

R E P O R T.

AFTER the toils, the perplexities, and the dangers of another year, the Committee of the WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY come forward, with sincere pleasure, to lay before their numerous friends a brief account of the present state and the future prospects of that department of the great Mission field with which they have the privilege and the honour to be connected.

Every year brings along with it increasing evidence of the necessity, the utility, and the unspeakable importance of this benevolent enterprise; and gives it additional claims upon the approbation, the prayers, and the support of all who participate the advantages of christianity themselves, and who desire to extend its benign influence to the remotest boundaries of the world.

If ever a benevolent institution was marked with the indubitable seal of the Divine sanction and complacency, this institution is so in a pre-eminent degree.

In the new fields of labour which are being opened to the agents of this and kindred associations; in the preparing influence which is going on in the minds of numerous Pagan tribes; in the disposition which is evinced, not only by the young and ardent, but by the venerable and experienced Ministers of the Gospel, to consecrate themselves to this work; in the increasing liberality, and the more fervent and united prayers of the friends of this cause; we have the most delightful evidences of the approbation of God, and the strongest incentives to make every exertion in our power to accelerate the glorious period when our Lord shall exercise a universal and absolute dominion in his redeemed world, and take the heathen for an inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for a possession.

Discouragements, difficulties, and opposition we expect to meet; but we have learned to bear or to conquer these, and never more so than during the past year. If any circumstances could have justified a people in neglecting the cause of Missions, the inhabitants of this Province would have been justified in neglecting that cause during the past year. The political excitement which has so generally prevailed; the stagnation of business, which has been so extensively and painfully prevalent; the alarming uncertainty and gloomy suspense which have been so deeply felt,—would have diverted their attention from any cause less sacred and less dear than the Missionary cause; but to the interests of this they are bound by ties which nothing can sever; and, to the everlasting honour of the friends of Missions, it ought to be