

The Board met in the evening of Tuesday, December the 16th, at half past seven o'clock, the Rev. Manly Benson in the chair. The Revs. B. Bryant and James Grant led the devotional exercises. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. A report was submitted from the Agency and Colportage Committee and approved. A letter from the Rev. Geo. H. Sandwell was read, accepting the position of Director on the Board. The Rev. N. S. Hunt, D.D., Secretary of the American Bible Society, in a communication dated the 26th November, informed the Board that the 75th Anniversary Meeting of their Society would be held in New York on the 13th May next, and at the same time requested the Directors to send a representative of this Society who would take part in the meeting on that occasion. The Directors cordially accepted the invitation and elected the Rev. John Burton to visit the American friends as they desire. The Rev. Mr. Burton accepted the appointment. A letter was read from the Rev. E. F. Wilson of the Shingwauk Indian School at Sault Ste. Marie, thanking the Board for the donation of Bibles made to his mission and requesting a further gift of three Bibles of a larger size; granted. An application from the Superintendent of the Mission Union, Toronto, dated 15th inst., was submitted for a gift of 30 Bibles for the use of those attending the mission; granted. The Secretary stated that arrangements had been made for a meeting of the joint Committee on "Ketchum Trusts" with a view to an early distribution of prizes to the scholars attending the various Sunday Schools in this city, in accordance with the terms of the bequest. The names of several gentlemen were suggested as desirable to attend and speak at our annual meeting to be held in the latter part of May next and the Secretary was instructed to open correspondence with the object of securing such services. The usual routine business having been disposed of, the meeting was closed with prayer led by the Rev. H. Grasett Baldwin.

NOTES OF THE MONTH.

FROM THE "BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY REPORTER."

A RETROSPECT OF TEN YEARS.

A leading member of Committee, W. Blomfield, Esq., has recently made a careful survey of the last ten years of the Society's history. Some of the results are very instructive. In 1880 the Society had seventeen foreign agents; in 1890 there are twenty-seven. Then there were 238 versions in circulation, now there are 291. The price-list of the various editions at that time occupied fifteen pages, but it has gradually increased to twenty-three. The circulation has much increased: in 1880 it was 2,780,362; in 1890 it was 3,792,263. The issues for the Blind have also largely extended. The *Annual Report* has, with the growing work, naturally developed its size: ten years ago it was a volume of 272 pages; now it is 475, and this after careful compression. It must, however, be regretfully noted that the total income of the Society has not grown with its other growth; it was £213,347 in 1880; in 1890 it was only £212,077. Other facts and comparisons serve to reassure the mind on the financial position, but there is evidently ample cause for serious watchfulness and for heartier work. It adds a touch of natural sorrow to the retrospect to notice that during the decade sixteen members of the General Committee have died.

The end of the year has come at last, and the retrospect is naturally very varied. To some the backward look is painful, to others full of gladness and peace. Now, perhaps, is the time to study the wisdom of "forgetting those things which are behind"—whether sad or joyful—in comparison with the more urgent duty of "reaching forth unto those things which are before." The failure must not depress us, nor the success elate us too much. Let