of what may appear forwardness, to remark, that I would gladly have avoided the conspicuous position of a speaker, feeling in all humility, how little my profession and habits as a Soldier qualify me for such a task, and being loth to occupy a place that might be so much more advantageously filled by another; but it has been requested of me as a favour, that I would consent to take an active part in this night's proceedings, and having sincerely at heart the furtherance of the object for which we are met, and relying upon His blessing whose strength is made perfect in weakness, (and whose servant I feel it a great privilege to be permitted thus publicly to avow myself,) I have ventured upon these grounds and considerations to meet the wishes of the Committee, and it only remains for me to add, that the few observations which I have to offer, will apply rather to the general question of the diffusion of the Gospel and our obligation as professing Christians, to take a lively interest in the work, than to the particular resolution, which it has devolved upon me to have the honour of seconding, and which has been so eloquently, feelingly, and fully considered by the Rev. Mr. Gray.

No one can admire more than I do the spirit of active and lavish benevolence which marks the character of the wealthy merchants, the high public func-

tionaries and the professional gentlemen generally of the city of St. John—indeed I have had recent personal experience of it in behalf of a poor widow; and were it not that I might cause pain to some who are perhaps present and listening to me I would furnish their names. A want of generosity is by no means the national failing of New Brunswick. I would only suggest a mode for its application, which is not I fear sufficiently considered, and which would ensure a rich return of treasures in Heaven. I would say let your rivers of bounty flow less in the channels of solicitation cut out by the world, and more into the vineyard of the Lord. Were you required to contribute to any scheme which had for its object to place the City of St. John, in its political and commercial relations in a position of advantage—how would the love of country burst forth, and manifest itself in the promptness and largeness of your donations? Were there funds wanting at this present moment to repel any threatened invasion, let us suppose the invasion so long, and so insolently threatened by the State of Maine; how would the brave and hardy sons of New Brunswick respond to such a call? At such a call, how unsparingly would the old men pour forth their treasures, and the young men their blood. And yet, Sir, funds are wanting for a far more important purpose, than to ensure the political and commercial advantages of the City of St. John; funds are wanting to repel the encroachments upon our territories of a far more daring and implacable foe than Governor Fairfield; the City to whose prosperity, (not political but spiritual) I would direct your contributions is the City of the New Jerusalem—the foe to be repelled is not Governor Fairfield, but Governor Satan; extensive indeed are his dominions, and hourly on the increase his power and his sway. Funds are wanting Sir, to oppose the light of the Gospel to his devices—funds are wanting to raise on high the Cross wherever it may be confronted by the banners of the powers of darkness.

It is the Lord himself who is the originator of the scheme, and he who graciously condescends to make his power perfect in weakness in graciously pleased to accept of mortal means to carry out his purposes of love and mercy. It is the Lord himself, that Lord who has declared that a cup of cold water given in his Name shall not be forgotten. He it is who deigns to accept a return of some of that abundance which he himself has poured upon you—no blood is required—that he himself has shed—he asks not even of your necessities but of your superfluities. He who esteemed the widow's mite more than the contributions of the wealthiest, invites you now to testify your love, and that not by the largeness and ostentation of your gifts, but by the spirit in which they are offered. Oh! my friends, implore him from whom alone proceedeth all holy desires and all good works—implore Him to incline your hearts unto his testimonies and not unto covetousness—implore him both to regulate your oblations in their amount, and to receive them with an eye of favour, and be not satisfied with this one sacrifice of praise and gratitude, but make them annual. Become all of you subscribers, Annual Subscribers to the Bible Society, so shall you become irreconcilable enemies of Satan, and servants of the living God.

I have been a Soldier, Sir, of my Queen and Country for many years, and I have sought for happiness as the world usually seek it, in the paths of gaiety and dissipation; but until I became a Soldier of the Cross, I knew the unsubstantial object of my pursuits—happiness—only by its name. The lusts of the flesh, the lusts of the eye, and the pride of life—these did not confer it.—I will not say that there was no honey in the cup which the world presented to my lips, but there was a sting also—the sting of conscience which told me that man was created for more exalted purposes and nobler ends than to be the slave of an existence merely animal, or intellectual. I can truly say that I knew no real peace or joy, until I felt the peace and joy of believing—until I preferred the Temple of my God to the hall of revelling and the bower of fashion—until I could say with the Psalmist "Lord I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine Honor dwelleth, the place of the Tabernacle of thy Glory."

I have travelled many countries, Sir, East and West, and fair and pleasant some of them are accounted, but I have found no land so fair and pleasant as the land of Canaan. On discovering the beauties of that land by the assistance of my Bible, I experienced the force and truth of the Psalmist's words, "The lives are fallen unto me in pleasant places, yea I have a goodly heritage," what wonder then that I should be anxious to point out the road to others—and this I feel I cannot do so effectually, as by contributing my cordial and earnest support to Bible and Missionary institutions.

In conclusion Sir, permit me to remark, that the prevailing reproach by men of the world, against those who in a measure separate themselves from the world, is, that they preach but do not practise—give