

Canadian and Domestic.

BIBLE SOCIETY, NEW WESTMINSTER, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Our friends throughout Ontario feel deep sympathy with those remoter fields to which, through their liberality, the operations and aid of the Upper Canada Bible Society have extended. By mutual correspondence a Branch, in connection with our Society, was recently organized in British Columbia—for the successful accomplishment of which we are chiefly indebted to its present Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Jamieson, whose services the accompanying abstract of report righteously recognizes. A Branch had formerly existed in New Westminster, and was then in direct union with the honoured Parent Society. It is with the sanction of the Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society, that this and other Branches, recently formed beyond the limits of our Province, now constitute part of the Upper Canada Bible Society.

THE BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY, in connection with the Upper Canada Bible Society, held its first public meeting on Thursday evening, February the 13th, in the Hyack Hall.

In the absence of the President of the Society, Mayor Cunningham was called to the Chair.

The proceedings were opened by religious services, after which

The Chairman stated that the object of the meeting was to bring the Bible Society and its work more prominently before the public. He referred to the claims which the Society had on every one, and more especially upon citizens of a nation which acknowledges the Bible as the rock on which it is founded. He illustrated by historical anecdotes the power of the Holy Scripture on the hearts and minds of men, and concluded an able appeal by calling upon the Rev. Mr. Owen to move the first resolution.

The Rev. H. B. Owen then moved the first resolution, which was to the effect that it is the duty of all to aid in the circulation of the Holy Scriptures.

In moving the resolution the speaker said that among the privileges of the Christian, not the least was any opportunity afforded him for circulating the Holy Scriptures. It was a privilege all members of the Church of England should be prompt to avail themselves of, for in the words of the VI. Article it was declared that, "Holy Scripture contained all things necessary to salvation: so that whatever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an Article of the Faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation", whilst the Homilies also teach us, that "There can be nothing either more necessary or profitable, than the knowledge of Holy Scripture, forasmuch as in it is contained God's true word, setting forth His glory, and also man's duty. And there is no truth nor doctrine necessary to our justification and everlasting salvation, but that is, or may be drawn out of that fountain and well of truth." The present is a time when it behoves all those "who profess and call themselves Christians", to be active in extending the circulation of the Bible, as a defence against the attacks of pseudo-science, Rationalism, Infidelity and Popery. From recent events there is great encouragement to be gathered. Upon the darkness of Papal Rome the light of the everlasting Gospel is now shining.

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Mr. Owen also impressed upon the audience their duty as to the circulation of the Scriptures among the Chinese residents, and expressed his opinion that the small measure of success which sometimes attends our efforts arises from the fact that the copy of the word of God which is given is not accompanied by prayer on the part of the giver that a blessing may accompany the gift.

Mr. J. C. Brown seconded the resolution in a few words.