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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

OF THE

Society for Propagating the Gospel

AMONG THE

INDIANS AND OTHERS IN NORTH AMERICA.

PRESENTED NOVEMBER 4, 1847

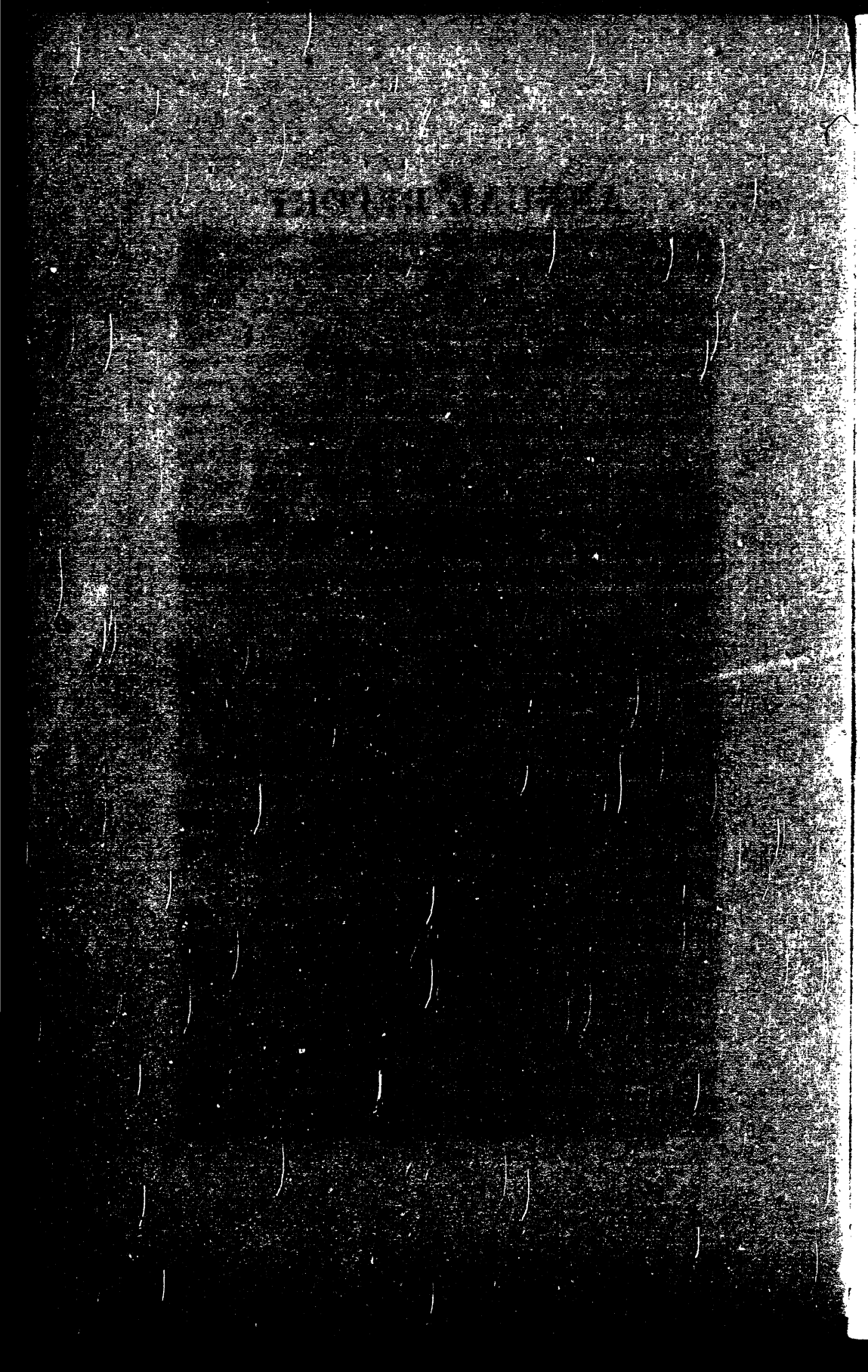
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R E P O R T .

THE operations of the Society for the past year, as for some years preceding, have been

1st, Missions to the West.

2d, Missions to destitute settlements within our own borders of New England; and

3d, To the Indians.

Of these, our missions to the West have commanded the largest share of the attention and resources of the Society. At St. Louis and its destitute vicinity, in Missouri; at Geneva, Como, Galena, and Quincy, in Illinois; and at Milwaukie and its destitute vicinity, within the Territory of Wisconsin, we have continued to find wide and fruitful fields for the efforts of our missionaries.

From the Rev. Augustus H. Conant, our missionary at Geneva and destitute places in Kane county, Illinois, we have received letters, of which the following are extracts:—

“ GENEVA, Oct. 12, 1847:

“ In regard to my labors thus far for the present year, I am happy in being able to give a somewhat cheering report: cheering, not so much from outward

growth by accession of numbers to the church, as from the unity of Christian affection and Christian effort which has existed.

“In Geneva we have truly ‘kept the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.’ Our Sunday School has been remarkably prosperous. Teachers of different religious denominations have united in it, endeavoring to impress upon the minds and hearts of the children the practical truths of Christianity, and to produce in them the true spirit of Christ’s gospel.

“Our weekly meetings for the study of the Scriptures, have not only been well sustained, but have uniformly been of quite an interesting character. In the free interchange and comparison of views which have taken place between those of different denominations who have attended, the utmost courtesy of manner and kindness of feeling have been uniformly exhibited. We regard the course we have pursued in the study of the Scriptures as a most important means of promoting religious knowledge and an enlarged Christian charity.

“At Elgin, we have had religious worship every fourth Sabbath, and, for a considerable part of the time, every alternate Sabbath; and though we have had some unhappy divisions growing out of difference of opinion about the location and building of our house for worship, yet the prospect is now more favorable.

“I suppose that Rev. Alpheus Harding has given you an account of our organization of a church and a society for the support of religious worship in Como. A minister is much needed, and I hope will be soon obtained for Como, and the destitute region round about. On my return from that place, I preached a Sabbath evening at Dixon (twelve miles up the river from Como), to quite an interesting audience. A minister stationed at Como, might visit this and many other towns in the vicinity with a fair prospect of usefulness. I have spent one Sabbath at Rockford, and

found the society there greatly in need of a minister. Early in the summer, I had the satisfaction of contributing to the establishment of a Sunday School at Ohio Grove, and of another at Pleasant Grove, by furnishing books for a small library at each place. As nearly connected with religious improvement and of great importance, I have taken part in efforts to awaken an interest in common school education. The generous aid afforded me by your Society has enabled me to dismiss anxiety about temporal affairs, and devote my humble energies entirely to the work of the ministry; and, for the little good I have thus been able to do, I feel truly grateful to your Society and to the Father of mercies.

“Very respectfully, yours,
“AUGUSTUS H. CONANT.”

In a previous communication, of June 28th, Mr. Conant, having expressed his grateful acknowledgments for his renewed appointment as a missionary, of which he had just been informed, writes:—

“I rejoice that, by your appropriation, I am enabled to devote the little energy I have, entirely to the good work of extending the knowledge and influence of that blessed gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation to those who receive it. I look over the extensive and interesting field of my labors for the coming year with hope of usefulness. Our Sunday School in Geneva is in a flourishing condition. Teachers of three or four different religious denominations are engaged in it, and all goes on with us in perfect harmony and good feeling.”

The Rev. Alpheus Harding, for many years the faithful minister of New Salem, in this State, being

about undertaking a tour to Illinois, was authorized to perform missionary labor on behalf of our Society, in whose employment he had formerly served; and, from his journal just received, we are happy in selecting the following passages:—

“I arrived in Illinois the 11th of June, and preached twice on the Sabbath after my arrival, at Como, the field of my principal labors. On the second Sabbath, I organized a Sabbath School, numbering at first thirty-six scholars, which increased, before I left, to fifty-nine. In July, I preached one Sabbath at Green River, a new settlement of some importance, to an audience of about seventy, about twenty miles south of Como. The rest of my time, I preached at Como and vicinity, dividing my time as follows: In the morning, I preached at Como and attended the Sabbath School, and in the evening, nearly alternately, at the Rapids, five miles up Rock River; at Genesee Grove, twelve miles north-west of Como; at the Big Bend, four miles down Rock River; and at Round Grove, six miles west of Como. At Como, I had invariably an attentive audience, varying from seventy-five to one hundred and twenty-five; and, at the other places, equally attentive audiences, varying from fifty to a hundred. The week days I spent at the different places where I preached, mostly at Como, in visiting families, distributing tracts, &c. Wherever I preached or visited, I was very kindly received, and the tracts I distributed were duly appreciated.

“Before I started on my tour, I obtained from the Book and Pamphlet Society a very liberal supply of books and tracts. At the organization of the Sabbath School, I put the books into a library for the use of the Sabbath School, and any others who might wish to read them; and I was very happy to learn, they were duly appreciated, and eagerly read; and I trust

they will do an immense amount of good. The tracts I distributed, in part, and left the residue in the hands of faithful agents to distribute as circumstances might dictate. They were kindly received, and are performing, and will perform, a good service in the cause of pure Christianity, doing away prejudices, and exciting a growing interest in the cause of truth. During my labors there, I was greatly rejoiced and encouraged to see an increasing interest felt towards religious institutions and ordinances. On the sixteenth of September, I invited brother Conant, of Geneva, to assist me in organizing a church at Como. It was organized on the broad Protestant principle; making the sacred Scriptures the great bond of their union; discarding all other creeds and confessions, and leaving it for each individual to interpret the Scriptures for himself, accountable only to God. The church is small, numbering only sixteen members; several others wished to unite with them, but were prevented by sickness; it being the most sickly portion of the year. They will wait only a favorable opportunity; and doubtless their number will be doubled shortly, if they can obtain a suitable preacher, and raise the means for his support. For this purpose they were organizing a society, when I left, and taking measures to build a church, of which they stand in great need, having no place where to hold their meetings, except an inconvenient school-house.

“I think there is at Como and vicinity, a healthful feeling upon the great subject of religion, not spasmodic, but calm and devout, bidding fair to be permanent. On the nineteenth of September, the Sabbath before I left, I had the pleasure, in connection with brother Conant, to administer the communion to about twenty apparently devout communicants, five or six Methodists joining in that service, who did not join the church; and of administering baptism to fourteen children. I left Como the twenty-third of Sep-

tember, and preached the Sabbath following at Geneva, on exchange with brother Conant, where I found a small but healthful society, with a very commodious church. He is highly spoken of, as a devoted, active, and efficient agent in the cause of truth, and I think is doing a good work in that region.

“If the good people to whom I have been ministering at the West exert themselves according to their ability, as I trust they will, I think them deserving, and hope they will share, the continued aid of your Society, till they shall be able to stand alone. And I am requested to express their deep sense of gratitude to the ‘Book and Pamphlet Society,’ and to the ‘Society for propagating the Gospel,’ &c., for the aid afforded them by books, tracts, and the feeble services of your humble servant.

“In conclusion, I would express to you, and through you to the Society, my personal gratitude for the pecuniary aid granted me, enabling me to minister to the spiritual comfort and improvement of the destitute; and, above all, I would be devoutly grateful to the Author of all good, for the comfortable measure of health I have enjoyed, enabling me to fulfil my mission; for whatever of good I may have been the humble instrument, to the people to whom I have ministered; and for my safe return to our happy New England.

“ALPHEUS HARDING.

“NEW SALEM, Oct. 14, 1847.”

Galena, Illinois.

The Rev. George W. Woodward, who has now for two years been employed among the miners, and other destitute persons in the vicinity of Galena, has, we regret to state, been much interrupted in his labors during the summer, by the illness common to that region. He, however, informs us that he had been able to

minister, among other places, at Savanna, with most favorable results ; that the congregation there and the interest of the people were manifestly increasing ; and that he had good reason for believing that his labors were useful. He also made a missionary excursion into the interior of the State, and preached where he found encouragement ; but was happy to learn that the destitution of gospel privileges is rapidly diminishing in places within that flourishing region, once greatly needing them ; “ and that through extensive farming regions, as he rode over them, the frequent sight of simple churches was gratifying to the Christian’s heart.” In the neighborhood, however, of Schultsberg, which is at the distance of a few miles from Galena, he found an increasing population of miners, among whom, as among his own people of the same class, there is prospect of doing good. We trust, that with Mr. Woodward’s recovered health, the objects of his mission and his own purposes of usefulness may be fully accomplished.

St. Louis, Missouri.

At the annual meeting of the Society, in May, the appropriation, which for many years has been made in support of the mission in that region, was renewed. But on account of the absence in Europe of the Rev. William G. Eliot, and the unavoidable engagements of his assistant, Rev. M. D’Lange, for the supply of the Church at St. Louis, the operations of this mission have been of necessity suspended. We are happy,

however, in the recent return of Mr. Eliot with recruited strength; and from letters received from Mr. D'Lange, we are informed that the labors of that mission will be shortly resumed; while our past experience leaves us to no doubt of the ability and fidelity with which they will be performed.

Vernon, Leyden, and vicinity.

Agreeably to information received by the Select Committee, and in compliance with the wishes of individuals, a small appropriation was made in aid of missionary services in these places; the field, it will be remembered, for a long time occupied by our faithful and lamented friend, the Rév. Timothy F. Rogers. His successor at Bernardston, the Rev. Mr. Bridge, together with Rev. Addison Brown, of Brattleborough, has each preached in these towns, for a series of Sabbaths, in the service of the Society. Mr. Brown has interested himself particularly in the improvement of their Sunday and Common Schools. Mr. Bridge has labored principally at Vernon; and it is to be hoped, that with an improved standard of religious and secular education, and an increasing respect for the institutions of the gospel, these frontier villages may grow in knowledge, temperance, and reverence of the Sabbath.

Isle of Shoals.

The usual appropriation has been made in support of the mission and school for the benefit of the people;

and from Rev. Mr. Plumer, our missionary and teacher there, we learn, in a letter of October 13th:—

“That the congregation remains about the same in numbers and condition as has been for some time past.” He expresses the hope, that “there is some good moral and religious improvement going on among the people,” while he distinctly intimates, and we are not without other reasons to fear, that it is exceeding slow. The Sabbath School, however, he represents as well attended and making good improvement; the instruction of which, in want of other teachers, is chiefly supplied by himself and family. “We fully hold,” he adds, “whereunto we have already attained in the cause of temperance; although we have just passed through the season, when we are flooded with company from the main land, and many of them of the baser sort, who cast around us a deathlike influence.

“Our School is under the care of Miss Nancy J. Underhill, of Chester, N. H., who has conducted it with great usefulness and satisfaction to our community.”

From Miss Underhill, we have received a report of the School, of which we present the substance.

“Since my connection with this school, the average attendance has been twenty-three; the whole number of scholars on my books being thirty-four. The largest number present at any one time was twenty-nine; the smallest number, fifteen. They have been taught geography, grammar, writing, reading, and spelling. Nearly all the girls connected with the school devote a portion of every day to needle-work. This has been to me a new and very interesting field of labor; and, if I may be permitted to say it, after several years' experience in teaching children, I think this school will

not suffer in comparison with any of the same age with which I am acquainted.

“I am confident, that many of the youth in this place are ready to bless your Society not only for the gospel of peace, but for the means of a common school education.”

Appropriations for the Indians.

Of the funds of the Society, that portion which was appropriated from its commencement, under the will of the late Col. Alford, for the religious instruction of the Indians, has been fully expended this year, as for several years preceding, in strict accordance with that purpose. The proper subjects for this charity have been rapidly disappearing in New England, and, with the exception only of the Indians of Marshpee, and of Herring Pond, within the limits of Massachusetts, your Committee have been compelled to look to a distance for a suitable field of operation, which has been found, for the most part, in the west and north-west portions of our country. To the Rev. Mr. Bardwell, an accredited missionary under the appointment of the Western Evangelical Society, an appropriation was made for the benefit of the Ojibway Indians, near Lake Superior, among whom, with great fidelity and disinterestedness, he has for several years been laboring. And from letters received from him, the Committee have been fully satisfied both of the spiritual destitution of the people and of the usefulness of his services.

From his last letter, dated Ripley, Ohio, Oct. 15th, 1847, we learn, that:—

“The Indians at Red Cedar Lake, whom Mr. Bardwell had recently visited, had been asking for missionaries for several years; being anxious, as they said, for some one to come and teach them *the Book*, meaning the Bible. But, ignorant as they are,” continues Mr. Bardwell, “we well know, that these Indians are capable of using great duplicity, pretending to seek religious instruction with the hope of obtaining pecuniary assistance. With this knowledge of their character, their urgent appeals for help did not raise in us the expectation of seeing immediately any very decided improvement. It is obvious, that among a people so far removed from the borders of civilization, and so destitute of almost all the necessities of life; strangers to the light and comforts of religion; without domestic animals and the implements of husbandry, and, withal, indisposed to use them when supplied, a great burden must devolve upon the missionary, and he needs to be an adept in arts and science, as well as ‘apt to teach,’ to meet the exigency of such a condition.

“Seeing, therefore, as we do, the wretchedness and destitution of those around us, alike in their temporal and spiritual interests, our missionaries have given themselves with all their energies, to the work of improving their condition, by preaching and teaching, in the school and in the church, by ploughing and planting, and all manner of useful work.” “Through the example and assistance of these missionaries, the Indians have been induced to clear and cultivate small parcels of ground, and thus to multiply their social comforts.” “Many of them, also, seem interested in attending our religious meetings, and though they have hitherto failed to give evidence of a true conversion, yet much good has already been accomplished; and our hope is in God that the seed sown shall not be lost, but shall in due time spring up and bear fruit that shall remain.” “A somewhat more liberal sup-

port would enable these missionaries to devote more of their time and efforts to the intellectual and religious instruction of those around them; and if your Society would continue, and if consistent, increase your appropriations, it would be to us a great relief, and would be accepted, I doubt not, by the Head of the Church.

“Respectfully and affectionately your brother, in the love of Jesus.

“I. P. BARDWELL.”

Indians at Marshpee and at Herring Pond.

From the Rev. Mr. Fish, our missionary at the above places, we have received a Report, of which the substance is as follows:—

“COTUIT, OCT. 1, 1847.

“Both in this region and at Herring Pond I have been engaged, principally, in preaching on the Sabbath, in promoting Sabbath Schools, and in visiting from house to house. The latter seems to promise most, as far as Marshpee is concerned. Indeed, everywhere, visiting is important, in order to the highest degree of benefit from the institution of preaching. My pastoral visits, both in Marshpee and at Herring Pond, appear to be acceptable, and, I hope, are in many cases beneficial.

“At Cotuit, the meeting on the Sabbath is well attended. A few families of colored people are constant in attendance. Children are not numerous; but, in good weather, we have about forty white and colored children together in the classes. The Sabbath School has been evidently blessed for the promotion of order and greater sobriety in the young. Several of the teachers, in striving to teach, have themselves been taught. The church has received accessions, by *profession*, six; and four by letter. Of the former,

three are Indian females; whose deportment in times past has been such as affords assurance that they will honor the cause of true religion.

“The people of Herring Pond continue to promise well. Though there has been no instance of church-profession during the year, yet those who are members are exemplary, and the attendance on our public worship is very encouraging. Several heads of families, formerly remiss, have reformed, and are now very exemplary. We see them and their children every Sabbath. The children of Herring Pond are fine specimens of the Indian of modern days. Great pains are taken in their training. They have quite good common schools for nearly nine months in the year. I have succeeded in awakening an interest in the Sabbath School (for which I have a tolerable library) both in children and parents. The latter, whether I am there on the Sabbath or not, meet the children, read a chapter, talk with them, and pray; and I am in expectation, that the means will be blest for their permanent good.

“I am with them as much as the distance (fourteen miles) permits. At every visit, I spend considerable time in calling at their houses and urging them to well-doing. With few exceptions they are temperate and industrious; and I cannot but hope, that by a divine blessing your kind liberality will not be bestowed in vain. Our prayers will be in behalf of your Society.

“Yours in Christian regards;

“PHINEAS FISH.”

Indians in Albion Seminary, Michigan.

It has been already stated, in our last Annual Report, that of the Indian youth belonging to the above Seminary, two had been selected as the beneficiaries of this Society, and, at the suggestion of the Committee,

had been named, in remembrance of our early and honored missionaries, Samuel Kirkland, and John Sargent. In a personal interview with the agent of that Institution, Rev. Reeder Smith, in a recent visit to this city, we have been informed, that these young men are faithfully pursuing their studies ; and some extracts from their letters have appeared in the Christian Register and other religious journals, which, though certainly not without indications of their aboriginal origin, give encouraging evidence of their intellectual and religious progress.

Letters have recently been received from Albion, more particularly detailing the system of instruction in the Indian Department, of which Mr. Smith thus writes :—

“ ALBION SEMINARY, OCT. 19, 1847.

“ The proposition made to me by your Select Committee, viz. to appropriate two hundred dollars per year for the support of these boys, was presented to the Michigan Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, immediately on my return to this State last year, with a request, that they should establish an Indian *Mission Department* in this Institution, for the education of Indians, male and female, for teachers, interpreters, missionaries, &c. This Department was formed last year, and has become a branch of as much interest as any part of the Institution. Eleven students are now members of the School, and are making praiseworthy improvement in their morals, cultivation of mind and manners, and in the knowledge of religion. They are taught with much skill and success, by Miss Emily A. Smith, in whom they seem to repose unbounded confidence. During five hours in the

day, they receive instruction in a separate class-room, and for one additional hour meet with other classes.

"From among the seven thousand Indians now in this State, a large number are anxious to become members of the Institution, and would become such, could we be assured of *means to support* them. But, as yet, we have received no permanent appropriation for the assistance of any, except those who are beneficiaries of your Society.

"The success of the Department thus far, affords sufficient evidence, that, if carried out, it promises to confer a lasting benefit on the Indians of the West. Several of our Indian students are now asked for, with urgent solicitude, by our missionaries, to assist them as interpreters in their work. And, sir, I must say, this Department would never have been commenced, had it not been for your benevolent offer of two hundred dollars annually, for the education of Samuel Kirkland and John Sargent. These Indians, having been selected and placed at the School, formed a nucleus, around which the members of the Conference and the Board of Trustees of our own Institution rallied for the benefit of the red man. I trust your efforts in behalf of this people will be blessed of God, by becoming instrumental in doing a hundred-fold more than was anticipated in the commencement.

"Yours very truly,

"REEDER SMITH,

"Agent and Superintendent of the Indian Department."

Oneida Indians at Green Bay.

The information obtained through our Assistant Secretary, of the condition of this tribe, appeared to your Committee to warrant an appropriation in their favor; and Rev. Eleazer Williams, who had for some time been residing among them, was appointed as

their missionary. But, in letters recently received from him, he expresses his regrets, that sickness had disabled him from prosecuting his mission, as he had fully purposed; and circumstances, which he details, in the relations and habits of that tribe, as well with themselves as among their white neighbors, reveal at once their deep need of instruction and disinclination to improve it.

Of the two thousand dollars placed at the discretion of the Committee for the support of the Missions to the West, seventeen hundred and fifty were specially appropriated. Of this sum, two hundred and fifty dollars were voted in aid of services to Milwaukie and destitute places in that vicinity, and Rev. Mr. Lord, then the pastor of a church in that place, was charged with the mission. But having soon after this appointment resigned his ministry, the duties of his mission remain unfulfilled, and the appropriation consequently was withdrawn.

Your Committee have thus briefly exhibited the various operations of the Society for the present year.* It will not fail to be remembered, that a mission was, for many years, sustained for Quincy and destitute places in its vicinity, within the State of Illinois; and

* At the late semi-annual meeting, communications were received, stating the destitute condition of the inhabitants of Matinicus and Monhegan, islands on the coast of Maine, near Penobscot Bay, at a few miles distance from Thomaston, and requesting missionary aid. The subject was referred to the Select Committee; and satisfactory information having by them been obtained of the spiritual wants of the people, especially of Matinicus, provision was made for a mission to the latter place, during the ensuing winter and spring, subject to the oversight of the Rev. Andrew P. Peabody, of Portsmouth.

at our successive anniversaries, we have been accustomed to receive the Reports and to bear honorable testimony to the services of the late Rev. George Moore. He was ordained, as an Evangelist, Nov. 4th, 1840, just seven years from this day, and from that period until the sickness which terminated his life, was the faithful and devoted missionary of this Society. His last visit to New England was partly with the view of recruiting his health; and he returned to the West, in the autumn of 1846, with a cherished hope of renewing labors, that with such fidelity he had pursued, and which were attended with such manifest tokens of a divine blessing. But it pleased the Sovereign Disposer, who stands in no need even of those services of his children to which he assigns the most distinguished rewards, that the mission and the life of our friend should be early closed. Mr. Moore died at Quincy, Illinois, March 11th, 1847, in the 35th year of his age; and in his death the interests of truth and virtue have lost an earnest advocate, this Society an honored servant, and the people to whom he ministered, a true pastor and friend. The log-cabins of the West, not less than the church in which he stately ministered, were witnesses of his counsels, his consolations, and prayers. It was the testimony of an eminent physician of Quincy, of another denomination, "that there was no man whom he so often met at the sick-bed of the friendless poor, as Mr. Moore." "The sufferers in prison," says another, "in poverty, in affliction, will long cherish the blessed memory of him,

who so often visited them, and ministered to their wants, both in body and mind." He was an example, in his whole life and spirit, of a true Christian missionary; and they who were privileged, as were many, with standing around his death-bed, and listening to the utterance of his humble piety, his assurance of faith, and of the calm delight with which he anticipated the vision of his God, could scarcely fail of deriving new strength to their religious convictions, and of earnestly desiring that their "last end might be like his."

It is now sixty years since the commencement of this Society. It was incorporated in November, 1787, and is one of the earliest of the religious and charitable incorporations of the Commonwealth. It being provided, by its constitution, that the number of its members shall at no time exceed fifty, the whole elected since its commencement has been only one hundred and forty-five, in nearly equal proportions of clergymen and laymen. Of these, ninety-two have died, and five, yet living, have resigned, leaving the present number of the Society forty-eight, four of whom have been members for the long space of forty-two years, while others, a few, have exceeded a term of service of thirty years. The design of our Institution is as simple as it is benevolent. It proposes the diffusion of Christian light and privileges among them who are in darkness, or in regions less favored than our own. In this, its holy purpose, it has en-

listed, in times past, not a few of the wise "and excellent of the earth," who are now, we believe, reaping in heaven the fruits of their labors. In the light of their example, and with the encouragements of their success, we have entered into their labors, and humbly hope for the same blessing; while, in fulfilment of the great object which unites us, we send to the destitute not the devices of our own wisdom, but the glorious gospel of the blessed God; in the spirit, not of fear but of love; in the gentleness and meekness of Him of whom it is declared, "He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass, and like showers that water the earth."

Which is respectfully submitted,

For the Committee,

FRANCIS PARKMAN, *Sec.*

Boston, Nov. 4, 1847.

APPENDIX.

ANNUAL DISCOURSE.

Agreeably to the appointment of the Society, an Anniversary Discourse was preached by the Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop, of Boston, in the Federal Street Church, on the Sunday evening immediately following the semi-annual meeting, being that of November 7. The subject of the discourse was, the duty, motives, and methods of diffusing the gospel, from Philippians 1: 27, "Striving together for the faith of the gospel."

As this is the first Anniversary occasion that has occurred since 1836, it having been deemed expedient to discontinue the public meeting during that interval, it may not be uninteresting to some, if we assemble here a few facts in regard to those occasions. And in the first place, we find that though the Society was instituted in 1787, and had been in operation for sixteen years, no public anniversary was held until 1804. At the Annual Meeting in May, 1803, the Select Committee "having recommended to the Society the propriety and expediency of opening their meetings with prayer, and of having an annual sermon and collection, after the manner of other societies of the kind, it was voted, that the President (the Hon. James Sullivan), Dr. Lathrop, General Lincoln, Dr. Eliot, Dr. Eckley, Deacon Samuel Salisbury, and Professor

Pearson be a Committee to consider the subject, and report to the Society at their Annual Meeting in November; particularly, that they make arrangements for public worship, and that a sermon be preached on the first week of the Session of the General Court; * and that the stated meeting in November, be adjourned to the day when the sermon shall be delivered." †

In accordance with the above vote, a special meeting of the Society was called Sept. 15, 1803, to receive the Report of this Committee; and it was resolved, "that a suitable person be chosen to preach the sermon, and a second, in case of failure by reason of accident or sickness in the first." Accordingly, Rev. Simeon Howard, D.D. of the West Church in Boston, was chosen the first preacher, and Rev. Dr. John Lathrop the second. It was further ordered, "that the services should be held in the Brattle Street Church; that the President, with the Select Committee, invite the attendance of His Excellency, the Governor (James Bowdoin); His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor; the Honorable Council, and the Honorable Members of the Legislature;" suggesting, "that their notice of the Society, by their attendance on the occasion, will give support to its exertions, in accomplishing the design of its institution." The invitation appears to have been accepted. The Rev. Dr. Lathrop (in the place of Dr. Howard, who was prevented by sickness, and whose death occurred a few months after) preached the sermon; a collection was taken, of \$248.67; and the occasion, having the attraction of novelty, was noticed in the public journals as one of general interest.

* The time selected was obviously with the view of engaging the interest and patronage of the Legislature in the objects of the Society. Nor was it in vain. The General Court, on petition of a Committee of the Society, had, at an early period of its history, made a grant and now continued it for several years to the amount of \$500. See Alden Bradford's Anniversary and Historical Discourse, 1830.

† With the exception of this first Discourse and of the last, in the present year, by the Rev. S. K. Lothrop, all the Anniversary Sermons have been preached on the first Thursday of November, and usually, if not invariably, in the place of the stated Thursday Lecture.

The following is the list of the Preachers of our Anniversary Discourses, being thirty-three in number:—

1804. Rev. Levi Frisbie Ipswich Acts 8: 8.
 1805. Joseph Eckley, D.D. Boston Colossians 1: 20.
 1806. Thomas Barnard, D.D. Salem Philippians 1: 18.
 1807. Eliphalet Porter, D.D. Roxbury 1 Corinth. 15: 58.
 1808. Abiel Holmes, D.D. Cambridge Psalm 72: 17.
 1809. William E. Channing, D.D.* Boston Matthew 6: 9, 10.
 1810. Jedediah Morse, D.D. Charlestown Daniel 12: 4-10.
 1811. James Kendall, D.D. Plymouth Acts 13: 47.
 1812. William E. Channing, D.D.* Boston John 8: 12.
 1813. Joshua Bates, D.D. Dedham Zechariah 9: 10.
 1814. Elijah Parish, D.D. Byfield 2 Corinthians 4: 4.
 1815. Henry Ware, D.D. Cambridge Revelation 7: 9.
 1816. William Greenough Newton Acts 11: 21.
 1817. John Foster, D.D. Brighton John 1: 9.
 1818. J. T. Kirkland, D.D. . Pres. H. Univ. Camb'ge. . . 1 Timothy 1: 15.
 1819. John Pierce, D.D. Brookline Titus 2: 11.
 1820. Charles Lowell, D.D. Boston Luke 12: 48.
 1821. Joseph Tuckerman, D.D. . . Chelsea John 17: 20, 21.
 1822. Abiel Holmes, D.D. Cambridge Matthew 9: 36.
 1823. Thaddeus M. Harris, D.D. . . Dorchester Isaiah 16: 3-5.
 1824. Samuel Gile Milton Isaiah 60: 2.
 1825. John Codman, D.D. Dorchester Proverbs 19: 2.
 1826. Francis Parkman, D.D. Boston Zechariah 4: 6.
 1827. Ebenezer Porter, D.D. Prof. at Andover. Colossians 4: 3.
 1828. Alexander Young, D.D.† . . Boston Matthew 16: 15.
 1829. Benjamin B. Wisner, D.D. . Boston Micah 4: 1-4.
 1830. Alden Bradford, LL.D. Boston Historical Address.
 1831. The preacher, Rev. H. Ware, Jr. failed on account of sickness.
 1832. Henry Ware, Jr. D.D. Prof. . Camb'ge Univ. . . Romans 1: 14.
 1833. William Jenks, D.D. Boston Matthew 10: 8.
 1834. James Walker, D.D. Charlestown Malachi 3: 7.
 1835. Convers Francis, D.D. Watertown Jeremiah 31: 34.
 1836. George Putnam, D.D. Roxbury Romans 12: 11.

From this time the public Anniversaries were discontinued; and it was not till the present year, 1847, that they were renewed, as is stated above.

* Both in 1809 and 1812 Dr. Channing preached unexpectedly, kindly consenting to supply the places of preachers who had failed.

† The preacher appointed for 1828 having failed, Dr. Young, whose turn it was for that week to preach the Thursday Lecture, was requested to supply his place.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

1787 — 1843.

Presidents.

HON. OLIVER WENDELL, from	1787 to 1793
HON. THOMAS RUSSELL,	1793 to 1796
HON. MOSES GILL,	1796 to 1800
HIS EXCELLENCY JAMES SULLIVAN,	1800 to 1806
HON. WILLIAM PHILLIPS,	1806 to 1827
HON. JONATHAN PHILLIPS,	1827 to 1837
HON. CHIEF JUSTICE SHAW,	1837

Secretaries.

REV. EDWARD WIGGLESWORTH, D.D.	1787 to 1790
REV. PETER THACHER, D.D.	1790 to 1802
REV. JEDEDIAH MORSE, D.D.	1802 to 1810
REV. ABIEL HOLMES, D.D.	1810 to 1829
ALDEN BRADFORD, LL.D.	1829 to 1843
REV. FRANCIS PARKMAN, D.D.	1843

Treasurers.

HON. JONATHAN MASON,	1787 to 1790
EBENEZER STORER, Esq.	1790 to 1806
SAMUEL H. WALLEY, Esq.	1806 to 1828
HON. ASAHEL STEARNS,	1828 to 1838
HON. JAMES SAVAGE,	1838 to 1841
GEORGE BOND, Esq.	1841 to 1842
HON. PETER O. THACHER,	1842 to 1843
HON. JAMES SAVAGE,	1843

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

1847 — 8.

HON. LEMUEL SHAW, LL.D.	PRESIDENT.
REV. WILLIAM JENKS, D.D.	VICE-PRESIDENT.
REV. FRANCIS PARKMAN, D.D.	SECRETARY.
HON. JAMES SAVAGE, LL.D.	TREASURER.
REV. S. K. LOTHROP,	ASSISTANT SECRETARY.
BENJAMIN GUILD, Esq.	VICE-TREASURER.
HON. RICHARD SULLIVAN,	} AUDITORS.
REV. ALEXANDER YOUNG,	

Select Committee.

REV. SAMUEL BARRETT, D.D.	REV. CYRUS A. BARTOL,
REV. CONVERS FRANCIS, D.D.	BENJAMIN GUILD, Esq.
REV. SAMUEL K. LOTHROP, with the President, Secretary, and Treasurer.	

Missionaries in the employment of the Society.

REV. WILLIAM G. ELIOT, St. Louis and destitute vicinity, Missouri.
REV. M. D'LANGE, as assistant to Mr. Eliot.
REV. AUGUSTUS H. CONANT, Geneva and vicinity, Illinois.
REV. ALPHEUS HARDING, Como and vicinity, Illinois.
REV. GEORGE W. WOODWARD, Galena, Illinois.
REV. PHINEAS FISH, to the Indians of Marshpee and of Herring Pond.
REV. ELEAZER WILLIAMS, to the Oneida Indians at Green Bay.
REV. I. P. BARDWELL, to the Ojibway Indians, near Lake Superior.
REV. ABRAHAM PLUMER, Isle of Shoals.
MISS NANCY J. UNDERHILL, Teacher of the School.

FUNDS OF THE SOCIETY.

80 shares Boston Bank, valued at	\$4,000 00
20 shares Cambridge,	2,100 00
18 shares Merchants' (Boston),	1,803 00
29 shares Merchants' (Salem),	1,450 00
33 shares State Bank, Boston,	1,787 25
28 shares American,	203 50
12 shares New England Insurance Company,	96 00
60 shares Western Railroad,	5,832 69
Bonds and Mortgages,	33,450 00
Cash,	304 07
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	\$51,026 51

In the above sum of \$51,026.51, is included the Alford fund, of \$9,000.00, and the Thompson Baxter fund of \$1,501.04, which, amounting together to \$10,501.04, is specially appropriated to the benefit of the Indians.

The whole income of the present year is \$2,959.30.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY,

From its Incorporation, 1787, to the present time, November, 1847.

Named in the Act of Incorporation, 1787.

* Hon. Richard Cranch,	Braintree.
* Rev. John Clarke, D.D.	Boston.
* Hon. Francis Dana,	Cambridge.
* Rev. Joseph Eckley, D.D.	Boston.
* Rev. John Eliot, D.D.	Boston.
* Rev. Nathaniel Emmons, D.D.	Franklin.
* Rev. Levi Frisbie,	Ipswich.
* Hon. Moses Gill,	Princeton.
* William Hyslop, Esq.	Brookline.
* Rev. Timothy Hilliard,	Cambridge.
* Dea. Jonathan Mason,	Boston.
* Rev. Phillips Payson, D.D.	Chelsea.
* Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D.D.	Roxbury.
* Hon. Increase Sumner,	Roxbury.
* Ebenezer Storer, Esq.	Boston.
* Rev. Peter Thacher, D.D.	Boston.
* Hon. Oliver Wendell,	Boston.
* Rev. Joseph Willard, D.D., LL.D.	Cambridge.
* Rev. Edward Wigglesworth, D.D.	Cambridge.
* Samuel Wilson, LL.D.	Cambridge.
* Rev. Ebenezer Wight,	Boston.

Elected in 1788.

* Hon. James Bowdoin, LL.D.	Boston.
* Hon. William Phillips,	Boston.
* Richard Cary, Esq.	Charlestown.
* Rev. Jeremy Belknap, D.D.	Boston.
* Hon. Thomas Dawes,	Boston.
* Hon. Thomas Russell,	Boston.
* Thomas Lee, Esq.	Cambridge.
* Hon. Thomas Dexter,	Dedham.
* Hon. Cotton Tufts, M.D.	Weymouth.

Elected in 1792.

* Hon. James Sullivan, LL.D.	Boston.
* Rev. Samuel West, D.D.	Boston.
* Rev. Jedediah Morse, D.D.	Charlestown.
* Rev. John Lathrop, D.D.	Boston.
* Rev. Simon Howard, D.D.	Boston.
* Hon. William Phillips,	Boston.
* Hon. John Lowell, LL.D.	Roxbury.
* Nathaniel Appleton, Esq.	Boston.
* Mr. William Woodbridge,	Medford.
* Rev. Daniel Little,	Wells, Maine.
* David S. Greenough, Esq.	Roxbury.

Elected in 1794.

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| * Hon. Benjamin Lincoln, | Hingham. |
| * Rev. Alden Bradford, | Boston. |
| * Rev. Abiel Holmes, D.D. | Cambridge. |

Elected in 1798.

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| * James White, Esq. | Boston. |
| * Dea. Samuel Salisbury, | Boston. |

Elected in 1800.

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| * Mr. David Hyslop, | Brookline. |
| * Hon. Dudley A. Tyng, LL.D. | Boston. |
| * Rev. Elijah Parish, D.D. | Newbury. |

Elected in 1803.

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| * Rev. David Tappan, D.D. | Cambridge. |
| * Eliphalet Pearson, LL. D. | Cambridge. |

Elected in 1804.

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| * Rev. Thomas Barnard, D.D. | Salem. |
| * Rev. William E. Channing, D.D. | Boston. |
| * Samuel Eliot, Esq. | Boston. |
| * Daniel D. Rogers, Esq. | Boston. |
| * Samuel Parkman, Esq. | Boston. |
| * Rev. Joseph M'Keen, D.D. | Brunswick, Me. |
| * Hon. John Davis, LL.D. | Boston. |

Elected in 1805.

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| * Hon. John Treadwell, | Salem. |
| * Benjamin Bussey, Esq. | Roxbury. |
| Samuel H. Walley, Esq. | Boston. |
| Rev. Joshua Bates, D.D. | Dedham. |
| * Edward A. Holyoke, M.D., LL.D. | Salem. |
| * Hon. Thomas Dawes, Jr. | Boston. |
| Rev. James Kendall, D.D. | Plymouth. |
| Hon. Jonathan Phillips, | Boston. |

Elected in 1808.

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| * Josiah Salisbury, Esq. | Boston. |
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Elected in 1811.

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| * Rev. J. T. Kirkland, D.D., LL.D. | Cambridge. |
| * Rev. Henry Ware, D.D. | Cambridge. |
| * Rev. Thomas Prentiss, D.D. | Medfield. |
| * Rev. William Greenough, | Newton. |
| Rev. John Pierce, D.D. | Brookline. |

Elected in 1814.

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| * Edward Tuckerman, Jr., Esq. | Boston. |
| Rev. Charles Lowell, D.D. | Boston. |
| * Caleb Gannett, Esq. | Cambridge. |
| * Elisha Ticknor, Esq. | Boston. |
| * Rev. Samuel Gile, | Milton. |
| * Rev. John Foster, D.D. | Brighton. |
| * Levi Hedge, LL.D. | Cambridge. |
| * Rev. Joshua Huntington, | Boston. |
| * Rev. Joseph McKean, LL.D. | Cambridge. |

Elected in 1818.

Rev. Francis Parkman, D.D.	Boston.
* Rev. Joseph Tuckerman, D.D.	Boston.
* Hon. John Phillips,	Boston.
* Hon. Asabel Stearns, LL.D.	Cambridge.
* Rev. Ebenezer Porter, D.D.	Andover.
Hon. Pliny Cutler,	Boston.

Elected in 1822.

* Rev. Thaddens M. Harris, D.D.	Dorchester.
* Hon. Judge Parker, LL.D.	Boston.
* Edward Phillips, Esq.	Boston.
Rev. John Codman, D.D.	Dorchester.
* Hon. William Reed,	Marblehead.
Hon. Daniel Webster, LL.D.	Boston.

Elected in 1825.

Hon. Richard Sullivan,	Boston.
* James R. Chaplin, M.D.	Cambridge.
* Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., D.D.	Cambridge.
Hon. Samuel Hubbard, LL.D.	Boston.
John C. Warren, M.D.	Boston. Resigned.
* Rev. B. B. Wisner, D.D.	Boston.

Elected in 1832.

Hon. Josiah Quincy, LL.D.	Cambridge. Resigned.
* Hon. Peter O. Thacher,	Boston.
Rev. William Jenks, D.D.	Boston.
Rev. James Walker, D.D.	Charlestown.
Thomas W. Ward, Esq.	Boston. Resigned.
* William Hilliard, Esq.	Cambridge.

Elected in 1833.

* Hon. Judge Story, LL.D.	Cambridge.
Hon. James Savage, LL.D.	Boston.
Rev. John G. Palfrey, D.D., LL.D.	Cambridge. Resigned.
Rev. George Putnam, D.D.	Roxbury.
* George Bond, Esq.	Boston.

Elected in 1834.

Hon. Judge Shaw, LL.D.	Boston.
Rev. Convers Francis, D.D.	Boston.
Rev. Ezra S. Gannett, D.D.	Cambridge.

Elected in 1835.

Hon. Charles Jackson, LL.D.	Boston.
Rev. Charles Briggs,	Boston.
Rev. H. A. Miles,	Lowell.

Elected in 1837.

Rev. Joseph Field, D.D.	Weston.
Rev. Alexander Young, D.D.	Boston.
Rev. George Ripley,	Boston.
* Hon. Leverett Saltonstall, LL.D.	Salem.

Elected in 1838.

Hon. Daniel A. White, LL.D.	Salem.
Hon. Samuel A. Eliot,	Boston. Resigned.

Elected in 1839.

Hon. Samuel Hoar, LL.D.	Concord.
Rev. Samuel Barrett, D.D.	Boston.
Rev. Ephraim Peabody,	New Bedford.

Elected in 1840.

Rev. A. P. Peabody,	Portsmouth.
Rev. G. W. Briggs,	Plymouth.

Elected in 1841.

Benjamin Guild, Esq.	Boston.
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Elected in 1843.

Charles G. Loring, Esq.	Boston.
Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop,	Boston.

Elected in May, 1844.

Hon. Abbott Lawrence,	Boston.
Rev. Chandler Robbins,	Boston.
Rev. C. A. Bartol,	Boston.
Rev. James W. Thompson,	Salem.

Elected in November, 1844.

Hon. Stephen C. Phillips,	Salem.
Rev. George E. Ellis,	Charlestown.

Elected in May, 1846.

George B. Emerson, Esq.	Boston.
Rev. C. W. Upham,	Salem.

Elected in November, 1846.

Rev. Edward B. Hall,	Providence.
Rev. Alonzo Hill,	Worcester.

Elected in May, 1847.

Hon. Stephen Fairbanks,	Boston.
Rev. Alvan Lamson, D.D.	Dedham.

Elected in November, 1847.

Hon. Peleg Sprague, LL.D.	Boston.
Rev. George R. Noyes, D.D.	Cambridge.
Rev. F. D. Huntington,	Boston.

☞ At the semi-annual meeting of November, 1846, the following resolutions were adopted on recommendation of the Select Committee :—

“Every member, who shall hereafter be absent from six successive stated meetings of the Society, shall be considered as thereby resigning his place as a member.

“And it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify any member of the Society, who may hereafter be absent from *four* successive stated meetings, that absence from *two* more such meetings will vacate his office.”