

a grant from the Parent Society to employ a second colporteur, who gives gratifying evidence of fitness for the work. In one part of their report they say, "We are still indebted to the Upper Canada Bible Society and its Branches, for the means of carrying on our work among the French Canadian people. We thankfully acknowledge the receipt during the year from that source of the very handsome sum of \$776.05."

Our great neighbour, the American Bible Society, has been doing a remarkable amount of work in the past twelve months. In a letter received a few days ago from the Rev. Dr. Gilman, one of the Secretaries, he says: "Our report when published will show some very noteworthy results of work, both in the United States and in foreign lands. In prosecuting the fourth general re-supply of our own country there were visited 1,217,215 families, and one eighth of the whole number were found to be without the Bible. Two thirds of the destitute families were supplied by sale or gift; fifty thousand refused to receive it. The aggregate circulation surpasses that of every previous year with a single exception. The foreign circulation exceeded half a million of copies, and is more than double that of ten years ago." We are sorry that Dr. Gilman has to report that their receipts have fallen far short of their expenditure; and that they have sustained a great loss in the death of their President Dr. S. Wells Williams, a man whose long labours in translating the Holy Scriptures, together with his moral energy and spiritual self-consecration, brought honour both to the cause of Christian Missions and to the land that gave him birth.

#### PARENT SOCIETY.

In a letter just received from the Parent Society, we are called upon to rejoice with them over the financial statement for the recently closed year, which shews the largest amount ever received in twelve months, by way of income, and also records an expenditure which has only once been exceeded. The increase of the total income, as compared with the previous year is £22,708 1s 4d, and although this is due chiefly to the great increase in the amount received as legacies, it is gratifying to observe that both the more permanent sources of income, namely Free Contributions and Proceeds of Sales, are considerably in advance. But they ask us to take due notice of the fact that, were it not for the extraordinary sum reached by legacies their receipts would have been several thousands behind their expenditure. The statistics of their circulation had not yet been completed; but they anticipated that the number of copies disseminated would be somewhere about three millions. The forthcoming report of the work done during the year will be of a very encouraging character. Among the most interesting features will be the very great increase of the work in China and India, and the greater opportunities than ever in Egypt and Morocco. Particularly for the benefit of our friends in the Province of Quebec, the Society is bringing out a new and special edition of DeSacy's version of the French Bible. Of course it takes some time to prepare and print the report of such world-wide operations as those of our Parent Society, and we shall probably not receive the report above referred to until the month of August. But the last report begins thus:

"In one of the first reports of missionary work contained in the New Testament, it is said that the apostles Barnabas and Paul 'rehearsed all things that God had done with them.' At an anniversary like the present, when the danger of exalting human agency is great, there can be no more needful reminder than this—that whatever good has been achieved is the deed of God, and not of man. It is not the liberality of the Churches, nor the administration of the Committee, nor the voice of the colporteur, nor even the Book itself that has done the work, but the Divine Spirit acting through and with all these.