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# THE CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

" ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARDS MEN."

VOL. I.] MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1823. [No 20.

*From the London Missionary Register, Feb. 1823.*

NOTICES OF SOME OF THE FOUNDERS OF CHURCH-OF-ENGLAND MISSIONS IN INDIA.

REV. DAVID BROWN—REV. HENRY MARTYN—REV. DR. BUCHANAN—RIGHT REV. BISHOP MIDDLETON.

A quarterly Circular, published at Calcutta, by the Corresponding Committee of the Church Missionary Society, has the following passage in reference to the death of the late Bishop of Calcutta.

The high tribute of respect paid to his memory by the Government, and the expression of public esteem exhibited in the crowded attendance at his funeral, are generally known; and various effusions in praise of the splendid erudition, the profound talents, and the benevolent character of our late Bishop, have issued from the press. It belongs to our plan to call the attention of our friends to the influence which the deceased exerted on the cause of Missions in India, and which renders his character a subject of peculiar interest to the readers of Missionary Intelligence; with this view we gladly avail ourselves of the kind permission of the Rev. Mr. Parson, to copy the following extract

of a Sermon preached by him in the Cathedral, on the evening of Sunday, the 14th of July, when a just and impressive tribute of respect was paid to the memory of our late Diocesan; as in the morning had been done by the Venerable the Archdeacon of Calcutta.

We subjoin the greater part of the extract referred to. It contains, as the Reader will see, some striking notices of other distinguished men, who opened the way for the Bishop's important measures in India.

"Let us pass to a concluding view of our late Bishop's Life and Ministry: and that is, to a view of him as a BISHOP AMONG GENTILES, a MISSIONARY; or, in more dignified terms, an APOSTOLICAL Bishop. He has lived long enough to afford his unequivocal testimony to this inherent spirit of Christianity; having given to the cause of Missions in India, that identical stamp and sanction which it wanted. It was not his lot, indeed, to commence the work among us; nor can it well often be, under our economy of the church, the lot of Bishops. They must, usually, rather complete and ORGANIZE, than, like Apostles, be the first to go forth on the great errand. Great indeed it is, and destined

here to be the errand of success. Men, each contributing as God shall enable him; and only, altogether successively and in the collective event, completing their work, over which they shall rejoice in the end together in a better state of existence.

“The services of men who have been removed from this progressive work in India, with a rapid succession, it may be allowed me in a few words, to distinguish.

“The parent of missions, in the Established and English Church of India, was the Rev. DAVID BROWN; than whom, a more unambitious, though at the same time simply majestic and evangelical parent, the cause needs not to claim. His it was, to cherish the infant enterprise with his prayers; and formally to engage other in stated prayer for the same end. Men of more accomplishment may have followed him—men of less artifice, cannot; nor have any men been better acquainted with Christianity in its great principles. Such a man lived long misunderstood in Calcutta. At length, after a ministry the longest which has been allowed to us, he died a sort of self-sacrifice, in the cause which he thought worthy of his devotion—a cause connected closely with that of Missions—the cause of the Bible Society.

“The same joint cause appears more certainly to have cut short, or, as it were, burnt out the life of MARTYN; than whom, there has never been a more thorough scholar for his years, nor has any man of a more simple and ingenuous spirit set foot in India. With the vivacity of youth he combined

science without its slowness and incumbrances. It was, in itself much; but he made little of it, unimpeded and uninflated by vanity. His religion, though reared in the Establishment, was of a liberality quite Catholic; he saw the comparative insignificance of modes; he loved the lover of Christ, under whatever mode such a man might worship. All mankind were interesting to him; and he went forth among them—fearless, as having God with him—free, by a conscious inoffensiveness of heart—quick, by the most practised familiarity with his subjects—cheerful, by the peace of the Blessed Spirit in him. Diligent in labors which were his delights also, devoted under the foreseen fact that he would not live long, this unsurpassed servant of Jesus Christ had ended his course with joy.

“Perhaps, however, under God, no man contributed so immediately to the result which we have witnessed, that is, to the accession of an accomplished PRELATE to our numbers, and to the COLLEGIATE character which has since accrued to our Missions, as Dr. BUCHANAN. Whilst others were otherwise engaged in the same thing, and each according to the assignment of particular Providence, Buchanan employed in the matter a sort of worldly vigour and cleverness as of diplomacy. This has not pleased the world at times: and perhaps for the reason that it was successful.—But if success denote the pleasure of God, then was God pleased with the labours of Buchanan.

To advance under God the good work of Brown, Martyn and Buchanan, the BISHOP has appositely given to the Cause of Missions the identical sort of sanction which it wanted. It wanted political countenance and the reputation of sound learning. Judged dangerous in its apparent disregard of political cares, it was judged of disputable orthodoxy in point of doctrine. In the church it had been supposed to characterize a party.—Stability and ballast appeared to be wanting to this ark upon the waters. Old institutions for the purpose, did comparatively nothing toward it: the government of England had not expressed itself favourably on the subject, beyond an ancient indication or two, grown obsolete: the Universities as such, sent forth no men in the cause: it was prosecuted but collaterally, and by individual efforts: no provision existed, humanly speaking, for the continuance of missionary exertions in the Church. Our departed Bishop has conferred upon the Missionary Cause, according to his predilections as to the mode of it, every attestation, aid, and honour, which it could expect to receive from him. Instead of a dangerous project, he has with reason, said, that it, or nothing, must prove our safety in these possession—that it were preposterous to suppose ourselves established here for any purpose except to make known the Son of God to a people ignorant of him. He gave the Missionary Cause his heart. During life, he employed on the Mission College all his elaborateness and accuracy of attention; in death, he has be-

queathed to it the choice of his books: he has also bequeathed a part of what expresses the heart of man, his money: lastly, he had bequeathed to it, if it should please God, his very bones: he had looked to it, as Jacob to the Holy Land, saying, *There they shall bury me!*"

The Archdeacon (who has himself, we regret to say, been since carried off by the fatal epidemic of the East, in the flower of his age) had observed, in reference to the College, in the sermon which he had preached in the morning—

"It was to the new Mission College that the Bishop eagerly looked, as a sure means of extending knowledge to the people of this country. This Institution was the nursling of his latter years. It occupied his attention many hours of every day; and his anxious mind was daily gratified with the expectation of seeing it in full operation."

The Corresponding Committee add—

"From these truly Christian anticipations, the late Bishop was suddenly snatched away, to engage, we trust, in the unmixed exercises and delights of the *just made perfect*. The Great Shepherd and Bishop of souls ever liveth—the same yesterday, to-day and forever; and however mysterious his dispensations may appear, we know that He is mindful of His Church, and will not fail to accomplish the number of his elect, and to hasten His kingdom."

## ENGLISH BAPTIST MISSION.

*Annual Meeting.*

The public services of this Anniversary of the Baptist Missionary Society were preceded, as last year, by an open Meeting of the Committee, held at the Missionary Rooms, in Fen-Court, Fenchurch-street. About sixty friends, chiefly ministers from the country, assembled on Tuesday morning, June 17, at eleven; when information was given respecting the affairs of the Society, and much friendly and beneficial conversation followed.

On Wednesday morning, at eleven, a large and highly respectable congregation assembled at Great Queen-street Chapel. The first hymn and a portion of scripture were read by the Rev. Mr. Chin; prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Rippon; the sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Steadman; and the Rev. Mr. Gaulter, one of the ministers connected with the chapel, concluded in prayer.

The text was Isaiah lii. 10:—

“The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.” The preacher noticed the ultimate object aimed at—and the means by which it is to be accomplished. Under the *first* head he explained the terms in which it is here described, and expatiated with much animation on the glory of the prospect. Under the *second*, he shewed the power of God to be necessary to remove numerous and mighty obstacles,—persecuting laws,—corrupt systems of religion,—deep-rooted prejudices;

and also to provide suitable ministers for the work, both at home and abroad. Dr. Steadman concluded this serious and energetic sermon, by warning the audience against being satisfied with diffusing the light of science, or communicating temporal comfort, or imparting any benefit short of the gospel;—insisting on the necessity of acting a consistent part at home;—urging the union of all hearts and hands in encouraging missionary undertakings;—and pressing upon each individual the necessity of his seeking salvation for himself.

At six in the evening, a numerous and respectable congregation assembled at Surry Chapel. The Rev. Joseph Kinghorn of Norwich, commenced in prayer, and the Rev. J. H. Hinton of Reading concluded. A very excellent and instructive discourse was delivered by the Rev. Geo. Barclay of Irvine, who has long been numbered among the most active and zealous friends of the Society in Scotland. His text was Numbers xiv. 21:—“As truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord.” From these words of Jehovah to Moses, Mr. Barclay spoke of—The glory mentioned in the text; the manifestation of divine beauty; the glory of the moral attributes of the Godhead, as displayed in the person and work of the Redeemer.—The prospect presented to our faith; the extensive and universal diffusion of this glory throughout the world.—The assurance that this prospect shall be realized; the oath of God; a solemn asseveration but seldom

employed in the scripture, in which all the attributes of Jehovah, nay, his very existence, is pledged for the fulfilment of his word.

On Thursday morning, at nine, a prayer meeting was held at Eagle-street, for the special purpose of imploring the Divine blessings on the Society and its Missionaries. Prayers and intercessions, with thanksgivings were presented by the Rev. Messrs. Gough of Westbury, Macfarlane of Trowbridge, and Davis of Walworth, and an excellent and animated address was delivered by the Rev. J. Wilkinson of Saffron, Walden.

Immediately after the prayer-meeting, a very large and respectable assembly met at the Chapel in Great Queen-street, to hear the Report of the Committee, and to transact the usual annual business of the Society. Two stanzas of the hymn, "Salvation! oh the joyful sound!" were first sung; and a blessing on the proceedings of the day was implored by the Rev. Jas. Hoby. Then Benjamin Shaw, Esq. Treasurer to the Society, was called to the Chair.

Mr. Shaw congratulated the Society, now in the thirty-third year of its existence, upon the arrival of another annual meeting. He would not anticipate the Report about to be read, but he could not help now adverting to one circumstance announced in it, which would afford great and general pleasure. The Committee it was well known, had been under the necessity of borrowing a considerable sum of money in order to carry on the operations. Two years ago this debt amounted to 5000*l.*; and 3000*l.* of it remained

unpaid at the last anniversary. But a plan had been since proposed of a separate subscription for discharging this debt, payable only in case enough should be subscribed to discharge the whole. Thus every subscriber set down his name with the assurance that if his subscription should be called for, the debt would certainly be annihilated. Mr. Shaw had the satisfaction of informing the present meeting, that this most desirable object had been attained; and that such had been the liberality of Christian friends of various denominations, that there was even a surplus beyond what was required for liquidating the debt; at the same time he could also add, that the subscriptions for general purposes had sustained no diminution, but had even increased to an amount beyond that of any preceding year. This he could not but regard as a signal answer to prayer, and a loud call for thankfulness to God. The origin of the Society had its foundation in prayer, and all its progress ever since had been closely connected with prayer. But tho' the funds are now in so favourable a state, the friends of the Society ought not to relax their exertions. Though much good has been done, much remains to be done. Commands to act are connected with promises of success. Divine power supersedes not human means. God honours men by employing them to bring about his purposes. Nor does the expectation of a speedy accomplishment of divine predictions supersede or diminish our duty to pray for the predicted events. It was when Daniel understood by books the number of the

years whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet; to be nearly expired, that he set his face unto the Lord to pray the more earnestly and particularly for the restoration of Jerusalem. So the promises of the universal spread of the gospel, and any signs we perceive of their advancing fulfilment, should operate as motives to an increased fervency of prayer for that blessed consummation.

The Report was then read from the pulpit by the junior Secretary. It contained an interesting account of the present state of the Missions in various parts of the Continent of India; in Ceylon, Java, and other Eastern islands; and in the West Indies; with statements of a financial nature, and domestic proceedings and arrangements. Though rather long, it was not found tedious, but was heard by the Meeting with close attention and great interest.

The Chairman, as Treasurer, then read an Account of the Receipts and Disbursements; which was received by the Meeting with evident marks of high gratification. The subscriptions and donations for the past year amounted to more than 14,400*l.*; and there was a balance of 1200*l.* in the hands of the Treasurer.

The following resolutions were then successively moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.

On the motion of the Rev. Joseph Kinghorn of Norwich, seconded by William Cart's Wilson, Esq. M. P.;

“That the Report now read be adopted and circulated; and that this Meeting acknowledges, with gratitude and joy, the proofs of a

divine blessing attending the labours of the Society, particularly in the West Indies.”

On the motion of the Rev. George Barclay of Irvine, seconded by the Rev. John Leifchild of Keusington;

“That this Meeting unfeignedly rejoices in the success of the plan for liquidating the debt of the Society; and presents cordial thanks to all who have contributed for that purpose; as also to those ministers and other friends, who, in various ways, have exerted themselves during the past year in support of the Society.”

On the motion of the Rev. Edward Irving, M. A. of the Caledonian Church, London, seconded by Joseph Butterworth, Esq. M. P.;

“That the sincere thanks of this Meeting be presented to those gentlemen who have conducted the affairs of the Society during the past year.

On the motion of Edward Phillips, Esq. late of Melksham, seconded by the Rev. John Howard Hinton of Reading;

“That this Meeting has heard with regret of the death of several excellent Missionaries in connection with the Society; and respectfully invites all the friends of the Mission to join in fervent prayers that the Lord of the harvest will raise up many labourers, qualified by his grace to enter upon this great work; and grant a large measure of his Spirit to all who are engaged in missionary labours both at home and abroad.”

*From the London Baptist Magazine.*

**BAPTIST SOCIETY FOR  
PROMOTING THE GOS-  
PEL IN IRELAND.**

The ninth anniversary of this Society was held at the city of London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Friday, June 20. The great-room began to fill at six o'clock in the morning. (Breakfast was served in the Coffee-room.) At seven o'clock the seats were all occupied. A few verses of a hymn were sung, and the Rev. W. Shenstone offered up prayer. The question being then put and carried.

*Joseph Butterworth, Esq. M. P.* on taking the chair, stated that the meeting was convened to hear the Report of the Baptist Society for Promoting the Gospel in Ireland, and had never yet assembled at a crisis so important as the present. The Laws and the Government of that ill-fated country had been set at defiance by a large portion of the population. Human benevolence had, during the last year, been most liberally exerted to supply the wants, and conciliate the affections of the lower orders in Ireland. We had, however, found, that neither human laws, nor human benevolence, could of themselves effect the happiness of that people, and bring them into social order, without the superior influence of Divine grace on their hearts.—We must, therefore, look to a higher power than mere human instruments for accomplishing the great objects we had in view. This society, most happily, provided the means which, under the blessing of God, might prove of incalculable benefit, especially to the rising ge-

neration. Education and the communication of scriptural knowledge would be the best means of promoting social order, and moral and religious improvement. The public papers had reported many particulars of the dreadful state of the South and West of Ireland; but it was too true that the actual condition of things there was much worse than had been generally known in this country. The nightly burnings of property, destruction of cattle, and horrible murders, had now become of common occurrence. In certain districts, there was no security in country places, and the inhabitants had been driven into the towns for safety.—These awful facts respecting the conduct of the people too powerfully proved the absence of moral and religious principle.—The British nation had of late years made great exertion for the salvation of the heathen world, but surely we ought not to neglect our own countrymen, and expend all our exertions on Missions in remote quarters of the globe; we ought not to confine our labours to distant vineyards, and neglect to sow the seeds of Christianity at home, where there was so large a field, so vast a wilderness. Notwithstanding however, the awful condition of Ireland during the past year, he believed that the Society would find much encouragement in the details of the Report, which was about to be read, amply sufficient to excite their hopes, and to stimulate their utmost exertions for the support of this excellent Institution. He should not, therefore, longer detain the Meeting, with any farther

observations, but request the Secretary to read the Report.

The following are brief extracts.

"The very destitute circumstances of the *native Irish*, engaged the early attention of this Society; and it is pleasing to know that the apathy, which at that time prevailed, has given place to a general concern for supplying them with the means of instructions. Many schools have been established by this, and other societies, wherein those parents who wish it, may have their children instructed in the Irish language: and thousands of copies of the Scriptures in Irish have been circulated for this use.

"The sentiments of a noble Lord, the President of his Majesty's Council, upon this subject, justify the measures which have formed the chief feature of the Society's operation. In a speech at the nineteenth Anniversary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Right Honourable Lord Harrowby, speaking of Ireland, said, 'I cannot set down without adding one word more, on a subject to which I feel it necessary to advert. From what has been stated in the Report, it is impossible for us not to feel a degree of exultation, in knowing that the word of God has been disseminated, through the instrumentality of this Society, in a nation, (which indeed ought not to be called a distinct nation, because it is part of ourselves) *and in a language in which I should be happy to see still greater exertions made to spread the scriptures—the language of our neighbouring country, Ireland.* I am satisfied if any thing can be found to allay the terrors and to heal the wounds of that unhappy

country, it is the dissemination of the Gospel of Peace; and the best mode in which that Gospel can be distributed, and the most likely to overcome the prejudices of the people, is, to present it to them, not in a tongue with which, from the unhappy prepossessions of many minds, they may not associate the most favourable ideas, *but in their own tongue*, divested of every thing that can give it any unfavourable impression.

"The employment of persons, natives of Ireland, to read the scriptures in the Irish language, has proved a happy means for gaining access to the adult part of the population. Their partialities for every thing Irish, have thus been interested, and their prejudices against Protestant Instructors shaken and overcome. Having conveyed the light of the Holy Scriptures to those who inhabit the mountains, bogs, and glens of Ireland; and furnished the *cabins* of those who were formerly known only by the appellation of the 'Wild Irish,' with pure christian instruction, (the glorious principles of the Reformation,) are circumstances that afford indeed matter for abundant thanksgivings to God. There is no instance perhaps in the history of modern missions, that will more justify the appellation of the prophet's language:—*'The people which sat in darkness saw great light: and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death, light hath sprung up.'*

"The number of the Sabbath and itinerant Irish readers of the Scriptures is twenty-four. Some idea of the usefulness of the Sabbath Readers may be formed, from

the report of the labours of *five* men in the county of Clare. They have read the Scriptures in the Irish language in more than two hundred and fifty distinct cabins. One of them only has taught forty-seven adults to read the Irish perfectly.

“The Committee report that there are ninety-two day schools, and fourteen evening schools for adults, besides several Sunday-schools. There are in Tipperary, Cork, Westmeath, Longford, and Kilkenny, eleven; in Clare and Limerick, seventeen; and in Sligo, Mayo, and Roscommon, sixty-four. The schools contain about 7500 children: all these belong to Roman Catholic parents, excepting about 500, whose parents are protestants.

“Mr. Wilson gives a statement of the improvement of the children in *three* schools, as it relates to their repeating chapters of the scriptures. Of the children examined upon the forementioned plan, more than sixty repeated ten chapters each; thirty repeated twenty chapters each; three upwards of one hundred each; two, one hundred and sixteen each; and one, the surprising number of one hundred and twenty chapters. These last three were in the ‘Haddington School,’ supported by a gentleman in Scotland, in which there were seventy-three children present, the whole of whom are the children of Roman Catholic parents.

“The inspector of the Society’s school in Erris, (situated at the north-west extremity of the kingdom, and where the inhabitants are in a dreadful state of destitution,) says, ‘The scriptures are ex-

tensively circulated among the Roman Catholics in Erris, by means of our schools. Major B. the chief landholder, has lately established a Protestant colony, by giving every Protestant a house and half an acre of land during two lives. This measure, aided by the efforts of our society, has already produced many beneficial changes. Several parents who are Roman Catholics, told me, that they were very thankful to the charitable people in England, who were giving their children education *gratis*, and that they would not be prevented by either priest or monk, from sending them to the schools. I am happy to say, that one of the priests told me, he was favourable to the schools, and had given an invitation to the Rev. Mr. M’Kaag to come to his house whenever he visited the schools in Erris.’

“The Committee have placed the schools under the inspection of the Readers of the scriptures, and the superintendance of the Itinerant Ministers employed; all of whom have, by their vigilance and integrity, entitled themselves fully to the confidence of the Society. The schools in Connaught are under the active superintendance of the Rev. Josiah Wilson, who resides at Boyle, in the county of Roscommon, and the Rev. John M’Kaag, who lives at Ballina, in the county of Sligo. Those in the county of Clare are superintended by the Rev. Wm. Thomas, who resides in Limerick; those in the county of Cork, by the Rev. T. C. Keene, who resides in the city of Cork; and those in the middle counties are regularly visited by the Rev. S. Davis of Clonmel, and

Rev. Isaac M'Carthy, of Tullamore.

“Before the committee close this part of their report, they would remind the Society of advantages resulting from making the native Irish acquainted with the scriptures, as it relates to the peace and welfare of Ireland. All their agents unite in the following testimony of Mr. Wm. Moore:—“Wherever the Scriptures are read or heard, there is loyalty; and I defy the kingdom to produce an instance from the commencement of our Society, of any person who has attended upon the reading of the scriptures, or has read them himself, having been apprehended, or charged with any insurrectionary practices: therefore, if it were only to save great expences to the Government, let the scriptures have free course; and love to England, and loyalty to the Government, will be the results.” As a corroboration of this statement, it is gratifying to find, that the late despatches from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, respecting the convulsed state of society, mentions, ‘part of the province of Connaught,’ in connection with the province of Ulster, as being perfectly tranquil.”

MONTREAL, OCTOBER 15, 1823.

It is truly gratifying to be able to present to our readers such evidence of the improving state of society in this country, as we find in the report of the “British and Canadian School Society” of Montreal, and the proceedings of the Wesleyan Auxilliary Missionary Society of Quebec, and if

there are any who can contemplate such evidences without pleasure, we envy them not either their heads or their hearts; of our readers, we are persuaded better things, and we refer them with great satisfaction to the information in the subsequent columns; and to those who cannot avoid emotions of jealousy, our advice is, that they exert themselves with the utmost energy in their own way, and we confess that such a race, will afford us much greater satisfaction, than any other we have heard of in Canada.

*The communication signed “Rector” will appear in our next; as also the two letters of “Raikes” in the Upper-Canada Herald, which are, for the want of room, omitted till our next number.*

#### *British and Canadian School Society.*

The Meeting of this Society took place on Thursday evening. Mr. LUNN, the Secretary, read the following reports of the Committees:

#### REPORT.

The subjugation of mind to ‘principalities and powers, to the rulers of the darkness of this world, and to spiritual wickedness in high places’ (to adopt the phraseology of Holy writ) has been the order of things prevailing among the great majority of mankind for nearly six thousand years; and notwithstanding a remedy has been possessed by a portion of the human race, they have been too destitute of the moral principle of love to their neighbour, to be induced to impart to others, a share

of that blessing, which God in his providence had so liberally bestowed upon them. The few have revelled in intellectual luxury, while the despised *multitude* have perished for lack of knowledge.

Truly darkness has covered the earth, and gross darkness the people, but we are privileged to hail the dawn of the morning, in which the day spring from on high is visiting us, when concern for the honour of God, and affection for our brethren of mankind, triumphs over the selfish monopoly of knowledge, and holds forth to others the word of Life.

To christianity is the honour due, of pointing out the way in which the thick mists of ignorance may be rolled away from the intellectual horizon; and the delightful assurance that the light which shineth, shall increase the perfect day, is founded on the word of Him, at whose fiat, existence started out of nothing, confusion, became order, and whose efficacious mandate said, "Let there be light and there was light."

The Sun of revelation is now rising in majestic splendour, its ascent is gradual but certain. Nothing can impede its progress; already it illumines many of the highest mountains, which reflect its lustre on the surrounding hills and vallies.—The Gentiles are coming to its light, and Kings to the brightness of its rising.

Many of the friends of humanity, religion, and morals, had long felt deeply concerned for the welfare of the society of these Provinces, and more especially of the children of their neighbours and fellow citizens; in the place, in

which Providence had cast their lot.

They had observed the progress of education in different parts of the world, by means of the system adopted by the British and Foreign School Society, and which originated with that friend of youth, Mr. Joseph Lancaster. Being convinced of its superiority, on account of the christian simplicity, liberality and charity of its principles, and its admirable adaptation to a community composed of persons of so many different religious denominations, as well as its economy, and the facility of its support, for the benefit of the children of the poor; and labouring classes of society, measures were taken in September of last year to organize a School, and to form a Society for its support; of those measures an account was subsequently published, which contained a specification of the object and constitution of the Society.

Your Committee deemed it their duty, on their appointment to manage the affairs of the Institution, to fulfil the important trust with which you had been pleased to honour them; and they immediately resolved to appoint as the Master of the School, Mr. Thomas Hutchins, who had been sent out highly recommended by the Committee of the British and Foreign School Society, with a salary of £100 Cy. per annum, commencing on the 27th July preceding, which was the period of Mr. Hutchins's arrival.

In procuring a suitable place, in which to commence the operations of the School, it appeared

to them eligible to hire a House belonging to Mr. Berthelet, which was lately occupied by the Montreal General Hospital at a rent not exceeding £40 per annum. The house was accordingly taken for two years and seven months, from the 1st of the ensuing month, October; and the necessary preparations of desks, forms and platform, with other requisites for the actual beginning was made.

Three months had not elapsed from the time of opening the School, when it was found, that in consequence of the increasing number of the children who attended, it would be requisite to provide additional room.

Your Committee therefore thought it desirable, and accordingly determined to separate the girls from the boys, and to fit up the lower part of the house for their accommodation. Your Committee also perceived, that it was highly desirable to procure the services of some benevolent ladies, to inspect the female School, to select a suitable person for a Mistress and to assist in the superintendence.

They accordingly solicited the aid, and succeeded in forming a Committee of Ladies, whose assiduous attention to the interest and prosperity of the Institution, merit the highest commendation of the Society. The Ladies' Committee have found it necessary to endeavour to procure a Mistress regularly trained to superintend the girls' school; application has therefore been made for that purpose to the Committee in London, and a suitable person is engaged, and expected in the ensuing Spring.

The number of children who have been admitted into the Schools since October last is 499; of which a great many have left to accompany their parents to the Upper Province to take land, and others have gone to service. The children in general are very attentive and have made great improvement in learning; the Ladies who have visited the Schools have expressed themselves highly pleased with the needle work performed by girls.

The Master conducts the boys' school to the entire satisfaction of the Committee. It is a very pleasing sight to behold children of all denominations assembled together, and instructed, in the principles of the Holy Scriptures, which will tend, we trust, to unite all parties. There are at present in the Schools a total of 246 children, viz. 160 boys and 86 girls, 84 of whom are Catholics.

Several Canadian children who were admitted into the School in November and December of last year, ignorant of the Alphabet, are now able to read, write words of two and three syllables, and understand perfectly the first two rules of Arithmetic. Other children who had made some proficiency in reading, but knew nothing of Arithmetic, have in eight months acquired a competent knowledge of the simple and compound Rules, Reduction and the Rule of Three; considerable progress in learning has also been made by a number of boys who have (*unhappily for themselves*) been obliged to accompany their parents into the country to take land; the Public are earnestly in-

vited to visit the Schools, which speak for themselves.

Considering the influence of females in society, and especially in the early education of the rising generation, the Committee congratulate their constituents on the great success which has attended the girls' School; and they fervently hope, for the same reasons, that the best exertions of the friends of education, and the well-wishers of posterity will be made, in order to improve the efficiency of this School by increasing its numbers, as it is sufficiently known, that on the education and deportment of an individual female, frequently depends the happiness of whole families.

Your Committee would indulge the hope, that as they proceed, they will be enabled to imitate the female department of the Parent Society, by affording to the girls, an opportunity of making themselves acquainted with domestic duties and household work, so exceedingly desirable, either in a female servant, or the head of a family, and so especially necessary in this country, where so few servants can be found, who are, in any tolerable degree, qualified for the duties of their respective stations.

Your Committee feel it to be their duty to commend to your approbation and grateful notice, the kindness of that valuable association of Ladies "The Dorcas Society;" by whose kind exertions about 40 of the children have been clothed, and have been thereby enabled to avail themselves of the benefit of the Schools, of which they must otherwise have been deprived.

In answer to a letter containing an account of the state and progress of the Schools—your Committee have been honored with a communication from His Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie, which contains sentiments as honorable to the humane and generous heart of the noble writer, as they are flattering and encouraging to the Society.

Your Committee cannot persuade themselves to withhold from the Society, the pleasure which they are fully aware that you will experience, in hearing this proof, additional to the many, with which you are already acquainted, of the liberality and magnanimity of the exalted individual in whom it is our happiness to recognize the representative of our beloved Sovereign, whose annual support of the British system, best evinces his ardent desire to promote universal education, and to follow the beneficent example of his illustrious Father, whose earnest wish in behalf of the children of his people, is thus gradually accomplishing.

The letter of the Earl of Dalhousie is as follows:—

*Quebec, 17th June, 1823.*

SIR,—I have the pleasure to acknowledge your letter and parcel from the British and Foreign School Society. The report which your letter contains affords a most gratifying evidence of the success which has attended your first labours for this Institution, and must prove the best incitement to all its well-wishers to continue their aid and support in their stations. Be assured I shall not be backward in mine. I consider it

an honour to be named the Patron of such works, and can only renew my request that I may be informed when and in what manner I can be useful to this Institution.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient

Humble servant,

DALHOUSIE.

Mr. WM. LUNN.

Your Committee was persuaded that there will be but one feeling in the society, and that an intense feeling of satisfaction and gratitude for His Excellency's great kindness in his condescending to become the Patron of this Institution.

Your Committee flatter themselves that their constituents will participate in the pleasure which they cannot but indulge, while they contemplate the success, with which the institution has been favoured by an allwise and beneficent Providence, thus far. But they would by no means cherish that species of complacency, in that which has already been achieved, which would induce either them or you to rest satisfied without renewed and persevering exertion.

We have only to look around, to be convinced of the vastness of the field which yet remains to be occupied—with the herculean labour, yet to be performed, in order to furnish the human mind with even a moderate degree of cultivation, in useful knowledge and the principles of virtue.—Our past success must only be allowed to delight us by the reflection that the end which we propose, is proved to be attainable, and that its accomplishment may be confi-

dently anticipated. Our gratification must arise, not from the hope of ceasing to labour but from the certain prospect of labouring with success; that moral darkness and its consequent irregularities, rudeness and destitution of comfort, shall be removed, and that, in the use of proper means, that faithful Providence on whom we ought to rely for success, will fulfil his promise and "make darkness light before us, and crooked things straight."

Your Committee feel persuaded that that principle of benevolence which has animated you in pursuing this important object in your own city, and which has rendered you susceptible of being attracted this evening to one common centre, must make it proportionably interesting to you, to hear that the cause of education, which is indeed the cause of truth, is making rapid progress among your brethren of mankind of almost all other nations.—But to give only a glance at the great work which is in operation, we must ascend in imagination and take up an aerial position at some convenient distance from the earth, and mark the progress of the nations spread over the face of the globe as it rolls beneath us.

"In Ireland the system has been widely and very favourably received; and from the liberality of its principle, it has been declared by the Commission appointed by Parliament, (consisting of the Lord Primate, several Bishops and other distinguished characters;) to be peculiarly adapted for that country as keeping clear of all interference with the particu-

lar religious tenets of any, inducing the whole population to receive its benefits as one undivided body, under one and the same system and in the same establishment." By the last report 356 schoolmasters had been trained, of whom 144 were Roman Catholics, and 212 Protestants, and the number in the Schools connected with the society, 36,657.—"

FRANCE.—Among the nations of the continent of Europe, who have been zealous in the introduction of the system, *France* occupies the first and most permanent system. The attention of that nation was first drawn towards that System in 1815, when a Society was formed under the title of "The Society for Elementary Instruction;" and by the assistance of M. M. Martin and Froissard, who had been trained at the Borough road, the plan was first established in the Rue St. Jean de Beauvois at Paris. In the following year the King, by his royal ordinance, dated the 25th February, 1816, authorised the establishment of Schools on the improved system, both for Catholics and Protestants; and directed schools to be erected in every canton throughout the kingdom. Since that period, the operations of the Committee at Paris, have been conducted with much energy and zeal. The number of schools in the new system, in the year 1821, amounted to 1500, affording education to 1,070,500 scholars. The system has been introduced into the island of Corsica. Measures are also taken by the Minister of War for organizing schools on the system in every regiment in the French service.

SPAIN.—The first school on this system was opened at Madrid, on the 9th January 1818, under the management of Col. Kearney, who learned the system at the Central School. The school at Madrid has been enlarged for the purpose of training Masters, and the King, has issued a decree for extending the plan to every principal town in the Kingdom. Some Ladies of rank have likewise obtained the Royal sanction to open a central school for 300 girls at Madrid. Schools on the system have also been formed at Cadiz, Saragossa, Alcala (in Andalusia), Seville, Granada, Zamora, Burgos, Valencia, Tortola, Alcazar, and Mexico.

A Grand Central Military School for the whole Spanish army, is on the point of being organized by Col. Kearney.

The system has also been introduced, by order of their respective governments, in Italy, and Russia, where schools for the children of the soldiers have been established from Siberia to Odesa, in Poland, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, and the Netherlands, likewise in India, where one of the greatest obstacles in the way of mental improvement—the absolute prohibition of female education among the natives is now giving way. Miss Cooke, a lady from Holland, having devoted herself to the work, has within eleven months obtained children to require fifteen schools for from 40 to 50 girls in each. In South America, Mr. Thompson has obtained a decree from the authorities in Buenos Ayres—in Chili—and in Peru, for the establishment of a Model

School for training Masters in all the principal cities and towns.— He has also got free permission to print the Scripture Lessons.— Thus having obtained independence, they are making the best use of their privileges.

In various other nations of the earth the system has been received, and education is spreading with accelerated rapidity.

The merchandize of knowledge is better than the merchandize of silver, and the gain thereof, than of fine gold. Of whatever else we impart to the needy, we disposses ourselves; but in imparting knowledge, we enrich others, but can impoverish ourselves. On the contrary, we cannot but increase our talent in its use. Your Committee have felt it to be their duty, thus very briefly; to hint at that which cannot but afford the highest gratification to benevolent minds, but they are unwilling longer to detain you from the intellectual repast, which you will no doubt enjoy from the eloquence of those Gentlemen—friends of humanity—who have kindly engaged to aid in the business of the present meeting.

Finally: your Committee beg leave to tender to your acceptance

the report now read, and to retire from their places with fervent gratitude to God for the measure of success which he has afforded to their humble efforts; and with the most earnest desires, that you may be directed to the choice of a Committee, whose exertions shall be tenfold more efficient, and whose labours, under the divine blessing, shall be crowned with the most abundant success.

[The report of the Ladies Committee, the Resolutions, and appointments for the ensuing year, shall appear in our next.]

### QUEBEC.

#### *Methodist Missionary Society.*

Putsuant to public notice, two Sermons were preached in the Wesleyan Chapel, St. Ann Street on Sunday Sept. 14, by the Rev. R. Williams. On Monday the 15th, the Annual Meeting of the Society was held in the Wesleyan Chapel. James Wilson, Esq. A. P. was called to the chair. The report of the Committee was then read, and is to be printed. Several Resolutions were adopted. The collections made after the services on Sunday and the proceedings of Monday evening, amount to £25 9s 4d.

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