

REPORT.

1883-84.

SIXTY years have fled since the formation of this Society. Like many other benevolent institutions, its commencement was small and unpretentious. At the time of its birth the population was sparse, and their means limited; yet it found a lodgment in the sympathies and prayers of the people, which has resulted in its gradual enlargement, until it now occupies one of the most lofty and commanding positions amongst other organizations brought out by Methodist influence in the goodly land we possess. Most of its original founders and supporters have finished their course, and have joined the "general assembly and church of the first-born which are written in heaven;" but God has raised up and sent forth to fill the places of men, distinguished for their mental and spiritual power, a noble army of godly successors, who in the pulpit and on the platform plead the cause of Christ and His mission; whilst the yearly Reports of the free-will offerings of the people, not confined to our denominational fold, testify their appreciation of the Society's work.

It is at once a proof of the Scriptural principles which lay at the foundation of missionary efforts, and of the Divine blessing abiding upon the Society, that amidst the many changes which have taken place within the last sixty years, religious and political, no disturbances have arrested the progress or abated the beneficial results of the Society's labours. The messengers of