

made for the Family Bible. The district committee at Madras have been actively and zealously engaged during the present year, both in promoting the general designs of the Society, and in the superintendance of the concerns of the East India mission. At Bombay, a large number of books and tracts had been distributed, and almost entirely gratuitously; but still the demand for Prayer books was much beyond the means of supply; school books were also in great request; and tracts for the use of soldiers and sailors, were more required than others. The archdeacon suggests the expediency of translating into Arabic, Persian, and other languages of India, some of the Society's religious books and tracts, and more especially books for the use of children in the native schools. Some plain and short treatise on the evidences of Christianity, he thinks, would be read by some of the more learned natives, and would excite a spirit of thought and enquiry which could not fail to be attended with good effects. This suggestion is now under the consideration of the Society.

From Ceylon, the Rev. G. Bissett observes: "The very liberal supply of three hundred Prayer-books will have a most beneficial effect in attaching the native Christians to our Liturgy, which is already in great demand, whether the whole be given in English, or detached prayers in Cingalese and English, such as we have already circulated. By the last despatches from England, the grateful intelligence was received of this island being subjected to the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Bishop of Calcutta, and of the erection of an archdeaconry, in the person of the Hon. and Rev. T. J. Twistleton.—This measure will, I conceive, not only tend to bring the native Christians into the unity of the Church of England, but also greatly promote the general propagation of Christianity. A wide door is opened in Ceylon for the introduction of the

Gospel. If it should be the door through which the King of Glory shall enter to establish his blessed dominion in the East, the respected members of the Society will hereafter reflect with joy upon their zealous readiness in contributing to further the gracious designs of Providence."

In the diocese of Nova Scotia, the Halifax diocesan committee have forwarded their fourth annual Report. The following is the statement of books and tracts since their last account: 280 Bibles, 284 Testaments, 361 Prayer-Books, and 9751 books and tracts. The Report concludes with a very satisfactory account of the progress of education in the diocese.

The diocesan committee at Quebec have transmitted an account of their proceedings; from which it appears, that within a very short period from the institution of the committee, they have forwarded a list of upwards of seventy new members of the Society, and that they were anxious as early as possible to establish a local depository of books. They advert with much satisfaction to an early object of the Society, the fixing parochial libraries throughout the plantations, especially on the continent of North America; and observe, that "if more than a century ago this was considered of essential importance, it is now become a matter of paramount and indispensable obligation. In proportion as emigration from the mother country increases, new settlements are every day advancing into the wilder and more uncultivated parts of the two provinces: and scattered as these people in general are in small detached parties, and not unfrequently in single families, they are of course cut off from every means of religious instruction, except such as books can supply. The inhabitants of a more populous, or a more civilized country, can scarcely appreciate the treasure which a person in such circumstances must possess, in his Bible, his Prayer-book,