

The Presbyterian Review.

Vol. X.—No. 46.

TORONTO, MAY 24, 1894.

\$1.50 per Annum

The Presbyterian Review.

Issued EVERY THURSDAY, from the office of the Publishers, Rooms No. 20, 21, 23, 25 Aberdeen Block, South-East corner Adelaide and Victoria Streets.

TERMS, \$1.50 per annum.

All communications for either Business or Editorial Departments should be addressed PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, Drawer 2464, Toronto, Ont.

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ADVERTISING RATES.—Under 3 months, 15 cents per line per insertion; 3 months, \$1.00 per line; 6 months, \$1.75 per line; 1 year, \$3.00. No advertisement charged at less than five lines. None others than unobjectionable advertisements taken.

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Bible Society Work.

IT ought not to be necessary at this time of day to have to urge the claims of such an organization as the British and Foreign Bible Society upon the liberality of the people. Yet it seems that the old time interest has rather diminished and a difficulty exists with respect to funds. This should not be so. As a pioneer institution, it has accomplished admirable work and much remains still to be done. Perhaps no better description of its composition and constitution can be briefly given than that contained in a leaflet issued by a Governor of the Society. He says that it is "Not a mere Bookselling Business; nor an ineffective Missionary Society, feebly attempting work which the Missions of the various Christian Churches are doing much better; nor a body of narrow-minded enthusiasts, of obsolete or obsolescent opinions; nor an aggregation of Undenominational religionists, from which anyone with definite convictions had better stand aloof. But it is an association of Christian men, women and children for the purpose of spreading the Holy Scriptures of God throughout the whole inhabited earth."

The Society was first founded to supply Bibles for Wales, and its operations soon spread to embrace the whole world. The extent of its foreign work may be judged by the following statement. In nearly all the countries of Europe, and in most parts of the world, the Society has its own agencies for the circulation, and in many cases for the printing, of the Holy Scriptures in the various languages spoken. It has agents entrusted with the selection and superintendence of

Colporteurs who carry the word of God to the homes of multitudes who have no other way of becoming possessed of this inestimable treasure. Colportage is maintained in France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Iceland, Denmark, Norway, Poland, Russia, Siberia, Central Asia, Turkey, Greece, Crete, Cyprus, Asia Minor, Syria, Palestine, Arabia, Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, the Canaries, South Africa, Mauritius, Persia, India, Ceylon, Burmah, Malaysia, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Celebes, China, Japan, Korea, Australia, South and Central America, the West Indies, and British North America. The magnitude of the work may be inferred from the fact that, for the benefit of France, Germany (particularly the Roman Catholic portion), Austria, and Russia, the benevolent work of the Society, in its various departments, involves an annual expenditure of about forty thousand pounds beyond the amount received in return for Scriptures sold.

The Chaplains and Missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts require and use the Scriptures in about fifty foreign languages. Nearly all these versions may be procured from the Bible Society, most of them are actually obtained from it, and many of them, irrespective of the Scriptures incorporated in the Prayer Book, are procurable from no other source. The Missionaries of the Church Missionary Society use the Bible, or parts thereof, in about eighty translations, of which sixty, or eighty per cent., can only come from the Bible Society. The cases of the South American Missionary Society, the Universities Mission, etc., are similar. There are altogether, in round numbers, about a hundred and ten languages in which the Holy Scriptures are more or less extensively used by the Church of England in her foreign missions, and of these by far the greater portion are supplied by the British and Foreign Bible Society. And the list constantly grows.

The Society has had an admirable record in Canada. In days gone by the Society was the rallying point of much Christian effort, and it should be so still. There are eminent men connected with its local management and if supported liberally by the churches, the good work will be vigorously continued. Among the many organizations which press for attention this old, and necessary one should not be forgotten.

Reaping the Whirlwind.

The meeting of the General Assembly of New South Wales, recently held, was distinguished chiefly on account of the address delivered by the Moderator at the opening, printed in full in the PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW. It was to be expected that the pronounced statements made would evoke dissent and that has proved to be the case. The Australian exchanges to hand this week