

REPORT.

IN presenting their Annual Report to the public, the Committee of the Micmac Missionary Society desire to set forth a plain ungarnished statement of the efforts that have been made during the past year, and of the success that has attended them. It was announced in last report that the Committee had purchased a lot of land consisting of 450 acres, in the neighbourhood of Hantsport, which had previously been selected as the most suitable place for the residence of the Missionary; as it was found necessary to induce Indian families to remain near him, that they should have a resting place from which they were not liable to be removed, and free access to the products of the forest for the prosecution* of the means of their livelihood. Accordingly, soon after the last Annual Meeting, upon further inquiries having been made with reference to the title of the land, which was found satisfactory, the first instalment of £175 was paid.

The prospect of employment and remuneration soon induced 8 families to take up their residence there, and their number was speedily increased to 12, who resided there permanently during the winter. Great efforts were made at different times by their priests, and chiefs, to scatter them, but in vain. An engagement having been entered into with them with reference to the purchase and price of their wares, they engaged ardently in industrial pursuits, and continued for months to pour into the receiving store at Hantsport the fruits of their labours. All doubts which had been entertained, as to their capability of persevering in the occupations of industry for a length of time were removed. The industrial experiment was eminently successful. Indeed its very success cost your Committee much anxiety, as the amount of work produced was much greater than had been anticipated; and though by the terms of the engagements they were under moral obligations to take it from the Indians, they found much difficulty in disposing of