

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ST. ANDREW'S BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY.

Dear Brethren,—The time having arrived for holding our Annual Meeting, it becomes the duty of your Committee, to lay before you a Report of their proceedings. Your Committee have not found it necessary to meet often during the past year, but the meetings that have been held, have been marked by great unanimity of feeling and action. At the last two meetings, we have had to regret the absence of our venerable president, who was unable from the state of his health to assist us. We sympathise with him in his affliction, and shall not cease to pray for his restoration, if in accordance with the Divine Will.

We have also been called to record our sense, of the loss sustained by this Branch in the removal to another world, of two long tried and warm friends of the Bible cause: the late Mr. Hibbard, of this place, and the late Mr. McGregor of Cote-du-Midi. We trust, however, that new friends to the cause will be raised up to take their places, this being the order of God's proceeding, as has been beautifully observed by one, "He buries his workmen but carries on his work." We have promise of this in the fact, that the operations of the Branch commend themselves to, and increasingly secure the co-operation of all the Protestant Ministers, and Congregations of this Village and vicinity.

The issues from the Depository during the past year have been, 30 English Bibles, 28 English Testaments, 2 French Bibles, 10 French Testaments and one Italian Testament, 69 in all. This may be regarded as comparatively small, but it must be remembered that there is little or no real destitution of the Scriptures among Protestants in this vicinity, the whole field having been well supplied by Mr. Purkiss, a little more than two years ago. The issue of ten copies in the French language, and one in the Italian, is an interesting fact more especially as several of them, were placed in the hands of Roman Catholics. We regard it as one of the most important duties of this Branch, to supply funds to aid the Montreal Bible Society in their work, and their having been no diminution, but rather an increase in the amount raised by the collectors. We have taken upon ourselves to repeat the action of last year, by making a donation of twenty pounds to the funds of that Society. We hope this action of ours, will meet with your cordial approval, and that our successors may be able to devote as large a sum or larger to the same object. We have purchased a copy of the History of the British and Foreign Bible Society, work in two volumes, which is to be loaned in turn to such members of the Branch, as may wish to read it. In conclusion, we feel much gratified by the presence among us once more of the Rev. Mr. Green, the Agent of the Montreal Society, whom we wish God speed in his work of faith and labour of love. We have also the expectation of much valuable and interesting information from other friends from Montreal, which will no doubt add much to the interest of the present meeting.

—Signed on behalf of the Committee.

E. S. ORR,
Assistant Secretary.

St. Andrews, 28th December, 1859.