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FIFTY-FIRST REPORT

OF THE

Nova Scotia Bible Society,

DECEMBER, 1879.

INSTITUTED 1813.

Nova Scotia Printing Company, Corner Sackville and Granville Streets, Halifax.

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Joreign Bible Society. XIV: The Secretaries for the time being shall be considered as members of the Committee; but no other person deriving any

I. The designation of the Society shall be THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, of which the main object shall be to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment; the only copies in the language of the United Kingdom, to be circulated by the Society, shall be the Authorized Version. Version

II. This Society shall add its endeavours to those employed by other Societies, for circulating the Scriptures through the British Dominion; and shall also, according to its ability, extend its influence to other countries, whether Christian, Mohammedan or Pagan.

III. Each subscriber of One Guinea annually shall be a Member.

IV. Each su Member for life. Each subscriber of Ten Guineas at one time shall be a

Each subscriber of Twenty-five Guineas annually shall be a Governor.

VI. Each subscriber of Fifty Pounds at one time, or who shall, by one additional payment, increase his original subscription to Fifty Pounds, shall be a Governor for life.

VII. Governors shall be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Committee M. Isranal Langua

adopted at the VIII. An Executor, paying a bequest of Fifty Pounds, shall be a Member for life; or, of One Hundred Pounds, a Governor for life.

for life.

IX. A Committee shall be appointed to conduct the business of the Society, consisting of thirty six laymen, six of whom shall be foreigners, resident in London or its vicinity; half the remainder shall be members of the Church of England, and the other half members of other denominations of Christians. Twenty-seven of the above number, who shall have most frequently attended; shall be eligible for re-election for the ensuing year. The Committee shall appoint all officers except the Treasurer, and call Special General Meetings, and shall be charged with procuring for the Society suitable patronage, both British and Foreign.

X. Each member of the Society shall be entitled, under the direction of the Committee, to purchase Bibles and Testaments at the Society's prices, which shall be as low as possible.

XI. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held on the

first Wednesday in May, when the Treasurer and Committee shall be chosen, the accounts presented, and the proceedings of the foregoing year presented.

XII. The President, Vice-President, and Treasurer shall be

considered ex officio members of the Committee.

XIII. Every Clergyman or Dissenting Minister who is a member of the Society, shall be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Committee.

XIV. The Secretaries for the time being shall be considered as members of the Committee; but no other person deriving any

emolument from the Society shall have that privilege.

XV. At the general meetings, and at meetings of the Committee, the President, or in his absence the Vice-President first upon the list then present; and in the absence of the Vice-President the Treasurer; and in his absence such member as shall be voted for the purpose, shall preside at the meeting.

XVI. The Committee shall meet on the first Wednesday in every month, or oftener if necessary.

XVII. The Committee shall have the power of nominating such persons as have readered essential services to the Society, either Members for life, or Governors for life.

XVIII. The Committee shall also have the power of nominating Honorary Members from among foreigners who have promoted the objects of the Society.

KIX. The whole of the minutes of every general meeting

shall be signed by the Chairman.

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olov hus bustin ed block storrsvon Adopted at the Annual General Meeting of the Society in iil. Au fixacutor, .7881s bris 2881 of hity Pounds, shall,

es Marnber for life; or, of One Rundred Pounds, GOVERNOR That the fundamental law of the Society, which limits its

I. That the fundamental law of the Society, which limits its operations to the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, be fully and distinctly recognized as excluding the circulation of the Apocrypha.

II. That in conformity to the foregoing resolution, no pecuniary aid can be granted to any Society circulating the Apocrypha; nor, except for the purpose of being applied in conformity to the said resolution, to any individual whatever.

III. That in all cases in which grants, whether gratuitous or otherwise, of the Holy Scriptures, either in whole or in part, be made by the Society, the books issued be bound, and on the express condition that they shall be distributed without alteration or addition. tion or addition.

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IV. That all grants of Scriptures to the Secrety which our-calates the Apocrypha, be made under the express condition that they be sold or distributed without alteration or addition; and that the proceeds of the sale of any such copies of the Scripture be held at the disposal of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

EMPLOYED IN THE STATE OF THE SECOND

Aoba Scotia Bible Society.

COMMITTEE:

I. This Society shall be called THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA AND ITS DEPENDENCIES; the object of which shall be the same as that of the British and Foreign Bible Society, viz. t to encourage the circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment, and to furnish copies of the Scriptures gratis to the indigent, and at reduced prices to those requiring them.

II. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and a Committee.

III. In order to give effect to the designs of this Institution, benefactions and subscription shall be solicited, and books opened for receiving the names of benefactors and subscribers.

IV. Every person contributing annually Ten Shillings at one time, or a donation of Ten Pounds, shall be considered a member

V. A general meeting of the members of this Society will be held every year, before which will be laid the secounts and proceedings of the preceding year.

VI. The whole of the subscriptions and donations, after deducting the incidental expenses, shall be remitted annually in aid of the funds of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

VII. Every member of this Society shall be entitled to purchase, under the direction of the Committee, Bibles and Testaments at the reduced prices of the Society, which are as REV. P. C. MCOREGOR, p.B., CHAS. ROP soldieroq as wol

The Committee shall be authorized to meet for the purpose of conducting the business of the Society as often as may be necessary, and shall have power to add to their numbers as Society's Depository-No. 133 Granville Street

NOVA SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY,

I HE INSTITUTED NOVEMBER 24, 1818.

OFFICERS:

ELECTED 12TH JANUARY, 1880.

PRESIDENT	Hon. S. L. SHANNON.
VICE-PRESIDENTS	HON. S. L. SHANNON. WILLIAM PRYOR, Esc., HON. JUDGE MARSHALL,
TREASURES	HON. SIE WILLIAM YOUNG, Kt., Chief Justice.
SHORETARY	JAMES RARQUHAR. JOHN TOLAND 1 0 8 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Collector	SAMUEL BORHAM.

President to Presenter; by

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BRY CANON COCHRAN, D.D.	REV. BOBERT LAING.
P. G. McGREGOR D. D.	" C O TROOP
G. W. HILL, D.C.L., JOHN FORREST,	G. Q. TROOP,
JOHN FORREST	Hon. JUDGE RITCHIE.
TO STORE MURRAY PROPERTY WISH	JAMES F. AVERY, Esq., M.D.
ed " oE; Mr SAUNDERS Sell to.	D. OELDEN, ESQ.
" J. UNIACKE TITLEST STOCK	THOS. A. BROWN, Esq.,
" ALLAN SIMPSON,	W. C. SILVER, Esq.
C. B. PITBLADO	JAMES THOMSON, Esq.,
PROP. CURRIE,	CHAS. ROBSON, Esq.,
4 T D DEFEND	PETER LYNCH, Esq.,
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J. W. ANCIENT,	NEPEAN CLARK, ENG.
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A. L. WYLLIE,	M. H. RICHEY, ESQ., M.P.
A. L. WYLLIE,	J. B. MORROW, Enq.
" THOMAS DUNCAN.	JOHN S. MACLEAN, Esq.,
of Hart. W. MANNING.	T. B. AKINS, Esq., D.C.L.,
ord De De CURRIE de bod od fil	Party Control Esq., D.C.L.,

The whole Sandageriary Lipe in the state and densities, with a sailted annually

By Donations of Ten Pounds and upwards, at and since the formation of the Society, or executors paying £50 or upwards.

How. SAMUEL GREELMAN, S. H. BLACK, Esq., How. JUDGE

MARSHALL, Hox. P. C. HILL, JAMES R. LITHGOW, Esq.,
REV. P. G. McGREGOR, D.D., CHAS. ROBSON, Esq.,
ALEX. ROBB, Esq., AMBERSY.

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off of botheld in Poplar Grove Church, whose A Officers, Committees and Collectors of the Arrious Branches

On Monday, 12th of January, 1880. ing real and there inconcerves again more cord for so, dange go account of fire Contribution during the post year,

and the whom they would estreetly appeal for a continuance THE Chair was taken by Hon. S. L. SHANNON, President at half-past seven o'clock pom, in a raway

THE REV. MR. SIMPSON gave out a Psalm, read a portion of Scripture, and engaged in prayer,

The President addressed the meeting.

Your character of any all any all any An abstract of the Annual Report was read by the Secretary, Mr. JAMES PARQUHAR. 27011 -- ALLEGERS

The REV. MR. DUNN moved the following Resolu-Published, Prof. Charte, J. T. Avery, J. W. Ancient Lineit

Decome R. F. Barns, D. D.; N. H. Henstig, A. L. Wyll .. That the Report, an abstract of which has now been read, be received, adopted and printed, with the usual appendages, and circulated under direction of the Committee

Seconded by P. LYNCH, Esq. A. L. vadail II at Aking J. Grierson, Lagarres,

Moved by REV. DR. BURNS :-

That this meeting desires to acknowledge with devout gratitude the goodness of God in the blessings which have rested upon the Society's labours during the past year, and appeals to all to whom God's Word is precious, for enlarged sympathy and support in the prosecution of its important work.

Seconded by the REV. J. W. MANNING.

Moved by REV, JOHN FORBRET, seconded by Hon. SAMUEL CREELMAN:

Resolved, That grateful thanks be presented to the Officers, Committees and Collectors of the various Branches and Associations throughout this Province, to whose untiring zeal and energy the Society is again indebted for so large an amount of Free Contribution during the past year, and to whom they would earnestly appeal for a continuance of their efficient and valuable services, and that the following gentlemen be the Committee for the ensuing year, with power to fill vacancies:—

President-Hon. S. L. Shannon,

Vice-Presidents—Wm. Pryor, Esq., Hon. Judge Marshall, Hon. Sir Wm. Young, Kt., Chief Justice.

In Programme

Treasurer-S. H. Black, Esq.

Secretary-James Farquhar.

Agent J. Toland. You then I had to the sale a

Committee—Revs. Canon Cochran, D. D.; P. G. Mc-Gregor, D. D.; G. W. Hill, A. M.; John Forrest, R. Murray, E. M. Saunders, J. Umiacke, Allan Simpson, C. B. Pitblado, Prof. Currie, J. F. Avery, J. W. Ancient, Thomas Duncan, R. F. Burns, D. D.; N. B. Heustis, A. L. Wyllie, J. W. Manning, Robert Laing, G. O. Troop, J. B. Dunn, Dr. Pickard, D. D. Currie; Hon. Judge Ritchie, James F. Avery, Esq., M. D.; S. Selden, T. A. Brown, W. C. Silver, James Thompson, C. Robson, P. Lynch, Hon. P. C. Hill, George H. Starr, Nepean Clark, John Starr, W. S. Stirling, M. H. Richey, J. B. Morrow, John S. Maclean, T. B. Akins, J. Grierson, Esquires.

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It is with feelings of gratitude to the great author of the Word, that the Committee of the Nova Scotia Auxiliary Bible Society meet with their patrons and friends at the close of another year, celebrating the Sixty-sixth Anniversary of their Institution.

On this occasion they meet with unbroken ranks. As on former years, and in previous reports, we had to mourn the departure of some by death, this year now closed is an exception, so far as the Committee is concerned, though several whose names are among the list of subscribers have gone the way of all the earth since we last met.

Few new incidents have marked the progress of the Society during the past year. The cloud of commercial depression which so long hung over this Province, still continues as dark as ever, and therefore increased contributions cannot be expected.

As usual, in such Reports, the Committee would refer to the Abstract of the Parent Society's Report, for a bird's eye view of the work of the Parent Institution:—

FRANCE.—The past year has been blike the opening of a fine day. A strong wave of anti-clerical feeling is passing over the land, and the result is seen in a new willingness to welcome the Gospel. Theatres have been opened

to evangelical pastors and laymen, and are thronged with eager listeners; and, in perhaps ten departments, a decided move towards Prostestantism is apparent. In some cases the existence of flourishing churches can be traced to the labours of your colporteurs. One of these, an old and tried man, asked a year ago to be sent into the worst part of France; he was directed to a district where not a single Protestant was to be found. His success was beyond all expectation; inquiries arose en every hand, and in one village alone a congregation has been formed of 150 persons, who have quitted the Church of Rome.

This improved state of feeling has told favorably on the work undertaken by your Committee at the Paris Exhibition, Great kindness was shown by the officials, while the proportion of visitors who refused the Scriptures was very small. The châlet erected outside the Porte Rapp did not prove so serviceable as had been hoped, chiefly because the city authorities required a four-foot vailing to be placed in front of it, which prevented direct communication with the people in the Avenue. Accordingly your Agent established a cordon of colporteurs across the broad thoroughfare, who distributed single Gospels to the passers by, taking care not to give more than one copy to the same person, and where possible to accompany it by a kindly word. In this way from 1,500 to 2,500 were given daily, and M. Monod is of opinion that the supply was as large as was desirable. This outdoor work was independent of the very successful and yet larger effort made at the Trocadero by the Crystal Palace Bible Stand and the National Bible Society of Scotland, Your Committee, however, possessed an advantage at being able to work within the Exhibition as well. Their show-case, with a complete collection of versions, formed a centre of attraction to large numbers of visitors, including several hundreds of priests; and, in connection with it, no fewer than 11,000 Gospels were given away, your noble President, and other friends, kindly aiding in the distribution. The sales at the Exhibition were insignificant-only 1,700; but the gratuitous circulation exceeded 406,000, and the expense has been a little over £3,000, towards which the Exhibition Fund has brought in £1,539. Already news begins to come in through the colporteurs in the provinces, of fruit appearing from the seed thus sown; and it is laid

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HOI interest, increase, the peop ties of the return to services while the but few more that ministers

upon these workers as a duty to follow up any good impression they may find to have been made. That this special effort has not interfered with the regular work in France, is shown by the gratifying fact that the ordinary sales have increased from 75,000 to 98,000.

BELGIUM.—Large supplies of Portions which were drawn in 1877 were not required last year; hence the circulation stands at 14,444 in place of 18,875. The importance of making the people familiar with the Scriptures may be shown by giving an idea of the religious literature which

their teachers at present provide for them.

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There is a small monthly publication, called the 'Propagator of the Rosary,' which has a large circulation; its object is to promote the 'devotion of the Rosory,' and to make it 'more enlightened.' A selection of anecdotes is given to show the blessings which may be obtained through the Virgin. They tell how a sprain is cured by using the water of consecrated roses; and how an infusion of rose-leaves restores to health a dying child. In 1864, there were six persons entered on the list of the Association of the Rosary; now there are nearly 58,000.

Thus is religion rendered contemptible by being reduced to a mechanical repetition of prayers, a belief in the spiritual efficacy and healing powers of relics and objects consecrated to the Virgin, and the substitution of a material Mariolatry for the worship of God in spirit and in truth.

The sales of the seven colporteurs have been 8,382 copies, The new Flemish translation of St. Matthew has been published, while alternative readings are being prepared for the standard Flemish New Testament and for the French version of DeSacy.

HOLLAND.—Signs are not wanting to show that the interest taken by this country in the Word of God is on the increase. Your representative at Amsterdam reports that the people are becoming weary of the novelties and subtleties of the rationalistic teachers, and manifest a desire to return to the good old paths. In the Reformed Church the services of the Evangelical pastors are largely attended, while the frigid and critical views of the opposite party find but few sympathisers. At the present moment there are more than two hundred vacancies in the churches where ministers of the former type are in demand.

Favored by this movement, the circulation of the Scriptures in the Dutch Agency has steadily advanced to 40,640, or 8,277 more than in 1877. Much of this success is due to the faithful labours of the six colporteurs, who have sold

18,166 copies.

Good old Van Dorp, though in his eighty-seventh year, carries on his work at Rotterdam with energy, blessed with untiring zeal and an iron constitution. His hand, indeed, begins to tremble, but his heart is firm, and he confirms the faith of many who visit him and look up to him as a father in the Gospel. Krimp is an active man who can be sent on the more difficult expeditions. He has been this year to some of the islands of the Zuyder Zee, which are not known to have been visited in the same way before. One of them, named Marken, rises scarcely above the level of the sea, so that the scattered houses are built for safety on high wooden piles, and are approached only by ladders-not a very easy way for a colporteur who is carrying a heavy load of books.

GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND Here wonderful elasticity still marks the circulation; it has risen by another 20,000 to the very large total of \$54,000 copies, of which more than 100,000 have been entire Bibles. The 66 colporteurs employed by the Rev. G. Palmer Davies are a body of men of whom any society might feel proud. One day, writes one of their number, 'I came upon a carpenter taking his afternoon nap. My first thought was not to disturb him; so, after a moment's hesitation, I touched him and said: "will you not buy a Bible?" "I am a catholic," he muttered, turning round to sleep on. "That is what you say," I replied, "but God says Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." "But I cannot read a book which my priest forbids," "Obey God rather than man," was my answer, At these words he sat straight up and said: "What you tell me recalls the time when I was working at Hamburg as a journeyman. A companion who lodged with me used every day to read out of his Bible, and, when I refused to do the same, he met me with that very sentence: 'Obey God rather than man.' To think that I should have been asleep all these years and that you should have been sent to awake me before it was too late! At any rate I will read the book now." "If," said an aged priest to a purchaser, " one grain of what you

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read in that volume strike root in your heart, it will be worth far more than all the price you paid for it." Well may your Agent add: 'What, then, shall be said of the golden grains contained in the many thousand copies which our men have again this year been permitted to circulate?'

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AUSTRIA.—It is the share taken by your Austrian Agency in the War Work that has brought it alike its chief labour and its chief distinction. To miss such an opportunity as circulating the Word of God would have been an unpardonable act of remissness. The best companion that could be offered to the soldier was the book that revealed a Saviour's love, and pointed the dying to heaven, and commanded the exercise of mercy. Nor would the value of the work coase with the war. The Scriptures would be carried home by the men at its close, and penetrate to remote corners which years of costly colportage would otherwise be required to reach. From the beginning of the War to the end of January last there have been dissiminated among the troops in Roumania and Bulgaria 242,000 copies, chiefly New Testaments, and among the army of the Caucasus 194,000, making a total of all but half a million of books among the Russian forces. The cost to the Society in books, carriage, and colportage cannot be estimated at less than £24,000. Nothing could have been effected without great favor on the part of the military authorities, and the utmost determination on the part of the Agents employed. In one case an officer peremptorily stopped two of the colporteurs; but the same evening he came to their lodgings, apologised for his rudeness, said his brother officers had been explaining to him the nature of their work, and purchased twenty copies for his own men, begging them at the same time to return to the camp, where the soldiers were awaiting them.

When, in the autumn, the Austrian troops marched into Bosnia, three of your colporteurs went with them, That journey of twenty-six days was a gallant piece of work. The road was one mass of sticky mud. No shelter was to be had at night for man or beast, torrents of rain kept them drenched to the skin, fever laid its grip on two of them, while all suffered from inflamed eyes. If a breakdown occurred in the front, the whole train of 500 army waggons was brought to a standstill, none being allowed to quit its place in the line, so that often for eight or ten hours at a

time there was not even the satisfaction of moving a step forwards. However, the men used these intervals in light-ening their own waggon, which was piled tower-high with Scriptures; and they sold over 1,000 copies to soldiers on the march. The horses held out bravely, and at last they entered Seraievo, to the joy of your depositary, who had been shut up in the city for weeks. God prosper the work of such stout hearts!

The ordinary work of Mr. Millard's Agency, especially in Austria Proper and Bohemia, has been beset by difficulties and a vexatious interference on the part of the anthorities, which ill-becomes a Power that stands before Europe as a guaranter of religious liberty to the oppressed provinces of Turkey.

ITALY.—In this land a staff of nearly forty colporteurs continues to be employed; the circulation, 50,900, is a trifle above that of 1877. Among many instances which your Agent at Rome gives of the power of the Word of God is one in which an inhabitant of a benighted town in Apulia was converted at Naples, and sent home to a friend a Bible with these words: 'This book has benefited my soul; read it and it will bring a blessing to yours.' Not only was the advice taken, but neighbours were gathered to join in the reading, and the result has been the formation of a Protestant Church with twenty-two members.

On the other side of the Peninsula lives an old man who makes a living by mending the sailors' shoes. In his youth he was a diligent reader of the Fathers, and of works of devotion. In their pages he came across numerous quotations from a book he had never seen—the Bible. These quotations awakened his admiration, and he could not help perceiving how little support they seemed to lend to the belief and practice of his Church. By degrees he gave up attending mass and confession. 'Why be absolved by man,' he asked, 'when Jesus has paid the whole debt?' Last summer he was found out by one of your colporteurs, and was overjoyed to receive a copy of the Book he had lived seventy-eight years without possessing, but of whose precious contents he had, in this remarkable way, learnt so much.

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The Islande and North Africa.—Colportage has been carried on in Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily. At Malta the Committee are making arrangements for opening a new depôt. When the Indian regiments were stationed for a short time last year at Malta, a special Agent was sent by your Committee to work among them, the results being most encouraging. Sales are effected at Tunis, Algiers, and Oran,

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SPAIN.—The law here still forbids public manifestations and leaves it to every local magistrate to give his own definition, so that in many parts great restrictions are imposed on the colporteurs, some twenty in number. They have, however, quietly pursued their way, and sold about as many books as in 1877, the entire circulation being 30,147 copies. The Bible woman in Madrid has, in the past two years and a half, received £76 from the poor in small weekly payments for Scriptures. Referring to the London practice of requiring payment in advance, she says: 'It would not answer here; the people would not trust me with a penny before getting the books; but when they have got them they pay honestly, and my trusting them increases their confidence in me.'

PORTUGAL.—The laws which have recently been passed with a view to check the power of the priests seem to have goaded them into revenge, and one of your colporteurs has been made the victim. Sixteen years ago he was charged with speaking against the religion of the State; but the matter has lain in obeyance till now, when he has been put on his trial and actually sentenced to twelve months imprisonment. After remaining in prison for a month, and doing within its walls a truly apostolic work, he has, by the help of private friends, and of your Committee, bought his liberty. The ten colporteurs engaged in the Portuguese Agency have sold 7,595 copies, as compared with 5,420 in 1877, the entire circulation of the past year being 8,473.

Madeira, &c.—The new depôt is answering its purpose well. A colporteur has been engaged here, and one is about to be sent the Azores.

DENMARK.—The adversity of the past year or two has brought a turn for the better; the working-men are steadier, the Socialists quieter. Hence it comes to pass that the work of the Bible Society shows little reduction, 31,662 copies having been circulated, as compared with 32,138 in 1877. The decrease of about 500 is due partly to the scarcity of money, and in part to the unusual severity of the winter, which rendered colportage almost impracticable.

Jensen, one of the nine colporteurs permanently employed, has been well received. Some part of this success may be due to the greater boldness he has acquired. During the first years of his service he felt shy, and used to go up the back stairs to offer the Scriptures to the servants in the kitchens, and hence seldom came in contact with the family. Now he goes up the front stairs, and finds to his astonishment that he generally is most kindly received by the mistress of the house, asked to enter the sitting-room, and given the best opportunity to show and sell his books.

Iceland.—Through Bishop Pjetursson turther supplies of Scriptures have been circulated from Reykjavik.

NORWAY.—The Committee feel that it is largely due to the energy of their friends at this capital, acting under the presidency of Captain Jones, V.C., the British Consul-General, that increased circulation can be reported after a year of exceptional gloom for the industries of the country. The circulation shows a large increase, viz., 41,281, as compared with 30,188 in the previous year. The local committees at Christiania, Christianssand, Stavanger, Bergen, Trondhjem, and Tromsö, superintend colporteurs who travel all over the country, penetrating the most remote settlements on fjord and fjeld.

SWEDEN.—Your work in Sweden suffers from its very success. So much has, by God's blessing, been accomplished in past years, that it is scarcely reasonable to expect that the same rate can be indefinitely kept up. When its labours began, not more than one person in eighty was in possession of the Scriptures; now 3,500,000 have been supplied to a population numbering 4,500,000. Of these the Swedish Bible Society deserves credit for the issue of a million copies, while the remainder have been distributed by your Agency.

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A decrease during the past year of nearly 10,000 copies is due in part to the distress which afflicts Sweden like the rest of Europe, large manufactories being stopped and the shipping having greatly suffered.

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On some small islands on the eoast of Estland, a few small parishes of Swedish-speaking peasants live, who have for more than a century, under German masters and a Russian Government, remained true to the language and many of the customs of their ancestors. The communication between Sweden and these poor islanders has been kept up only by some hardy sailor among them who has dared to cross the Baltic in his open boat. Thus it was but natural that some years ago, when a Swedish nobleman accidentally visited these parts, he should find there a great spiritual need. The Society has helped by making a grant of Scriptures.

RUSSIA .- The operations of the North Russian Agency still show development, aided by the blessing of God and the favour of the authorities, who recognise the benevolent aim of the Society and its complete independence of politics. At the same time, your Committee cannot but view with deep concern the machinations of the Nihilists, culminating, as they have done, in the late atrocious attempt on the life of the Czar. They pray that the Russian Government may be guided wisely to grapple with this internal foe, and they desire to contribute their part towards the same end by pressing forwards with the Gospel that teaches reverence, order, and goodwill. While the circulation has risen to 253,000, and much has been done for Turkish prisoners, it is in Southern Russia that the greater activity has been exhibited. The progress here is unprecedented. For the decade ending 1868 the annual circulation was 5,000; for the last ten years it has been 57,000; and now, apart from war issues, the ordinary demand has increased to 70,000. This, in a year when colporteurs were drawn off to special work and the resources of the country were severely taxed, is good proof of the strong desire of the masses to posses the Word of God. Mr. James Watt has spent a part of the year in making a journey through Persia, with a view to learn how the Society might best discharge its responsibility to that vast but thinly populated and neglected land.

TURKEY.—The year, as might be anticipated, has been one of restricted opportunity; the colporteurs have been confronted by a state of suffering and anarchy that has well nigh paralyzed their efforts, so that the circulation has declined from 21,000 to 17,000. There seems now, however, to be a quieter state of feeling, and a general expectation of some renovation of the country. The revisers of the Turkish Bible have completed their great work, and it has been published jointly by your Society and the American Bible Society, the two Societies working here, as it is their desire ever and everywhere to do, in sisterly harmony.

A worthy man has been sent out to Cyprus, where he has opened a depôt and received much encouragement. Special permission has been given to import the Society's Scriptures free of duty, and the Archbishop of the Island has issued a commendatory letter, in which he bids the people remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said: Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life.

GREECE.—Greece is at present the only country in Europe, with the exception of Austria, in which the authorities throw deliberate obstacles in the way of the free circulation of the Word of God in the vernacular tongue. The Government and the Holy Synod continue to oppose the spread of the Scriptures in Modern Greek. It is cheering, therefore, to find a growing demand for the Divine Word, the sale of which during the past year has been 2,242 copies, as against 2,021 in 1877.

SYRIA AND PALESTINE.—The circulation of the Scriptures in Syria shows an increase of 385 copies over the previous year. While all classes are suffering under privation and poverty, this increase testifies to the good results of the efforts in which American, British, and German Christians have taken part for the spread of the Truth.

PALESTINE.—In this land of sacred interest 766 copies of the Word of God have been issued, or about as many as in 1877. The diminution as compared with previous years does not affect the resident population so much as the pilgrims and other visitors, who have been fewer than before

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the War. An arrangement has just been entered into by your Committee, with the Church Missionary Society, that the Rev. F. Bellamy, who is going out on its behalf, shall superintend colporage in the wide district lying to the east of the Sea of Galilee.

EGYPT,—Apart from the stupendous monuments of its early civilization, apart from its importance as a key to the East, this land is of interest for the efforts which have been put forth by American and other Christian workers to revive its ancient and withered Church, and reach its Moslem population. A great blessing has rested upon these efforts. The circulation of the Scriptures has reached a total of 2,759 copies—an increase of 147 copies upon the previous year.

ABYSSINIA.—By the completion of the New Testament in Ethiopic and Amharie, the Abyssinian people are now in possession of the whole Bible corrected by the Hebrew and Greek texts. Dr. Krapf, in expressing his joy at this, says: 'May the Lord grant us our ardent wish, that the printed copies may be speedily disseminated, and become instrumental in producing in the people's heart a saving knowledge of the only Mediator and Saviour, Jesus Christ!'

The Swedish brethren have stood firm at their post of Massowa. One of them writes: 'I wish I could tell you how very thankful we are to the Society that makes us able to do anything for the poor people here;' and he renders an account of 883 copies issued from the depot during the past year.

EAST AFRICA.—Your Committee have followed with keen interest the heroic attempts made by the principal missionary societies to obtain a footing in Central Africa. Grants have been made by your Committee of Swahili and Arabic Scriptures to the societies engaged in this enterprise. The former language has been ascertained to be intelligible at the northern end of the Victoria Nyanza, and may prove of extensive use in the whole Lake region, pending at least the preparation of special versions, which must be a matter of time.

SOUTH AFRICA. Cape Town.—Thirty-one branches of the South African Auxiliary are in existence, and the issues have been 5,454 Bibles, and 3,973 Testaments, or considerably more than in 1877, while the F. C.* sent to the Parent Society has risen to £715 2s. 0d., and the amount on P. A. to £951 18s. 6d. Two new branches have been formed and many others have been encouraged through the visit of Mr. Theodore Harris, a member of the Parent Committee, who, with Mr. Isaac Sharp and Mr. Langley Kitching, has been making a tour in the interests of Christian work in South Afr.ca.

At Stellenbosch, Mr. Harris had an interview with the Rev. H. G. Krönlein, who has been engaged in translating the Scriptures into the Nama Hottentot language.

Another version for the benefit of the Herero Tribe has been made by the Rev. II. Brincker, of the same Mission, and the New Testament and Psalms have been printed in Germany under his eye.

Part Elizabeth.—The Committee of this Auxiliary have generously sent a F.C. of £150, which is half as large again as in previous years. P.A., £10. At the last anniversary an account was given of Khama, 'a noble man, every inch a chief and a Christian.' He was asked to be patron of the Bible Society at Bamangwato. Khama took two days to consider, and then consented. Subsequently he made a a contribution to the funds of the British and Foreign Bible Society of the value of about £20.

Graham's Town.—The local report states that the unfortunate condition of the colony during the past eighteen months has rendered it almost impossible to carry on operations with efficiency, but that the issues for the last two years have been 2,969 copies, and that it would be possible to send home a F.C. of £57 12s. 0d., with £278 16s. 10d. for Scriptures.

King William's Town.—A special contribution of £50 has been sent from this Auxiliary as a 'first response' to the special appeal.

To save space the following abreviations will be used, viz., F.C. for Free Contribution, and P.A. for remittances on Purchase Account.

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Pietermaritzburg.—The last annual meeting was the best ever known in Natal. The demand for Scriptures is increasing. The F.C. has amounted to £124 12s. 9d., and the P.A. to £235 7s. 3d.

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WEST AFRICA.—The Baptist Mission on the Congo is a bold endeavour to open a way for the Gospel into the heart of Africa from the West Coast. Your Committee have made a grant of Arabic Scriptures, which the exploring party found to be widely understood.

Lagos.—This Auxiliary has sent a F.C. of £80, or nearly double what had been sent the previous year.

Christiansborg.—The fact of £35 having been received for Scriptures, or nearly three times the amount for last year, seems to indicate an increase of sales.

Grand Bassa.—Messrs. Clinton remit £5 19s. 6d., proceeds of sales, ordering at the same time a fresh supply.

Sierra Leone.—Your Committee have learned with much pleasure that an amalgamation has been formed between the two Auxiliaries hitherto existing. Previous to this the Wesleyan congregations had raised a sum of £22.

MADAGASCAR.—The circulation of the Scriptures between July 1877 and June 1878 was 14,172 copies. The Portions referred to here include a grant of 1,000 copies of the Psalms made to Bishop Kestell-Cornish. Your Committee have recently forwarded a further supply of 25,000 copies of the Gospel of St. Luke, a little book that has been of great service to the missionaries, as it has been usual to give a copy to each child in the schools when able to read.

Mr. J. Parrett says: 'It would be impossible for us to estimate the good we receive from your publications in our work here. As has often been remarked, the Bible is the book of the Malagasy, and we use all our endeavours to circulate it far and near. Two years ago I had a call from a Sakalave, who had once been taken captive, and to whom I had given a reference Testament. He had since then been living in his own country, beyond the reach of missionary or native evangelist. He showed me his Testament, well used, but in good preservation. The reading of the Book

has been blessed to him and his wife, and some of his fellow Sakalaves. Some ten or twelve of them meet together every Sanday for reading and prayer. They dare not meet together in the town, so they slip off quietly to some spot in the long grass or brushwood and hold their service,

MAURITIUS.—The annual meeting of the Auxiliary was held last December under the usual happy auspices. The report shows that 3,533 Bibles had been disposed of in the colony during the year. There has been a diminution in the funds of the Auxiliary, and its colporteurs have in consequence been reduced to eight.

INDIA.—The recent famine is being employed as an instrument for inclining thousands to Christianity. But for the Queen's help,' many have said to your colporteurs, we should all have perished.' The very fact,' said one, of Europeans assisting the poor in this distress, shows that Christianity is a good religion.' Your Madras Auxiliary states that rich and poor alike speak in grateful terms of the noble efforts made by the British people to relieve them, and—what is of higher moment—of the greater willingness of many to read the Bible and listen to the truths it teaches. The Auxiliary at Bombay took steps last summer to provide Scriptures for the British and native regiments proceeding to the Afghan frontier.

Calcutta. This important Auxiliary has effected a circulation of 58,208 copies. As but few missionaries could undertake Bible tours, reliance had to be placed, for the general distribution of the Scriptures, upon a staff of thirty-six colporteurs, who sold last year 26,584 copies. Many of the men do a useful work by their conversations with those they meet.

Allahabad.—The personnel of the North India Bible Society has undergone a complete change during the past year. The sales at the depôt have fallen off sadly compared with what they were in 1877. The colporteurs, on the other hand, have continued to keep up their sales.

Lahore.—The past year does not compare unfavourably with its predecessors, save in the matter of subscriptions. The proceeds of sales are up to the average, and the issues

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are almost the same as in 1877; in a sense, indeed, they are more, for the number of agents employed has been smaller.

A lady-missionary says: Amongst the women the desire of hearing and reading the Bible for themselves is increasing. A few months ago, one of my pupils, a Mohammedan lady, being in deep trouble through the illness of her only son, took up her Bible to try and find some words of comfort; opening it by hazard, her eye fell on the words: "The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord." From that moment she was enabled fully to give up her child into the hands of God.

Bombay.—The report of this Auxiliary is most encourag-Although the issues (11,478) are a little below those of 1877, they are above the average, while the proceeds of sales and the local contributions both show an advance. Encouraged by a generous offer, the Committee despatched Scriptures in eight languages to Currachee, where a colporteur was engaged to offer copies to soldiers passing through that station to the Afghan War.

Madras. The operations at this centre are so extensive that it is not easy, in the small space available, to give an

idea of the work of the Auxiliary.

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An advance is announced in issues, sales, and income. The issues have been 64,278, and the sales 77,683, or in excess of the previous year by 9,363. Steps have been taken for supplying children in the famine orphanages, and placing Scriptures in gaols, hospitals, hotels and railway stations, In colportage, 41 agents have been employed; their sales have numbered 45,784 copies, or within twenty of the previous year, while the receipts have been larger. Efforts have been made among the shipping in the Madras roads and on the Neilgherry Hills.

Bangatore.—The issues of this Auxiliary are considerably above those of the previous year-8,228 copies as compared with 6,953. Fifteen men have been engaged for longer or shorter periods in colportage; each is placed under a missionary superintendent.

CEYLON. Jaffna.-An unusually large amount of work has been done here, and with an encouraging degree of success. The issues from the town depot have been

6,280 copies; of these 2,261 have been the result of colportage, which is superintended by the various missions. About eighteen moonlight Union Bible meetings have been held with the same good result as before.

Colombo.— The Parent Society has paid the sum of £201 13s. 0d. for printing the Singhalese Testament and Portions; the latter are much in demand for schools, where many of the children are Buddhists.

MALAYSIA. Singapore.—The circulation effected by this Auxiliary in 1877 was far larger than before—1,827 copies as compared with 759. Colportage among the general population has been fairly successful, but among the Chinese, after a year's trial, it had to be given up.

Sumatra.—The printing of the Batta Testament in the Toba and Mandailing dialects has been completed at Barmen. Who would have dreamt of this in the days when the cannibal tribe murdered and devoured the first missionaries who sought them out?

CHINA.—The province of Shantung, in the north-east of China, is just now the scene of a remarkable awakening. The missionaries who for four or five years have been exposed to the 'forest of scorn and hatred,' find themselves suddenly set down in the 'warm sanshine of respect, appreciation, and love.' What is the cause of this change? The answer of those who have witnessed it is, without hesitation—The famine and the impression made by the relief organized in Europe and America, and administered by the missionaries.

Your Committee have had the privilege of helping on this movement. The Rev. G. Owen says of the two colporteurs whom he sent into the famine district: "I have now before me a list of towns and villages into which Christianity has been introduced by them, and in each of these there are now a number of inquirers. I have known many colporteurs in China sell more books than these two have, but I have not known any report such wonderful success."

The report which Mr. Dyer has furnished for 1878 is of a decidedly encouraging character.

Mr. Mollmann is engaged under his direction on an important tour to the province of Secheun in the West of China.

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Some twelve or lifteen years ago a Bible was given by a missionary to a literary man, who looked into it from curiosity but soon laid it aside. Several years afterwards, however, he heard of the progress the Gospel was making, and determined to read his book again. This he did; light seemed to dawn upon his soul. It was hard to let go all he had reverenced; but when the time came to decide between Confucius and Christ, he declared for the latter, whom he has served faithfully ever since. He is a Bachelor of Arts, and is the native Principal of a Theological College. He has had to give up everything for Christ-wife, child, literary fame, money and friends. Surely if the work of the Bible Society had effected no more than this, it would not have been in vain. has been able to remit a F.C. of

Japan.—The sales from the depôt at Tokio have amounted to only 255 copies. The Rev. P. K. Fyson and the Rev. H. Maundrell have kindly offered to superintend colporteurs, and the latter writes that he has secured a man of excellent character for the work of the work of the state of the work of the work of the state of the work of t

AUSTRALASIA. The report which the Rev. J. T. Evans, M. A., has furnished of his first years labours shows him to be eminently qualified for his post, and to have performed an immerse amount of organizing work, which promises in its result to be permanent and most satisfactory. To trace his steps through the past year is in itself no light undertaking, seeing that he travelled over 11,500 miles, attended eighty-two public meetings, preached thirty one sermons, and was present at thirty-eight special meetings of committees, and all this between Rockhampton in the Northeast and Adelaide in the South-west. of easing vanifing A saids

NEW SOUTH WALES. Sydney .- This veteran Auxiliary having expressed a desire to avail itself of the International Exhibition, which is to be opened at Sydney in September next, for the display and sale of the Word of God, the Parent Committee have voted a loan collection of versions and £50 towards the expenses of show-case, &c. A handsome F. C. has been received of £500, besides £750 Ming reports sies ty ment and

The Rev. Armidale. - The New England Auxiliary recently formed here has remitted £13 15s. 0d. as a F. C.

Balhurst.—The local committee report with gratitude a revival of interest. A fraternal welcome was given to Mr. Evans. F.C. £100.

Grafton.-The sales from the depository for 1877 were 184 copies. \$28 has been sent on P.A., and F.C. £150.

Paramatta.—The sales are still very few, but the lady collectors have been most active; a F.C. has been received of £75, including £20 from the Liverpool Branch.

Goulburn .- This Auxiliary has sent £100 P.A., and £50

West Mailland .- All the branches on the Hunter river have kept up their vigour and liberality, so that the Auxiliary has been able to remit a F.C. of £200, and £1 19s. 1d. on P.A. The depôt sales have been 444 copies.

Newcastle.-From this important town a F.C. has been received of £120, which would have been more but for the very depressed state of trade. They maked said being account

Singleton.—F.C. £50.

QUEENSLAND. Brisbane. The depôt sales have been 1,926, or 246 more than in the previous year. The Ladies' Committee give a favorable account of the work of the Bible-women. F.C. £140 13s. 1d., and P.A. £110 13s. 7d.

Ipswich.—A large public meeting was held at the time of Mr. Evan's visit. During the past year the Auxiliary has remitted £80, being by far the largest F.C. sent by it, in addition to P.A. £31 16s. 0d.

VICTORIA. Melbourne .- The thirty-seventh report of this Auxiliary refers in cordial terms to Mr. Evans's visit, and expresses satisfaction at the increasing contributions of the Colony. The depôt sales and issues to branches have been 9,449 copies, and the remittances to London £159. From Hamilton a F.C. has also arrived of £35; £20 have been received from Hawthorn and Booroondard; and £30 from Warrnambool. Est transper the e

Ballarat .- P.A. £75. Be upon need and O

Sandhurst .- The Rev. J. King reports a steady interest, and remits F.C. £20, and a like sum on P.A. and been been emitted at 13 line but an

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Geelong .- This Auxiliary, of which the Rev. C. S. Y. Price is the life and soul, is credited in the Society's books with a generous F.C. of £204.

Portland.—This Auxiliary has forwarded a F.C. of £10.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. Adelaide.—His Excellency, Sir W. Jervois, K.C.M.G., prsided at the last anniversary. remittances to England have been, F.C. £450, and P.A. £450. The issues had been 4,114 Bibles, and 2,325 Testa-

Mount Barber .- F.C. £50. shapen and sall war reserved has

WESTERN AUSTRALIA. Bunbury.—Miss Clifton sends a F.C. of £17. form sow in sociation at the virginition

TASMANIA. Hobart Town.-It was reported at the last meeting of this Auxiliary that the increasing interest shown in its work had enabled the Committee to remit within the Society's year £200 F.C. Zoulovilla sould be odd and troub

Launceston .- The office of secretary to the Cornwall Auxiliary has been resigned by the Rev. C. Price, who has held it for forty years. The remittances are £100 F.C., and P.A. £50.

NEW ZEALAND. Auckland .- The general issues of the Auxiliary have been 1,708 volumes, or 760 more than in the previous year. The remittances have been: F.C. £75, and P.A. £252 0s. 5d. The Society's faithful friends at Waiapu adherents of the late Rev. Norman McLeod, have again sent a generous contribution of £67 14s. 6d., and the congregation of the Rev. W. McRae at the same place has kindly remitted £11 16s.

seludari akasa a daya Christchurch .- A remittance of £500, half being F.C. and half P.A., is the best proof of the health and prosperous state of the Canterbury Auxiliary.

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Greymouth.-F.C. £15 16s. 5d.

Nelson.—F.C. £6; P.A. £29.

Wanganui. F.C. £50; P.A. £30.

Wellington .- P.A. £70. of header when the states of a

Dunedin .- The Otago Bible Society continues so render valuable help. The remittances have been £100 for Scriptures, and F.C. \$50.



SOUTH SEAS. New Hebrides .- The eager demand for the Bible in the southern isles, and the value set upon it by the natives, are well known, yet no more remarkable instance is on record than is supplied in the case of the Ancityumese version Last summer the Rev. J. Inglis returned to England, bringing with him the MS. of the Old Testament as prepared by himself and the other Presbyterian missionaries labouring on the island. This the Society undertook, as in all cases, to print, and the usual course would have been for it to bear the expense, and look to be in some measure reimbursed by the proceeds of sales. Not so, however, with the people of Ancityum. They number barely 1,300 souls, yet they actually collected payment beforehand, and sent by Mr. Inglis the noble sum of £1,200 to pay for the work as it was printed. Side by side with this should be read the following most interesting letter from the Rev. J. G. Paton, which is dated Aniwa, December, 1877, but did not reach England till last November. After describing the printing at Sydney of the Gospels of Matthew and Mark in the Aniwa language, and that of St. Luke in the Efatese, he continues :--

As money has not yet come into circulation on this island, or any in our group, though the natives have a great longing for it, they have no means of paying for the Scriptures, except by collecting and manufacturing arrowroot, which can only be got at one season of the year; so on our return the boxes containing the Gospels were picked out, and with great care carried to our house. On the following Sabbath, at the school, we gave a copy of Mark to all who could read it; when it is read through, and generally understood, they are to get a copy of Matthew. This has at least given a great impulse to their efforts to acquire the power of reading fluently, for so soon as the unsuccessful ones can read a portion of it they come and carry off in triumph the much-desired treasure. Is it not an inexhaustible treasure to us all?

Home and Colonial legislators may forbid the Bible being read in public schools, but we missionaries have no fear of the Bible in our schools; indeed, the Bible, or portions of it, are almost our only school-books, and when we see so much of its wonder-working power in enlightening, elevating, civilizing and sanctifying our scholars, young or old, we

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regret that in any part of the world any restriction should be put in its blessed way. Indeed, we find our hands weak in the mission work until we get God's Word translated, printed, and put into circulation among our people; for when they can read and understand it in their own tongue, it gives new motives of life and action to them, and is a source of unspeakable joy and comfort in its gracious teachings. Hence our anxiety to have it translated as soon as possible into every language of our group, for almost every island has a different language, and some of them have two or three, so different that people cannot understand each other on the same island, as on Tanna. This makes our work much more difficult, and at our present rate of progress it will be long before we reach the desired end, yet we have now the whole Scriptures, or portions of them, translated into nine different languages of this group.

A NOBLE OFFERING. The Rev. H. A. Robertson, of Eromanga, has translated the Acts of the Apostles into Eromangan. He said to the natives he thought they ought to pay for the printing of it among themselves. They consulted with each other, entered heartily into it, and any who had money brought it, the others brought their weapons of war, clubs, spears, bows and arrows, &c., and sandal-wood, indeed anything they could give to be sold, and the price used for the printing. Thus they contributed over £23 in money and value in a few days, which we think was very good for blood-stained Eromanga, where five missionaries have fallen by the savages. Mr. Robertson has been very successful, and we hope God's time to favour that island is near. Our great want now is more missionaries. We have fourteen stations open, for which at present we cannot get missionaries. Thousands of heathens and cannibals are ready to receive missionaries, and none to go to them-it is truly painful. In Australia there is money raised and on hand to support four additional missions on our group, but they cannot be got. Is it not sad to see such a work so retarded for want of men? We have been disappointed in not seeing more young men offering themselves for work in the mission field as a result of the late blessed revivals at home and in the colonies, but we must look to God in prayer, use all means in our own power, and wait till He thrusts the labourers needed into his work.'

SOUTH AMERICA. Chili.—The Valparaiso Bible Society has been aided in its colportage operations by a grant of £100. The sales at the Santiago depôt have been disappointingly small.

Argentine Republic, &c.—The Rev. F. N. Lett sends his annual report from Rosario. The results fall short of those of last year, when special effort was made by Mongiardino, the martyr colporteur. Still, the circulation, which is 4,312 copies, is much beyond what it was a few years ago, and shows a steady growth. Henriksen, one of his colporteurs, has traversed the province of Entre Rios, and sold 1,017 copies. He is a most trustworthy man, and has done much good, riding alone on horseback from farm to farm finding out his way by map and compass, and venturing into parts which he was forewarned were the abode of highwaymen and robbers.

Brazil.—Four colporteurs have been employed, and their sales, with those effected from the Rio Janeiro and Rio Claro depôts, amount to 6,766 copies in all, being 912 more than in 1877.

Your Committee have appointed the Rev. J. M. G. dos Santos, pastor of the Evangelical Church at Rio Janeiro, to superintend their work in Brazil. Mr. Santos was educated for the ministry in England, and it is hoped that under his care far more may be done than has hitherto been achieved. The colportage superintended by Dr. Kalley at Rio has been assisted by a grant of £40.

BRITISH GUIANA. Berbice.—A Special Contribution of £20 has been received from the Auxiliary in response to the appeal.

Demerara.—The Rev. J. Foreman has sent P.A. £8 9s. 6d.

WEST INDIES. Trinidad.—A marked improvement has taken place in the condition of this Auxiliary. The issues have risen from 351 to about 1,400, including some copies circulated among the Coolies.

Tobago.-F.C. £5; P.A. £2 7s. 10d

Barbadoes.—The continued prosperity of the Auxiliary is shown by F.C. £50, with P.A. £160.

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St. Vincent.—P.A. £8 10s. 0d. Dominica.—P.A. £6 1s. 11d. Montserrat.—P.A. £2 11s. 10d.

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Antigua.—P.A. £6, and £2 1s. 8d. in answer to the Special Appeal. Your Committee can assure their friends that they set special value on such gifts, and that after all it is the multiplying of these small contributions that gives them the needful resources for their work.

Nevis—There are some hundreds of Coolies in this island, for whom the Rev. T. B. Nibbs has requested a supply of Scriptures; the Committee have with pleasure granted fifty copies for distribution to such as can read. P.A. £13.

St. Kitt's .- P.A. £25 18s. 9d.

St. Martin,-P.A. £8.

St. Thomas.-P.A. £6.

HAITI. Port-au-Prince.—The Rev. M. B. Bird, who has remitted P.A. £9, gives a good report of the colportage carried on in this part of Haiti.

JAMAICA. Kingston.—Mr. P. E. Chapman, wno has taken much interest in the Auxiliary, has forwarded P.A. £77.

Manchester.—A handsome F.C. has been received of £40, besides P.A. £52 13s. 4d.

Savanna la Mar.-P.A. £23 14s. 9d.

St. Ann's Bay .- P.A. £35.

Montégo Bay .- P.A. £49.

St. Elizabeth.—In the death of R. Smith, Esq., this Auxiliary has lost not only its treasurer, but a highly esteemed and most regular member of committee. F.C. £8 12s.; P.A. £11 8s. Steps have been taken for establishing branch depots.

Westmoreland Mountains.-F.C. £6 4s. 6d.; P.A. £23

Bahamas, Nassau.-F.C. £50.

Bermudas.—P.A. £7 17s, 6d.

MEXICO.—For some time Bible work in this country has been carried on under serious disadvantages, and your Committee have doubted whether they were justified in continuing to incur so large an expense for such small results. The general population was the most difficult of access; and as the missionaries in Mexico were, with scarcely an exception, Americans, it seemed more natural that the American Bible Society should be the source of supply. Communications were accordingly opened with it, the result of which has been that its Board of Managers have agreed to take over the stock belonging to this Society, and to carry on its work.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA. CANADA. Toronto.—The Upper Canada Bible Society has found its receipts slightly diminished, while the issues show a corresponding decrease, from 37,769 to 33,543 copies. The number of Branches is 395. The colporteurs engaged have been six, and their sales 4,607 copies. The thirty-ninth report is an able and interesting document; generous reference is made in it to the labours of the sister societies at Ottawa, Montreal, and New York, while an appreciative epitome is given of the last Report of the Parent Society. The sums received from Toronto are P.A. £1,555 17s. 6d., and F.C. £500, together with £1,255 9s. 4d. for branches.

The Hamilton Branch has remitted F.C. £100, with £5

for the Special Fund.

Kingston .- F.C. £25.

Perth.—F.C. £20, being twice the amount previously sent.

Ottawa.—Shortly after the arrival in Canada of the Marquis of Lorne, His Excellency was invited by the committee of this important society to accept the position of Ratron, which had been previously occupied by Lord Dufferin. This he readily consented to do, and returned a reply expressing the most cordial sympathy. The 65 branches are reported as in a healthy condition. Eight colporteurs have been engaged. The issues have been 4,701 copies for the past eleven months. Besides a welcome remittance of £201 for the Special Appeal, a F.C. has been sent of £100, with P.A. £250 0s. 2d.

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Prince agents been 1, £100 a £6 5s.

Montreal.—The Lower Canada Bible Society numbers 210 Branches, and has remitted a F.C. of £100, together with P.A. £1,272 16s. 2d. The issues have been 13,775 copies, or 3,721 less than in 1877, when, however, they were unusually large. The Ladies' Association employs four Bible-women in Montreal. Seven colporteurs are in the field, working specially among the French-speaking population.

Quebec.—A falling-off of subscriptions has compelled the committee to dispense with the services of the English colporteurs. The two French colporteurs are retained. The issues for 1877 were 1,142. P.A. £62 17s. 8d.

NEW BRUNSWICK. St. John.—The last report of the Auxiliary expresses regret at the necessity of withholding for the year 1877 any F.C. in consequence of the fire, which had made it needful to re-stock the depôt. The issues have been 3,068, which is more than in any of the past five years. For the present year the committee of this Auxiliary have sent, in addition to P.A. £99 14s. 8d., a generous F.C. of £500.

Fredericton.—F.C. £60; P.A. £26. The Bishop of Fredericton has kindly paid a sum of £300 out of the estate of the late Mrs. Dewolfe, of St. John, N. B.

Miramichi.-F.C. £50.

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Restigouche.-F.C. £7 10s.

Nova Scotia. Halifax:—The issues have been 1,685 Bibles, and 878 Testaments, or within thirty of the issues of 1877. The receipts show a decrease which is too plainly accounted for by the financial condition of the district. F.C. £250; P.A. £200.

New Glasgow.—F.C. £64 11s. 6d.

Pictou.-F.C. £61 6s. 10d.

Yarmouth.—£31 17s. have been received from the Ladies' Branch as a F.C.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Charlottetown. — Two agents have been employed in colportage, and the sales have been 1,516. The zeal of the friends is evinced by a F.C. of £100 and P.A. £60. The Rev. R. S. Pattersen has remitted £6 5s. from himself and his congregation at Bedeque.

NEWFOUNDLAND. St. John's .- An extra effort has been made by this society. The F.C. received within the Society's year has been £62, with £113 on P.A. The report exhibits much steady work; the issues were 2,379. chief feature of interest in the report is the description given of the labours of Mr. Scott, the veteran colporteur. a passage to a port in Labrador, opposite the place in which he wished to commence work. Some idea of his toils and difficulties may be formed from the fact that between Anchor Norman, a distance of forty miles, through a rough wilderness, he had to cross fifteen rivers and brooks, five of which he had to wade through, carrying a heavy pack on his back. These forty miles he had to traverse twice, as he was obliged to return to the point of departure, where his cases of books were, in order to get a passage by sea to the next harbour. He was in all 153 days on his journey, and during that time he visited no less than 91 settlements, the greater number of these having never before been visited by

The Eskimo Testament has lately been reprinted, and a supply sent to Labrador for the use of the Moravian missionaries.

The Obituary of the year contains the names of three honoured Vice-Presidents—the Rev. Samuel Martin, of Westminster, the Right Hon. and Rev. Lord Dynevor, and the Very Rev. Hugh McNeill, D.D., late Dean of Ripon. The same office has been accepted by the Lord Bishop of Lichfield, the Rev. Donald Fraser, LL.D., the Rev. Alexander Raleigh, D.D., and Sir Francis G. M. Boileau, Bart.; while that of Honorary Life Governor has been conferred on the Rev. Prebendary Blenkin, R. M. Middleton, Esq., and Mr. Alexander Wylie, for many years your representative in China.

Funds.—It may be remembered that two years ago a deficiency of over £5,000 had to be reported, and last year of £15,000. This year the deficiency threatened to be even greater; and your Committee, finding that the reserve fund had been reduced to a sum representing barely one-third of the current engagements, and that, in the present state of the country, a large increase of revenue was not to be

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expected, felt it their duty to take two steps. One was to correspond with their principal foreign agents and see what permanent saving could be effected without serious detriment to their work. The other was to lay their position frankly before their friends and seek enlarged help. A special appeal was accordingly issued with the New Yearnot without misgiving, for it was known that, in the case of many generous supporters, claims had multiplied, while the ability to give had diminished. Considering these circumstances, the response must be regarded as most liberal. Up to the end of March £10,180 3s. 8d. had been received—a sum which includes not only many handsome donations from individuals, but contributions from a number of Anxiliaries at home and in the colonies which took up the appeal in the heartiest way.

Meantime the financial year reached its close and showed how necessary these steps had been. The Expenditure turned out to be £223,476 15s. 2d., or £4,000 less than in 1877-8. The Receipts showed a considerable increase in the contributions from Auxiliaries; but this gain was met by a corresponding falling off of Donations, while in Legacies there was a deficiency of nearly £11,000, not only upon the previous year, but upon the average of the last twenty years.

The General Free Income amounted to £96,000 11s. 5d., adding the proceeds of sales at home and abroad, and two small amounts from the Roxburgh and Paris Exhibition Funds, a total *Income* was attained of £203,630 19s. 7d. Thus, but for the special appeal, there would have been a difference on the wrong side of £20,000; by its help, however, the receipts have been brought up to £213,811 3s. 3d., reducing the defficiency to £9,665 11s. 11d. For this result, at the close of a peculiarly anxious year, your Committee cannot but feel thankful, though they have still to face the serious fact that the past three years have witnessed a reduction of their reserve to the extent of £30,000.

The Issues have been 3,340,895, or more by 400,000 than in any previous year save that of the Franco-German War, bringing up the aggregate issues from the year 1804 to a grand total of 85,388,057 copies.

CONCLUSION .- A few months ago one of your colporteurs in Bohemia was coming to the end of a long day's work, sorely discouraged by the rebuffs with which he had met. There remained in the small town but one cluster of houses unvisited, and he was disposed to pass these by, especially as he knew one of them to be occupied by a gentleman who was an open enemy and mocker of the Bible. But his conscience was not easy. His instructions bade him, except for sufficient reason call at every house; and besides this, to-day the words had been haunting him: Behold I stand at the door and knock.' In a humble sense those words described his own calling; and he felt he must be true to it. Up, faint heart, and knock; who knows but thy fears shall be removed? So he plucked up courage to go to the door of this very man; and when it was opened, and the master of the house appeared, he could think of nothing to say but this: 'Behold I stand at the door and The owner was taken aback as the stranger added in a hurried, entreating tone : 'I am not a common hawker; to-day Jesus himself is standing at the door of your heart; you may turn me away, but oh do not reject Him; only believe His Word; I bring it to you; He will not east you He paused, afraid at his own boldness, But not a word of rebuke followed; the gentleman called his wife and daughter, saying: 'We must not let this good man go; let him sup with us.' He was led into the sitting-room, where they listened eagerly to him as he poured out freely all that was in his heart towards them; and when they sat down to the evening meal, they looked to him to give thanks.

The words which rang in the ears of that simple worker may reverently be taken as expressing the position this Society assumes towards the world. She goes to men in all lands and cries: 'Behold I stand at the door and knock,' seeking admittance, however, not for herself but for the message of Divine redemption. She is not content with waiting for people to come to her stores, but carries the Bible to their own homes, translating it into their common speech, presenting it in attractive forms, commending it by men who can tell from personal experience of its value, and seeking in every way to overcome the reluctance of the

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The efforts of another year have now been sketched; there is seen, on the one hand, the wide circle of supporters, and on the other, the manful army of workers. Brethren, be of good cheer—you who are toiling in the translation or diffusion of the Word, as you find how many there are who honour your labour and pray for its success; and you who give time and advocacy and substance to its enterprise, as you learn its magnitude and the blessing it confers. And may He who commanded the light to shine out of darkness shine in all hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ!

Referring again to the work of the Auxiliary, the Committee have much pleasure in noticing the favour by which the cause continues to be viewed by the Province and city, but particularly the former. Mr. Toland, the Agent, whose reports are herewith submitted, has visited the branches with unabated zeal and perseverance, and the results of his labours are very encouraging, notwithstanding the present long continued commercial depression already alluded to It would be interesting to notice with how many of the communications from the country words like the following occur, "We regret that the scarcity of money effectually prevents our making any large remittance to the funds."

In the account the item of legacies are this year as numerous as on former years, though the sums are smaller, but they will appear in the account, and all indicating the strong hold the Society still has in the affections of the people. It may be mentioned that the Gorham bequest is now controlled by the Liverpool branch, whose officers remit direct, and hence that item makes the general account appear less.

The circulation for the year 1878 was a fraction less than that of the previous year, and was as follows, viz.:—

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The wealth the mond boil nov a	Bibles.	Testa- ments.
Number sold at Depository	241	126 173 223 107
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There is little in the above figures either to discourage or to raise high expectations for the future of our Province. The Colporteurs of the B. A. Book and Tract Society, have disposed of the largest number of copies. Their devotion to the work, their facilities for placing God's Word in our Protestant families homes have often been alluded to in previous reports. Their complete organization, and the regularity with which they have visited the different sections of the Province, have almost rendered the Branch depots unnecessary. Nor is this all, by their connection with the National Bible Society of Scotland, whose Bibles are considered more suitable for a large section of the Province, they are enabled to supply a demand for schools and families which we cannot.

Now, when they notice the large importation of Scriptures by houses in the trade, your Committee would infer from those facts that there cannot be much, if any destitution among the Protestant population of the Province, or if there be a single Protestant family in the whole Province remaining without a copy of God's Word, it is their own fault. And the conviction is forced upon the Committee, that to foster and encour-

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age by every means the translation and distribution of Scriptures among the heathen and uncivilized nations of the earth, should now be the special work of this Auxiliary, as we may with confidence assert that this is the great object contemplated in the vast majority of subscriptions throughout this Province.

The Parent Society's Report this year contains the

following credits from Nova Scotia :-

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New Glasgow Auxiliary Nova Scotia Auxiliary, at Halifax Picton. Picton, a legacy Yarmouth Ladies		0 6 7 17	d. 6 0 10 2 0	ilia No Olix Zi	£ 200	0	0
The Andrews and The Andrews	7 421	2	6	2.0	200	0	0

To which may be added \$960, obtained from the Van-Buskirk legacy to the Parent Society, and separately remitted. ... if to declar a new and blod at what problem

The financial state of the account may be classified as follows . _ analys glaus, so estoringsup as developers

Legacies, estate of E. J. VanBuskirk	300 00 100 00
Branch Societies, per Treasurer	289 26 662 31 326 00
Halifax subscriptions.	248 43 207 66
Wesleyan Book Room Pook and Tract Society	162 22 128 80 164 06
Collected at Annual Meeting	14 75 138 JO

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To the Committee of the Nova Scotia mer de parisalmentes la and amakunilary Bible Society: memor and

GENTLEMEN,-

A detailed statement of my labours as Agent of the Nova Scotia Auxiliary Bible Society, (in so far as they can be committed to writing,) will be published in the Appendix to the Annual Report. In the meantime, I beg leave to present a few general remarks, that could not be so conveniently introduced in connection with any of our Branches. And I may say, first, that my experience during the past year strongly confirms that of previous years, as to the estimation in which the Bible Society is held by the Protestant population of Nova Scotia. I do not pretend to say that all the evangelical denominations, as such, evince the same interest in this great and good Society; but I have found many attached friends of the Society in them all, whilst in some of them the Bible Society is regarded as occupying a foremost place among the evangelical schemes which they are pledged to support by their efforts, their contributions, and their prayers.

Often has it been stated in meetings which I have attended and addressed during the year, "We must not forget that the Bible Society lies at the very foundation of all our evangelistic efforts. Our missionaries, both at home and abroad, are depending upon this Society for supplies of the Holy Scriptures, and wherever we must begin retrenchment during these

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hard times. we must not begin at the Bible Society. We might as well send our soldiers to fight the Zulus or the Afghans without arms or ammunition, as to send missionaries to the heathen without the Bible; and it is only from the depots of the British and Foreign Bible Society, that the Word of God can be procured in all the languages required by our missionary labour-

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A second remark is, that during the four years in which I have been honoured to labour as Agent of this Society, commercial depression has been constantly increasing. Never before have I heard such a general complaint of want of money. Never, I think, have so many failures in business been reported in one year as in the last, and yet I am happy to be able to testify, that in nearly every instance in which Branches had their contributions made up at the time of my visit, they were larger than those of last year. In one Branch which I addressed in September, I stated this fact in the course of my remarks. The Treasurer was present and had his contribution with him. little less than that of the previous years, and he declined to hand it over to me, until having applied to some friends in the audience, it was made something larger than the amount of the past year. The Treasurer, assigning as his reason for not coming forward immediately when called upon by the President, that he was not going to allow the Agent to say that this Branch was the first to offer a smaller contribution than had been made the past year.

It may also be added, that as a general rule the meetings of the various branches have been well attended, whilst very cordial and efficient aid has been rendered in pleading the claims of the Society by ministers of all Evangelical denominations. Where all have been so friendly, it would appear invidious to specify

One new Branch was formed during the year, at Acadia Mines, and I hope that by this time, another has been organised at Port La Tour.

In conclusion, I rejoice to be able to testify to the many evidences which I have witnessed in this and the sister province of New Brunswick during the year, of an intelligent and hearty appreciation of the principles, plans and object of the B. & F. B. S., as one of the noblest agencies now in operation for carrying into effect the parting command to his church, of the ascending Saviour: "Preach the Gospel to every creature."

Respectfully submitted. en mar en la Media especialis. Secretarista di escara especialista

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Du meetir on the at leas To the Committee of the Nova Scotia Auxiliary Bible Society:

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I beg to submit the following brief report of my labours in connection with the Society for the year 1879:—

On Monday evening, May the 5th, I addressed the first meeting of the year in the vestry of the Methodist Church, Digby. The President, Dr. Stephen, occupied the chair. The evening was unfavourable; still there was a fair gathering. Next morning I received from the president more than \$24.00, with many expressions of regret that it was not more.

The meeting in the Methodist Church, Bear River, next evening, was thinly attended. Mr. Blackslee presided, and the Rev. C. Jost addressed the meeting. A very small collection was handed to me, and two young ladies appointed to gather up the contributions of the friends of the Bible Society in the village and neighbourhood.

Granville Ferry was the scene of my next effort. I was well supported at the meeting (held in the basement of the Methodist Church) by the Rev. Messrs. Sponagle and Doane. Collectors were appointed, and I hope something will be obtained as the result of my visit. The collection was small, only \$1.50.

During the past three years I had tried to get a meeting at Annapolis, but without success. I waited on the president, who expressed a desire that collectors, at least, could be found willing to act, since we could

not get a meeting. One lady promised that she would make an effort to collect something. I hope she will be successful.

Went on to Bridgetown, the meeting was very small in the Presbyterian Church. I obtained here some \$9.00, and a promise that an effort will be made to collect something more.

In Lawrencetown next evening I addressed a small meeting in the Methodist Church. The officers of the Branch, R. B. Durling, Esq., and J. W. Whitman, Esq., were present, and several collectors were appointed.

Addressed a very fair gathering in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Melvern Square, Wilmot, on Sabbath forenoon, 11th May. I obtained a collection of nearly \$8.00. At 7½ p. m., the same day, a friend kindly drove me over the North Mountain, to Margaretteville, where in Margeson's Hall I met a fine audience and got a small collection, which would have been much larger had the notice of meeting been properly understood.

On Monday, 12th May, I attempted to hold a meeting in Aylestord. The attendance was very slim, and the prospect of a contribution from that place is not encouraging.

I had never before tried a meeting in Berwick, for reasons that I need not mention. I made an effort there on Tuesday evening, 13th May. The turn-out was very good; Mr. Lockhart rendered very important aid, and two ladies were appointed to collect. I hope they will be very successful.

Had the usual interesting meeting in the Public Hall, Somerset, on Wednesday evening, 14th. After my address a collection of about \$16.00 was taken and handed to me. I think every individual present, old and young, contributed something.

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At a small meeting held in the Presbyterian Church, Kentville, on the evening of the 15th May, Judge Blanchard was elected President of the Branch, in the room of Mr. Webster, deceased, and W. B. Eaton, Esq., and J. Neary, Esq., were reelected to the offices of Secretary and Treasurer.

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The meeting in Canning next evening was well attended. The Rev. Messrs. Hennigar, Strothard and March were present, and all expressed warm sympathy with the work of the Bible Society. There was some money collected, but as the Treasurer was from home I did not obtain it. It will, however, be forwarded in due time.

On Sabbath, 18th May, addressed two meetings, one in Union Hall, Church Street, at three, and the other in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Canard, at half-past seven, p. m. The collection at the latter place was so contemptible that I resolved that I would never visit it again.

A very heavy rain on Monday evening prevented the meeting in Horton, and it was a failure the next evening in Avonport from the same cause; obtained, however, small contributions from friends in both places, and promises that something more will be collected.

The next day tried a meeting in Hantsport. The gathering in the Methodist Church was small, but I hope it may lead to something more encouraging in the future. Methodists in Hantsport are few, and Presbyterians fewer still. The Baptists here, as generally everywhere, manifest the utmost indifference to the Bible Society's claims; as remarked by a gentleman present on the occasion, there was not a shadow of a Baptist at the meeting.

There were five ministers present at the meeting in Windsor, which was held in the Methodist Church.

It was not so large as usual, and the collection was less than last year. Collectors will go round as usual in due time.

Addressed a very good meeting in Avondale, in the basement of the Methodist Church. This Branch contributes more in proportion to the people than any other Auxiliary. I have always unmixed pleasure in visiting Avondale.

Next day went on to Newport, or Brooklyn, and on Sabbath the 25th, held a very interesting meeting in the Presbyterian Church at 7½ p.m. The contributions from this Branch are increasing year by year, and it is confidently expected that a good collection will be made this year, notwithstanding the scarcity of money.

On Monday evening met a fair audience in the Methodist Church, Burlington. This Branch is weak in numbers, and the pressure of the times is severely felt; still I obtained something more than last year, and had I given notice of my coming sooner, it would have been still more.

As usual had a good gathering in the Hall, Chivirie. Regretted that the contribution from this Branch was not acknowledged in last Report. The amount received was smaller than last year, but something more will be collected and remitted to Halifax.

Went on to Walton and addressed the few that assembled in the Baptist Church. The collection amounted to forty-eight cents. There is no interest taken in Bible work in Walton. It is hardly worth while to visit it again.

Was much encouraged next evening by a fine meeting in Noel. The Hall was as usual well filled. Collection amounted to some \$16.50. Rev. Mr. Cox spoke eloquently in support of the Society. The meeting was very encouraging.

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The Friday, On Saturday evening had a fair meeting in the Methodist Church, Upper Selmah, and the next day, Sabbath, 1st June, addressed a good meeting at Five Mile River at 3 p. m., and a much larger one in the Presbyterian Church, Maitland, at 7 p. m. The collections at these maetings amounted to some \$16.00.

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On Friday, July 11th, went to Oxford in Cumberland County. The gathering in the Methodist Church was very small, Mr. Johnston presided. An effort will, I hope, be made to collect something before November.

Proceeded by train and stage to Wallace, and next day, Sabbath, 13th July, addressed two meetings, one in the Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m., and the other in the Methodist Church at 7 p.m., both good meetings. I would fain hope that my visit has not been altogether in vain. There is no lack of good will to the Bible cause in Wallace, but money is a very scarce commodity here as well as in many other places.

Went to Cape Breton, and on Tuesday evening, 15th July, had an interesting meeting in the Presbyterian Church, Port Hood. An effort was made to infuse new life into this Branch, which for some time past has been in a state of suspended animation. Edward Tremaine, Esq., was elected President, and A. C. Thomson, Esq., Secretary-Treasurer, and depositary. They will make an effort to have some contributions taken in due time.

In the Congregational Church, North-East Margaree, there was a good gathering on Wednesday evening. A small collection was handed to me, and the usual contribution from this Branch will be forwarded in due time.

The next effort was made at Sydney South, on Friday, 18th July. A very intelligent audience

assembled in the Baptist Church, of which Mr. Kendall is pastor; the President, Mr. Burchell, occupied the chair. Next day with the aid of D. McLennan, Esq., the esteemed and efficient Secretary, gathered up \$31.25.

On Sabbath, 20th July, there was a large meeting in the Presbyterian Church, North Sydney. After the address a collection of \$29.84 was taken up, which with \$5.00 previously handed to me by Hon. T. D. Archibald made \$34.84 from North Sydney, making \$5.21 more than last year.

On Thursday, 28th August, set out for Upper Caledonia, Guysborough County. Here and at Lower Caledonia the next evening had two small meetings and obtained the usual subscription.

The St. Mary's Ladies' Branch met in the schoolhouse, Glenelg, on Saturday evening; there was a good attendance, and I hope there will be a good contribution.

Went on same night, by stage, to Sherbrooke and Goldenville, and got some \$40.00, which was considerably more than I got last year. Was well assisted at both meetings by the Rev. James Quinn, and afterwards driven to Cross Roads, a distance of some 16 miles, by the same gentleman.

The meeting in Antigonish was small but spirited, the officers of last year were again elected, and several collectors appointed.

Went on to Brookfield, Colchester County. Rev. E. Smith presided at the meeting in the Presbyterian Church. The collection was larger than last year.

There was the usual good gathering in Middle Stewiack, on Thursday evening, 4th September. At the close the friends who were prepared were invited to hand in their contributions to the Secretary. Before

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Next day went on to Springside. The meeting here was well attended, and a larger contribution than that of last year was obtained.

Visited the good friends in South Branch, Stewiacke, on Saturday afternoon. The day was fine, and the farmers were all very busy with their harvests. The meeting was consequently smaller than under other circumstances it would have been. I obtained the usual subscription.

On Sabbath, 7th September, I addressed the Upper Stewiacke Branch in the Presbyterian Church. The attendance was good, but as the collectors had not finished their rounds and the Secretary was from home, I did not receive the contribution from this fine Branch. It will, however, be remitted in due time.

The two following evenings addressed fair meetings in Lower Stewiacke and Shubenacadie. Gollectors were appointed at both places, and though money is still very scarce, I hope there will be a fair contribution from both places.

On Saturday, 11th October, went by train to Parraboro', and next day, addressed two good meetings in the Methodist Church; the evening meeting was large and very interesting; speeches, pointed and forcible, were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Hemmeon and McLeod, whilst the very excellent music furnished by a large choir, added greatly to the interest of the meeting. Although no intimation of a collection had been given, a collection of \$4.60 was handed to me.

A public temperance meeting, which had been appointed before my notice was received, defeated the Bible meeting at Five Islands on Monday evening;

still I have reason to hope that something will be collected notwithstandig the hard times,—there are several warm friends of the Society at Five Islands.

Had the very great pleasure of meeting the kind friends at Bass River, Colchester County, on Tuesday evening. The gathering in the Presbyterian Church was not so large as I have seen it, but I was received as the agent of the Society with the utmost cordialty, and had many tokens of good will from the friends there.

On Wednesday, 15th October, presented the claims of the institution to a small meeting in the Presbyterian Church, Port-au-Pique, and obtained a subscription of \$12.00 from the good friends there.

The next evening there was an unusually good gathering at Folly Village; the President, R. Morrison, Esq., occupied the chair. The sum of \$5.05 was handed to me, and several collectors were appointed to canvass the surrounding districts.

By the special request of the officers, I paid a second visit to Clifton Branch, on Sabbath, 19th October, and addressed two good meetings at 11 a. m. and 3 p. m. I trust that the result may be a livelier interest in the work of the Bible Society. The Treasurer handed me \$19.32.

On Monday, 20th October, visited Acadia Iron Works, addressed a small meeting in the Presbyterian Church, and at the close a Branch was organized, of which Rev. Mr. Logan was appointed President, and Rev. Mr. Mack, Secretary, both these gentlemen are staunch faiends of the Bible Society, I am in hopes something will be done.

At Great Village next evening there was a fair turnout; Rev. J. McLean presided; new officers for the ensuing year were elected, and ten collectors appointed. Returned next day to New Brunswick. for lect Esq Masslect Age duri bett the of in prin

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On Monday, 8th December, left St. John, N. B., for Yarmouth. Spent most of three days there collecting. Was very sorry to find that T. M. Lewis, Esq., was a patient in one of the hospitals in Boston, Mass.; felt his absence very much in the work of collecting in Yarmouth. Mr. Lewis, has assisted the Agent of the Bible Society in his work in that town during the last twenty-two years. No one could be better qualified, as he was, not only ardently zealous in the work, but also possessed of a thorough knowledge of nearly every individual in the town, including principles, disposition and property. Mr. Hatfield and Mr Spinney kindly aided me in so far as their engagements would permit. The contribution from Yarmouth was not equal to that of last year.

Proceeded to Barrington, and on Thursday evening.
IIth December, addressed a few persons in the Baptist.
Church at the Passage. This was the fourth unsuccessful attempt I had made in this place. I think it only lost time to visit it again. Obtained at the Head.
\$9.55 on purchase, and got the promise from my excellent friend, Mr. R. H. Crowell, that an effort will be made to collect something, hard as the times are.

At Port Latour, on the 12th, I received a very cordial welcome from the friends of the Society. An excellent meeting, presided over by Rev. R. McArthur, was held in the Methodist Church. I had uninterrupted attention while, for more than an hour, I laid before the audience the work and claims of the Bible Society. I confidently hope that there will be something torwarded to the Treasurer from this district, and that a Branch will be organized before the next visit of the agent.

At Shelburne, on Sabbath, 14th December, I addressed two good meetings, one in the Methodist Church at 11 a.m., and another in the Presbyterian

Church at 7 p. m. 11 would hope that some favourable results will follow and to been these and no many and no many

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The sum obtained fell short of that obtained last year, but was given with good will,

The same evening walked down to Liverpool, and had the pleasure of meeting a very fine andience in the Methodist Church. Sheriff Freeman, President of the Liverpool Branch, occupied the chair. The meeting was briefly addressed by Rey. Messrs. Brown and Gates. This Branch, though it has but one collector, Mrs. Anderson, contributes liberally and steadily to the good cause.

The meeting in Bridgewater next evening was not large, but very interesting. Rev. G. Shore presided, in the absence of Rev. J. Cameron, who did not get in until the proceedings had been opened. Mr. Fraser, for the fourth year, aided me in collecting. We obtained \$12.00 more than last year, and as Mr. Shore was elected President, I confidently expect a much larger contribution next year.

Went on to Lunenburg, and was assisted in collecting by G. D. Geldert, Esq. Had two opportunities of addressing the people in Lunenburg. The contribution was not so large us that of former years.

Rev. Wm. Duff kindly gave: me his horse on Saturday evening to drive to Lower LaHave, where, in the Presbyterian Church, on a very wet and stormy evening, I addressed a small meeting. Rev. Mr. Heckin was appointed President of the Branch, Mr. Ritoey, Secretary Treasurer, and arrangements were made for securing the usual contribution to the funds of the Society.

At Mahone Bay on Sabbath at 3 p. m., and also at p. m., had opportunities of advancing my work.

There was once a Branch here, but it has for many years been only a Branch in name. I have visited this place and urged the claims of the Society for four years, and all that I ever received was \$2.17.

Drove in an open carriage from Mahone Bay to Halifax, a distance of 65 miles, on Monday, 22nd December, and on Tuesday evening at 4 p. m., attended a meeting of the Committee of the N. S. Auxiliary in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, Halifax. The same evening at 8 p. m., attended and took part in a meeting of the Dartmouth Branch. Professor Ross occupied the chair and conducted the opening exercises. The meeting, though small, was one of an interesting kind; arrangements were made for holding the annual meeting at an early day.

Next day I returned to New Branswick to complete the visitation of the Branches in that Bravince.

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JOHN TOLAND.

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Passekeag, 1st March, 1880.

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A. Males Toront in a contract of the Levy and I le THE following sums have been received since 31st December, 1879,—all of which could not be acknowledged in the year's statement:—

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Rev. J. McNeil, Alberton, P. E. I	 \$ 2 00
Barrington	
Bass River	
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