



Published under Direction of the Upper Canada Bible Society.

VOL. II.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1871.

No. 2.

THE OLDEST BOOK.

“The Bible is the oldest book in the world.” Of course, you will not understand me as saying that the entire Bible is more ancient than any other book. I know that some parts of it were written since the time of Hesiod and Homer, of Xenophon and Herodotus, of Demosthenes and Plato. But what I mean is, that some portions stretch far back beyond the records of classic literature, and before the dawn of well authenticated profane history. He who sits down to read the book of Job, may do it with the moral certainty that he is perusing the most ancient written poem in the world; and he who reads the book of Genesis is certain that he is perusing a history that was penned long before any Grecian writer collected and recorded the deeds of ancient times. Take away the history of the past which we have in the Bible, and there are at least some two thousand years of the existence of our race, of which we know nothing; and that, too, the forming period, and, in many respects, the most interesting part of the history of the world. Begin, in your investigation of past events, where ancient profane history begins, and you are plunged into the midst of a state of affairs of whose origin you know nothing, and where the mind wanders in perfect night, and can find no rest. Kingdoms are seen, but no one can tell when or how they were founded; cities appear, whose origin no one knows; heroes are playing their part in the great and mysterious drama, but no one knows whence they came, and what are their designs; a race of beings is seen whose origin is unknown, and the past period of whose existence on

the earth no one can determine—a race formed, no one can tell for what purpose, or by what hand. Vast multitudes of beings are suffering and dying for causes which no one can explain ; a generation, in their own journey to the grave, tread over the monuments of extinct generations, and with the memorials of fearful changes and convulsions in the past all around them, of which no one can give an account. Begin your knowledge of the past at the remotest period to which profane history would conduct you, and you are in the midst of chaos, and you cannot advance a step without going into deeper night—a night strikingly resembling that which the oldest poet in the world describes as the abode of the dead.—“The land of darkness and the shadow of death ; a land of darkness as darkness itself ; and of the shadow of death, without any order, and where the light is as darkness.”—Job x. 21, 22. And thus, in reference to the darkness of the past, the history of our race in its bygone periods—beyond the reach of all other guides—the Bible is “a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path.”

Now there is some interest, at least, in the fact that we have in our possession the most ancient book which was ever written. We should feel some interest in seeing and conversing with a man who had lived on earth during all that time, and had looked on the sun, and stars, and earth, before the time of Hesiod and Homer ; who had lived amidst all the revolutions of past kingdoms and empires ; while proud Assyria spread its conquests and fell ; while Babylon rose and declined ; while Rome carried its arms around the world and sank ; if he had lived on while seasons walked their rounds, and had seen fifty generations buried, and had come to us now, with the ancient costume and manners, to tell us what was in the days of Noah or Abraham. We contemplate with deep interest an “ancient river ;” and no one ever looked upon the Mississippi or the Ganges for the first time without emotion. So of a venerable elm or oak that has stood while many a winter storm has howled through its branches, and while the trees that grew up with it have long since decayed. So with an ancient bulwark or castle ; an ancient monument, or work of art. Whatever stands alone, and has lived on while others have decayed, excites our admiration. The pyramids of Egypt, and the tombs of the kings of Thebes, and the pillar of Pompey, thus attract attention. Any lonely memento of the past has a claim to our regard, and excites an interest which we feel for nothing when surrounded by the objects amidst which it rose. In the wastes of Arabia, between the Nile and Mount Sinai, there stand some half a dozen or more headstones in an ancient burying-place. There is not a town, or city, or house, or tent, or fertile field near. They are the lonely memorials of a far distant generation. All else is gone—the men that placed them there ; the towns where they dwelt ; the mouldering ashes, and the names of those whose last place of sleep they mark. So the Bible stands in the past. All is desolation around it. The books that were written when that was, if there were any,

are gone. The generations that lived then are gone. The cities where they dwelt are gone. Their tombs and monuments are gone, and the Bible is all that we have to tell us who they were, why they lived, and what occurred in their times. Had the Bible to this day been unknown, or were it suddenly discovered in some venerable ruin, and authenticated, who would not hail such a monument of what occurred in the past periods of the world.

The circumstance here referred to of the antiquity of the Bible, derives additional interest from the attempts which have been made to destroy it. No book has excited so much opposition as this; but it has survived every attack which power, talent and eloquence have ever made on it. Now, we do and we should feel an interest in anything which has survived repeated attempts to destroy it. The remnant of any army that has survived a battle, and that successfully resisted great numbers in the conflict of war; the tree that has stood firm when all others in its neighbourhood have been prostrated; the ancient castle that has sustained many a siege, and that remains impregnable; the solid rock that has been washed by floods for centuries, and that has not been swept away—all excite a deep interest. We love to contemplate these, and we should deem ourselves destitute of all right feeling if we should pass them by without attention. But no army ever survived so many battles as the Bible; no tree has stood so long, and weathered so many storms; no ancient bulwark has endured so many sieges, and stood so firm amid the thunders of war, and the ravages of time; and no rock has been swept by so many currents, and has still stood unmoved. It has outlived all conflicts, survived all the changes in empires, and come down to us, notwithstanding all the efforts made to destroy it; and while the stream of time has rolled on, and thousands of other books have been engulfed, this book has been borne triumphant on the wave. It has shown that it is destined to be borne onward to the end of time, while millions of others shall sink degradedly to the bottom.

The late ALBERT BARNES.

Canadian and Domestic.

IN MEMORIAM.

The Rev. Wm. McClure, M. A., one of the Vice-Presidents of the U. C. B. Society.

It has pleased God suddenly to remove from the toils of life to the rest of heaven our esteemed brother, the Rev. Wm. McClure, a man greatly beloved, amiable, gifted, devoted; a true friend of the Bible Society, and one of the most distinguished and valued ministers of the Church to which he belonged. We had the pleasure of forming his acquaintance during our residence in Montreal, and may be permitted to unite our sympathies with those of his most intimate and devoted friends. Such a Christian had only to be known in order to be loved. The subjoined items of information in reference to the departed are extracted from an obituary notice already published.

Mr. McClure was born in Dublin, Ireland, in the year 1804. His father was one of the first ministers of the New Connexion Methodist Church in Ireland. Commendatory of the father, the son makes the following record in his diary:—"Despising danger and trouble, he nobly and successfully defended the cause of justice, freedom and truth, and God honoured him in a very particular manner, by giving him many souls for his hire."

In reference to his conversion, we have learned that when yet a mere youth "he had retired in solitude to walk on the sea shore, taking with him his Bible. The God of the Bible spoke to him through its truths, and rising from his rocky seat, he went on his way rejoicing—the spirit of adoption in his heart, and the praise of God on his tongue."

"This servant of the Most High endured many hardships, and filled many positions of trust in his native land, till about the year 1847 or 1848, when he was appointed by the English Missionary Committee of the New Connexion Methodist Church, to come over to this country, to be associated with the Superintendent of the Canadian Mission in the oversight of its interests, and also to give himself to regular circuit work. His first charge in Canada was in this city. He remained here for three years, and since that time his ministrations extended from Montreal in the east to London in the west, under the system of ministerial itinerancy known to Methodism."

His death was most sudden. "He had returned to this city after a fortnight's absence, and on the 17th ult., he was found in the morning, after retiring to bed in his usual health, to be almost unconscious; after lingering a few hours, without any power of communication with the friends that lovingly gathered at his bedside, on the afternoon of the last Lord's day (February 19th), in the 68th year of his age, his spirit passed into the presence of his God."

"The pulpit services of the deceased were chiefly remarkable for their faithfulness and instructiveness, careful and systematic in preparation. The varied stores of knowledge which he had treasured up were laid under contribution for the most efficient fulfilment of this, the first and leading function of the clerical office. So abundantly were his ministrations enriched with the wealth of his cultivated and gifted mind, that the words of Christ had an unquestioned application to him.—"A scribe, instructed unto the Kingdom of Heaven, like unto a man that is an house-holder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old."

"As a pastor of that church he had delighted in shepherding his flock—in seeking those who were lost. In prosperity as in adversity his sympathies with them had ever been quick, and true, and strong. His was a generous, varied nature, and he was especially thoughtful and tender with the young."

"He was blessed with a more than ordinarily evenly balanced nature. His intellectual power and his range of knowledge, were in advance of the most of his associates in the ministry; but, however this might be, they were not in advance of the moral power which guided and controlled the action of these intellectual forces. But above and beyond all this he had entered the school of Christ. Taking His yoke upon him, he had learned of Him; who was meek and lowly in heart, and had found rest for his soul."

MONTREAL AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY JUBILEE MEETING.

The fiftieth anniversary of this important and valuable Society was held in the Wesleyan Church, Great St. James street, Montreal, on Wednesday, the 25th of January. The Hon. James Ferrier, Senator, President, in the chair. The night was intensely cold, yet the spacious building was filled to overflowing by a deeply interested audience, who listened with eager solicitude to the gifted men by whom they were addressed, and in whose argu-

ments, appeals, and information, they must have felt a renewedness of purpose to live *by* the precepts of **THE BOOK**, and *for* its more extensive circulation among the needy thousands around them. We were informed that the Report presented by the learned Secretary, was one of rare excellence; but as we have not yet had the pleasure of seeing a copy of it, we must limit our observations to the necessarily imperfect intelligence at our command—such as is furnished in the items of a correspondent, and which we now have much pleasure in presenting:—

“This is the jubilee year of the Society. To commemorate the event, deputations were present from three sister societies. From Toronto, the Rev. Dr. Taylor; from Quebec, the Rev. D. Marsh; and from Halifax, the Rev. A. Russell. These esteemed brethren rendered good service at the anniversary. Of those excellent men who formed the Society half a century ago, only two are alive; one of whom is the Rev. Mr. Henderson, of St. Andrews; and the other, and the sole survivor in Montreal, and who has worked for fifty consecutive years in the Society’s interest, was the seconder of the last resolution, Wm. Lunn, Esq., of this city.”

“From the report we clip the following:—The aggregate of receipts in the half century has amounted to the sum of \$249,927, and of copies of the Bible issued to 395,359. Thus ends the jubilee year of this Society, with indications existing on every side of growing prosperity and enlarged usefulness in its great work.”

KINGSTON AUXILIARY.

The Annual Meeting of the Kingston Bible Society was held in the Ontario Hall, in that city, on Tuesday, the 17th January. The attendance was large, and the meeting one of much interest. Among the gentlemen present were the Revds. Messrs. Mulock, Kirkpatrick, Snodgrass, McKerras, Mowat, Wilson, Grafftey, Gray, Sutherland, (the deputation from the Upper Canada Bible Society,) and Dr. Lavell. The interests of the Society were very ably presented by the Revds. Messrs. Gray, Sutherland, and Kirkpatrick, and by the Rev. Professor Mowat, and Dr. Lavell. The President elect, the Rev. T. W. Dobbs, Incumbent of the Church of England, Portsmouth, occupied the chair, and in his opening address made touching allusion to his immediate predecessor in office, Thomas Kirkpatrick, Esq., who had “been taken to the rest that remains for the people of God.” We find that the venerable Dr. Mair has retired from the Secretaryship, and has been honoured—an honour well merited—with a place among the Vice-Presidents of the Society. R. V. Rogers, jr., has been elected Secretary. We cannot withhold our expression of satisfaction at finding the son of the Rev. R. V. Rogers, the tried and devoted friend of the Bible Society, so closely allied with the history and welfare of this Auxiliary. In reference to results, the retiring Secretary, “Dr. Mair, presented an abstract of the Report, showing the operations of the Society for the past year, from which it appears that during the last twelve months, there had been issued from the depository 993 Bibles, and 1209 Testaments—representing a value of \$614 00. The Treasurer’s account showed that the cash receipts were \$1315 21; expendi-

ture, \$1169 41, cash on hand, \$145 89. The Colporteur disposed of 956 Bibles and Testaments,—visited 3245 families, and travelled 1686 miles.”

OTTAWA AUXILIARY.

The self-denying labours of the agents of this Society are producing most cheering results, especially in the regions of the Upper Ottawa. We joyfully peruse the record of their successes, and will ever feel a lively interest in their praiseworthy endeavours to distribute the precious volume among those who need it most.

The annual meeting of this Society was held in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, on the evening of Wednesday, the 1st February. The President, George Hay, Esq., occupied the chair. After a brief address from the Chairman, a long and highly interesting report was read by the Secretary, the Rev. D. M. Gordon, B.D. Amongst the results of the year's labours is a total circulation of nearly 6000 copies, partly accomplished through the agency of three colporteurs employed by the Society, who have, with most unwearied and zealous toil, and, under God's favor, with cheering results, borne the Living Word into the remote districts occupied by the Ottawa Lumbermen. The income of the Ottawa Auxiliary has increased to the very respectable sum of \$5,527,00. Its Branches now number 52, each of them having been visited during the year by the Rev. R. Gavin, the Society's indefatigable and successful agent. After the reading of the report, eloquent addresses were delivered by the Revd. Messrs. Ebbs, McLaren, Stephenson, Johnston, and Anderson, the Hon. S. L. Tilley, C. B., and J. Johnson, Esq.

NOVA SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY.

We acknowledge with more than ordinary pleasure the receipt of a copy of the Report of the "Nova Scotia Bible Society." This is the first which has reached us. It is, we hope, the *first of a series*. Its perusal has awakened the remembrance of those distant days when we listened to the memorable words of the late President of this Society, the Rev. Robert Uniacke, M.A., to whose regretted death feeling allusion is made; and to his immediate predecessor in office, the Rev. Dr. Twining, of whom also, honorable mention is made, then in the vigor of their power. We learn from the report that one clerical agent, the Rev. Alexander Russell, is engaged in the service of the Society, who is evidently in labours abundant, in prosecuting the great work of Bible dissemination. We do not note the employment of colporteurs in connection with the operations of this auxiliary. The income for the year embraced in the Report is, from different sources, \$3,123.35, and we observe among the free contributions to the Parent Society, the very generous proportion of "£300 stg., or \$1,506.67." We hope to be enabled to have freer and more frequent intercourse with this and other sister societies in the

more eastern section of the field. We are one in our objects, and occupy, as auxiliaries, a similar relationship to the God-honored Parent Society at home.

British and Foreign.

MEMORIAL ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON OCCASION OF THE DEATH OF THE REV. THOMAS PHILLIPS, D. D., THE SOCIETY'S SENIOR DISTRICT SECRETARY.

The death of the Rev. Dr. Phillips took place at his residence, Hereford, on Friday, October 28. The following extracts are selected from a comprehensive and extended "memorial" of him in the "Bible Society Monthly Reporter" for December. The perusal cannot fail to benefit the reader. The sectional and fragmentary character of that now given cannot exhibit the beauty and excellence of the complete biography; but our limited space prevents us from presenting it more fully.

"The Committee having received the intelligence of the decease of the Rev. Dr. Phillips, the Society's senior District Secretary, cannot record this mournful event on their Minutes without offering the tribute of their affectionate respect to his memory, and expressing their sense of the immense loss sustained by the Society, with which he was so usefully and honorably associated."

From the moment Dr. Phillips accepted an official position in the British and Foreign Bible Society he regarded his new vocation as a work for life, and well worthy of the unreserved consecration of all his powers, intellectual and physical. Throughout his long period of active service he pursued his manifold and onerous duties with an ardour and enthusiasm which never faltered, and which had an extraordinary influence in securing that rich harvest of liberality which Wales has so nobly yielded to the Bible Society.

Dr. Phillips when but a youth gave evidence of that strong desire for personal usefulness which subsequently became the ruling element in his character. He was first introduced to the notice of the Committee by the late Charles Stokes Dudley, who perceived in him qualifications admirably adapted for the special work of the Bible Society, associated with profound sympathy for its simple object and catholic constitution. Mr. Dudley during his travels in South Wales had formed the acquaintance of Dr. Phillips, then officiating as a minister at Hay, in connection with that important and influential religious body, the Calvinistic Methodists; and having found in him a willing and able helper in his efforts to extend local organization, ventured to suggest that the work of the Bible Society might afford an appropriate and congenial sphere of usefulness for the employment of his talents. The appeal elicited a prompt and cordial response, and as the Auxiliary system needed a much wider development than had then been attained, either in England or Wales, the services of Dr. Phillips were engaged, in the first instance, for an experimental period, in order that the Committee might have full proof of his fitness, and that he might satisfy his mind that he was entering upon a position to which he was called by his Divine Master. This preliminary arrangement speedily passed into a permanent relationship; a measure which has afforded the Committee increasing satisfaction from year to year, inasmuch as the interests of the Society have been most remarkably and efficiently promoted thereby. The first report of work done was presented by Dr. Phillips at the Annual Conference of the District Secretaries in February, 1837. That document bore such clear evidence of the beneficial results of Dr. Phillips' labours—of the energetic, methodical, and successful manner in which he had discharged his duties—that the Committee arrived at the unani-

mous conclusion that the Society had been most providentially guided to a gentleman worthy of their entire confidence, and well qualified, under the Divine blessing, to render service of high and lasting value. Dr. Phillips was therefore requested to accept the office of Agent on behalf of the Bible Society, in Wales. From that date till his death he was the loyal, faithful, zealous and popular representative of the Institution with which his name became so familiarly identified, and for whose prosperity he toiled with rare self-denial and unflinching zeal.

The qualifications possessed by Dr. Phillips, and which years and experience strengthened and matured, were in their nature and tendency precisely of the kind which the work of the Bible Society required. His mind was eminently practical and suggestive—not hasty in its plans nor premature in its decisions, but calm in its survey of facts, clear in its calculation of results, and, as a consequence, usually sound in its judgments. He had no ordinary tact for organization, and ever felt that permanent results much depended upon having things commenced according to some well-defined principles and method. Hence, while not disparaging isolated action in support of the Bible Society, it was his aim to initiate system over the length and breadth of the wide field assigned to his superintendence; and he lived to see results far in excess even of the glowing anticipations he had indulged when he entered upon his work, and which he never reviewed without deep humility and profound gratitude to God, who had so graciously accepted and honoured his instrumentality. Everything was done by him, as a matter of conscience, regularly, in the proper season and place, yet not in a formal or perfunctory spirit, but with a view to efficiency and the economy of time; and thus the amount of labour he accomplished was surprisingly great. The high and absorbing conception he formed of the grandeur of the object which the Bible Society proposes to accomplish, made him feel that his office was in the fullest sense a sacred office,—that his work was work for God's glory and the salvation of men. All his thoughts, purposes and desires were centred in the Society he so dearly loved. To advance its interests, as a means of advancing the knowledge and triumph of Divine Truth, was the "one thing" which gave a beautiful unity to his life, and regulated alike his correspondence, actions and intercourse. To become a competent exponent of the Society's principles and the advocate of its claims, he felt it indispensable to make himself thoroughly versed in all that pertained to its constitution and operations, and there were few who had a more complete and accurate knowledge of the history and growth of the Society, at home and abroad. * * *

The genial and loving spirit of Dr. Phillips gave him special adaptation for creating an influence in all circles in favour of the Society he served. As that Society acts irrespective of ecclesiastical organization, and seeks to win the sympathy and help of all who hold to the Holy Scriptures as the record of Inspired Truth, its action must be governed by a true-hearted catholicity. In this respect Dr. Phillip was a faithful representative of the Society. * * *

The spirit of love and forbearance by which he was distinguished made him very successful in dispelling prejudice, removing difficulties to united action when angry feelings had been aroused, and bringing into fresh harmony those whom some misunderstanding had unfortunately separated. So great was his success in dealing with disputes and reconciling the disputants, that he was generally known by the name of the "Peace-Maker;" and often has the soothing influence of his tender words put an end to variance and strife.

* * * Wales was from first to last his chosen sphere of labour, although he sometimes extended his visitation to other parts of the kingdom. But for Wales he felt responsible. As the suggestion of a Welshman inspired the thought that gave birth to the Bible Society, Dr. Phillips endeavoured to make Welshmen feel that to them, especially, belonged the honour and responsibility of sustaining its funds and extending its operations; and as Welsh was his own vernacular, though

he had likewise full command of English, he could make his appeals to his countrymen in that language, which, as the vehicle of religious thought, comes with stirring energy and moving sweetness to their hearts. * * * It is to be feared that in the case of Dr. Phillips, though possessing a singularly sound and robust constitution, his ardour carried him beyond the limits of prudence, and he accepted a burden of engagements, against which the Committee repeatedly remonstrated, and which imposed too severe a strain upon his strength. It was, however, difficult to restrain him, and in his burning zeal for the Society he too often forgot himself.

* * * In the year 1853 arrangements were made for celebrating the Society's Jubilee. * * * The practical wisdom, painstaking zeal and ample experience of Dr. Phillips, at once suggested to the Committee that no one could be found better fitted to frame and carry out the numberless details which would have to be settled and acted upon, and he was therefore summoned to London and entrusted with the duties of Jubilee Secretary. How admirably and efficiently he filled this position, is well known to those members of the Committee and officers of the Society who survive him; and it is not too much to affirm, that the success of the Jubilee scheme, which brought so munificent an offering to the Society's finances, and gave a new prominence to its objects and claims before the public, creating an influence, the effect of which is felt to the present time, was in great measure, under God's blessing, to be attributed to the vigorous, well concerted, and popular measures devised by Dr. Phillips. * * * It was at this period, too, that he was brought into intimate acquaintance with a lady (Mrs. Ranyard) to whose efforts the poor of London are largely indebted, and whose deepest sympathies have ever been enlisted in the cause of Bible circulation: and the interchange of thought which ensued had its practical issue in the publication of that most interesting and useful volume, *The Book and its Story*; a volume which has been translated into various languages, and which, wherever read, has not failed to gather fresh friends around the standard of the Bible Society. Dr. Phillips, after a residence of eighteen months in London, brought his Jubilee labours to a happy conclusion by passing through the press a volume entitled *The Jubilee Memorial*.

* * * * *
 It was scarcely possible that one whose period of service was so long, and who was so prominently identified with the Society's work, could altogether escape the presence of those controversies by which attempts have been made to disturb, if not alienate, the confidence and attachment of the Society's friends. It was painful to Dr. Phillips to be diverted from the even tenor of his official duties to deal with disputed points; but he never quailed before any assailant, and was ever prepared with fact and argument to vindicate the Society's procedure, not on the questionable ground of expediency, but on the higher ground of Christian principle; and he rarely failed to impress others with the convictions he personally entertained. Through the medium of the local press and in the form of useful tracts he explained the action of the Society, and relieved the minds of many, of the scruples and doubts which had been insinuated.

* * * * *
 The Committee had frequently expressed to Dr. Phillips their wish that he would reduce his own exertions within more reasonable limits, and seek to associate with himself some colleague who would share the burden of labour, and be in course of training for more enlarged and responsible service in after years. Yielding, at length, to this importunity, he was happily guided in the selection of an individual whom he could commend to the Committee with unqualified confidence, and he found in the Rev. W. Dickens Lewis, who had recently completed his collegiate course at the University of Oxford, a man likeminded with himself, who was master of both languages, and inherited from Christian parents much of Welsh enthusiasm for the Bible Society. After assisting Dr. Phillips for three years, the result was so

eminently satisfactory that in January of the current year Mr. Lewis was appointed Assistant District Secretary for Wales. This arrangement afforded no slight solace to Dr. Phillips' mind when he was laid aside by his last sickness, and he thanked God devoutly that He had not called him away from his work before a competent successor had been provided.

* * * He was present also at the last Anniversary meeting in May, nor was there any perceptible failure in vigour, or in that cheerful elasticity of spirit which always helped to throw a charm and freshness around the work to which he devoted himself. But the farewell he then took of the Bible House, a spot greatly endeared to him, and where, for many years, he had been permitted to make his London home, was a final farewell. * * *

Increased feebleness was the necessary consequence of inability to retain food, and medical suspicion pointed to some malignant disease beyond the reach of human skill. It became needful to keep from his knowledge the details of business which related to his district, that he might be free from all disturbing excitement, although he evinced as keen an interest as ever in the great work of the Society, and was overjoyed when he heard the intelligence that Rome was at length free for the admission of the Bible.

* * * He bore on the same occasion emphatic testimony to the great delight he had ever experienced in furthering the designs of the Bible Society, and to the comforting influence with which the promises and hopes of God's Word filled his own soul. For the messages of sympathy he received so constantly from the Committee and the Christian friends with whom he had been associated he was most grateful, and observed more than once that he felt strengthened by them. "I die," he exclaimed to his family who had once gathered around his bed, when the moment of departure was supposed to be near at hand,—“I die in the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ;” and he died as he had lived, resting on the “Rock” with a confidence which doubts and fears were not permitted to shake or obscure. Thus the Bible Society has been deprived of another of its most valued officers—one whose services filled a space of upwards of thirty-four years, and who laboured through that extended period with unsparing energy, remarkable sagacity, scrupulous conscientiousness, and unprecedented success. He, by the help of God, placed the Bible Society in Wales on an elevation far higher than it had previously reached, and instilled into the hearts of his countrymen the conviction that, foremost amongst the Institutions that honour Great Britain, and claim the sympathy and hearty co-operation of all her religious communities, stands the British and Foreign Bible Society. The influence of his noble efforts will not soon pass away, and for many years to come, in circles of both rich and poor, the name of Dr. Phillips will be identified with the Bible Society in Wales, and, it may be, help to revive drooping zeal and stimulate generous liberality.

REV. DR. GILL.—Since the above was in print we have received the intelligence of the death of another of the devoted agents of the Parent Society, the Rev. Dr. Gill, a gentleman well known to many in Canada, in connection with his visit to this country in 1864, at which time, as stated in the Monthly Reporter, “he undertook the responsible office of the Society's representative to the British Provinces of North America. The object of his mission was to strengthen the bonds of amity existing between the Parent Society and its numerous Auxiliaries in these provinces, to furnish interesting information concerning its important work in various parts of the world, and to offer such suggestions as experience might dictate for the extension of local operations and the expansion of local resources. In the prosecution of this enterprise Dr. Gill visited Upper and Lower Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, and Newfoundland; and simple justice to his memory claims the acknowledgment that he discharged the important duties which devolved upon him to the entire satisfaction of the Committee. On his return to England Dr. Gill was most anxious to continue his con-

nexion with the Society, and a proposition having been made by him that he should endeavour to enlist the sympathies of the young throughout the metropolis in the work of the Society, the Committee entered into a fresh engagement with him for the purpose of carrying out this most desirable object."

The arduous toil of his new sphere of duty soon admonished him of failing strength, "and though he had struggled hard to maintain his position, and indulged the hope of eventually resuming his work, he gradually awoke to the conviction that his Heavenly Master had a different purpose; and after bearing with much resignation a prolonged illness, attended with much suffering, he entered into rest on the 4th of November, 1870, in the 47th year of his age."

THE LATE DEAN ALFORD.—Deep and sincere will be the sorrow with which the announcement of the death of this distinguished and beloved Christian, gifted writer, and able defender of the Book of God, will be received wherever his wonderful reputation has extended.

"In the *Contemporary Review* Dean Stanley writes *in memoriam* of his friend the late Dean Alford, dwelling chiefly upon his many contributions to the better understanding of the New Testament. Grateful reference is also made to Dean Alford's most Christian efforts to produce and deepen feelings of mutual respect between State Churchmen and Nonconformists. 'The gathering of distinguished Nonconformist ministers,' it is remarked, 'round his grave, and the genuine expressions of sympathy that his death has called forth, are cheering pledges that his kindly relations to them were fully appreciated, and will bear a lasting fruit.' A biographical sketch of the deceased is added from the pen of the Rev. E. T. Vaughan, who gives us this sweet glimpse of his family life:—'I can only say that from first to last, at Wymeswold or at Canterbury, it was the simplest, the fullest of all affection abundantly returned, of thought and care for all who came within its circle, the purest from all alloy of selfishness or worldliness that I have ever known, or could have imagined.'"—*Christian World*.

"There the Weary are at Rest."

M. VICTOR DE PRESSENSE.—And yet another has gone, but not until the Master permitted him to finish his work. Intelligence from home states as follows:—

"Just as the *Monthly Reporter* is going to press the sad intelligence has reached the Committee of the lamented death, after a short illness of nine days, of M. de Pressensé, for nearly 38 years the Society's Agent in France. He had remained at Tours subsequently to the removal of the Government, thinking it the most central spot whence to superintend those colporteurs with whom he was still able to correspond; but soon after he had formed this determination he was laid aside from active employment, and a rapid development of the malady from which he was suffering brought to a close, on the 4th of January, a long and laborious career of extensive usefulness."

COLPORTAGE WORK AMONG THE GERMAN AND FRENCH SOLDIERS.

(From the report of the Rev. G. P. Davies, the Society's agent.)

THE DANGERS AND PRIVATIONS OF THE COLPORTEURS.

"If I write little on this subject it is because the colporteurs, in their letters to me, have written nothing at all. With admirable tact and self-forgetfulness they dwell on the encouraging aspects of their work. It is

from other sources, and in indirect ways, that I have learned what their hardships have been. It is due to them to say that they have fully shared the hardships of the soldier in the field. The soldier's danger is certainly greater, but the dangers our men have cheerfully incurred have been far from considerable. They are far away from home; many of them are men advanced in life. Almost all of them are married. They march in the enemy's land unforced and deprived of all efficient protection. They too, have their "forced marches;" often the hard earth for their only bed—straw is a luxury. They are to be seen with the healthy soldiers not only in camps and garrisons, but also on the eve of, and even during, their battles. They enter the lazarets where infectious diseases are raging, without a thought of themselves, not counting their life dear. They cook their own food, often without salt or any means of making it savory; they mend their own clothes and shoes (the former callings of some of them in this point rendering good service), they wash their own linen, and sacrifice every idea of comfort. Erhardt readily consented to give up his proper work of colportage, which is very dear to his heart, to become the driver of our Bible waggon and the groom of our horse. One of the depositaries, during thirty nights, spent twenty-three out of bed. But, on the other hand, God blesses them. They have often to endure insult and reviling, it is irae; but, on the whole, we may say that they are everywhere received with open arms,—in the Hospitals, and by the sick and wounded, with warm manifestations of joy. On the 1st of December, Mr. Henry Hieronimus, and senior colporteur Weiser joined Mr. Beringer, bringing with them 120 cases of Scriptures. By the 31st of December, Mr. Beringer reported that all the cases were empty, and that a few hundred copies constituted the whole of their remaining stock. Under these circumstances, the whole staff of our Paris colporteurs, with the exception of two who remain to keep possession of the dépôt and take care of the horse, have obtained leave to return to Germany for a fortnight to rest, to repair their clothes, to visit their families, and then the majority of them will return, Mr. Henry Hieronimus meanwhile bringing another railway van full of stock to replenish the Lagny dépôt."

American.

THE REV. ALBERT BARNES.—Not only has the American Church been called to suffer a heavy loss in the recent death of the Rev. Albert Barnes, but in every land in which the English language is spoken will the loss be felt. Few Commentators are more extensively known than he, or their biblical works more extensively read than his. A marvel of industry, he laboured as few men could do, during the forty-four years of his ministry, forty of which were employed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. It has been stated as an evidence of his energy and industry that of the many volumes which his masterly pen produced "all were written before breakfast." He was diligent to the last, and died in the vineyard, and at work in the vineyard. How singularly beautiful, though sudden, his departure. On the day of his death, the 24th December, "he had walked with his daughter about a mile to call on an afflicted family; and, on sitting down, expired in his chair,"—quietly going hence to keep the Feast with Christ himself. He died in Philadelphia, at the advanced age of seventy-two.

The paper on our first page is from the pen of Mr. Barnes. The hand that wrote it will write no more ; but by many thousands it will be read and made a blessing. His works will follow him.

Oroomiah Persia.—Sometimes difficulties are encountered where we should least expect them. But the work in Persia should not be neglected, and the Agents of the American Bible Society are not likely to be turned aside from duty, however severe the toils of the enterprise.

“Amid such circumstances, the sale of eighty-six copies of the Holy Scriptures is a fact to occasion joy and hope. The reader will pray that the seed thus cast into the ground may yield an abundant harvest.”

The accompanying letter of the Agent will be perused with interest. He says :—

In the summer tour the books were sold chiefly in Bashkulla and vicinity, and the balance on the way to Van. On reaching there few were left. Sego found there a wonderful demand, and if 500 copies had been in his hands at that time, all would probably have been taken up in a short time, as then there was no obstacle in the way of their sale. On his return from this tour, Sego (the colporteur) was laid up for several weeks by sickness, and was just able to start with me, October 1, for my tour. We took along a small load of books to dispose of—The Armenian in Van, and the Syriac in Bootan. Some were sold on the way ; but the greatest part are still, I suppose, in the hands of the pasha of Van. Of what befel us then I wrote you in a note via Mardin ; I hope it reached you. We expected to remain in Van but one day ; but, by the forcible seizure of the books, we were there eight days. So long a stay excited much curiosity and inquiry, as well as opposition. The demand for books was truly urgent, increased probably by the fact that the school-books and other books for sale are few, inferior, and expensive—altogether inadequate to the wants of the 2,000 scholars, and still larger number of other readers in the city.

I will give you a little account of our first interview with the pasha, as an item in the Bible work. On our entering the city in the afternoon, the books were seized and carried to the serai. The next day I called on the pasha. He was very affable, and personally examined the books, and at once bought copies of all those in Turkish. He then appointed a commission to certify that there was nothing in them of a political nature, and nothing aimed at Islam, saying, that lately stringent orders had come from the Porte to this effect. For the Syriac books, Erumya was appointed. (He was once a helper of the Mosul station, but left the service and the faith, and is now the agent of Mar Shimon and the Independent Nestorians, and lives in Van.) The mufti was to examine and pass the Turkish books, and the chief Armenian ecclesiastic the Armenian books, and each book was to be stamped with the seal of the Medjlis—rather a suspicious process, it struck me, and so I thought I would stay by and watch operations. The Syriac books were easily passed, but the mufti was so thick-headed that he read the Testament with difficulty. He and many other Moslems present never had seen it before. Several copies of it in Turkish had been already taken by members of the Medjlis, and others in high quarters. The mufti thought the passages that spoke of Christ as God rather dangerous doctrine for true believers ; but yielded the point that the book could be sold, on the ground that it was the New Testament which all Christians had accepted for centuries. Meantime the Armenian member of the commission was looking on. Poghos Karabash, the chief priest of the ecclesiastics, was indisposed and could not come. The pasha then commanded him to send an agent. One came, and a more sour and stupid-looking man it would be difficult to find. When his turn came, he with some difficulty was induced to take a book into his hands ; he read

the title of the New Testament, and it was quite enough. "It is a dangerous book!—no doubt of it." Erumya spoke like a man and to the point, and the Turk at the head of the Medjlis asked some questions; for some time a spirited discussion ensued. I protested that they must follow the law, and it was strange if the Bible in Syriac and Turkish was legal, but in Armenian contraband. The karabash, fearing perhaps his case would be lost, rose abruptly and went to the pasha; the mufti followed; then the head of the Medjlis; and finally Erumya, our colporteur, and myself. The ecclesiastic made his statement that the books were dangerous; and the pasha took up the Turkish Testament he had just bought, and read a chapter aloud, asking, every few verses, "Is it not the same in Armenian?" "Just the same; but for our people it is dangerous." I pressed the point that the question was, whether it was dangerous to government and contrary to law—not whether the Armenian ecclesiastics wished their people to buy the Bible or not. Discussion followed, and under the pressure the pasha rose, saying to the Armenian, "Give me a paper stating what is dangerous in the books." The karabash replied that he must consult his superior, and so the company broke up. The pasha said to me that he wished to corner the Armenians and get the responsibility on them; but, as the event proved, he was playing the snake in the grass. From that time till we left Van it was impossible to get the Medjlis together, and the pasha was powerless to act without the Medjlis. After we were gone, the decision was made to send the books under escort to the Persian frontier, and if our salmas helper, who remained in Van, sold a single one of them, he was to be at once imprisoned. According to direction, rather than take the books on such terms, he left in the night, and the books remain in the hands of the pasha. Segó, the colporteur, went with me to Bitlissert and the regions of Bootan. We parted in Tiary—I to come home, and he for his winter's labours in the plains of the Tigris. Drakhnaneshov, the colporteur of last winter, left here so as to join Segó about the first of the year; and together, or rather in supporting distance of each other, they are to explore the regions of ancient Assyria, and visit, in the plain and on the skirts of the mountain, the Papal, Jacobite, and Nestorian villages, as far as the Syriac is spoken. Of their success we have not yet heard. They have an arduous work in an unexplored region, and they need our prayers.

At the end of the current six months (D. V.), I will again report from the labours in Koordistan and Assyria.

Yours, very truly,

J. H. SHEDD.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIBLE AMONG THIEVES.

In further proof that the reclamation of the criminal is highly practicable, and ought to be more directly and generally sought, a few words may be said concerning another and more modest agency. The society to which reference has been made is, I believe, the only organisation which makes the reformation of thieves its specific object. Providentially, however, an agent of the London City Missionary Society has been led to devote himself very greatly to this particular work. In the year 1842, this excellent man, Mr. Jackson, of Welliclose-square, was induced to visit a large lodging-house near Wapping which was occupied chiefly by gamblers and thieves. He was received more favourably than he had expected, though for a long time no good impression appeared to be produced. But he says, "I took courage in the fact that I was allowed to visit the place, to read to the inmates the *Word of God*, to pray and distribute amongst them religious tracts. There was much to

dispirit me in their reckless depravity, but in a few months encouraging results began to follow; several couples who had been living together for years in an unmarried state asked me to assist them to get married. I did so; and from that time to the present I gained an influence amongst them." Gradually feelings were roused that had long been latent and hnumbed. The wretched people began to think of the good missionary as their friend, and they gave him their confidence. And what now are the ascertained fruits of his pains? From a communication with which Mr. Jackson has favoured me, I copy the following summary of results gathered up to the close of 1869:—

Visits paid by thieves at his house to seek advice and assistance in order to abandon a criminal life.....	7,753
Restored to their parents and friends.....	198
Procured employment for.....	576
Sent to asylums.....	247
Enabled to emigrate.....	114
Recognised members of Christian churches.....	91
Couples married (the united imprisonments of the last 24 of these amount to 188).....	474

With such a record as this before us, who shall despair of the reformation of multitudes out of the 20,000 thieves of London? If all this has been accomplished by *one man*, who shall doubt that with combined, systematic, and well-directed effort, a proportionally greater number of them might be not only reclaimed from crime, but might become new creatures in Christ?

I conclude with an outline of the history of three converted thieves with each of whom I met and conversed, as by accident, on a single forenoon. They will serve to illustrate several points touched upon in this paper. I give the statements in their own words, as taken down in reply to my questions.

No. 1. A carpenter. An exceedingly intelligent-looking man aged thirty-one. Went to Sunday-school from his childhood; to a day-school until he was sixteen, and afterwards attended an evening school for two years. Was led astray by bad company. One day a man "treated" him at a public-house, and then proposed to him to venture out with him "*on the cross.*" They got into a house by breaking open the area door, and carried away wearing apparel, which they pawned, and a quantity of plated goods and silver, which they sold for £4 10s. Tried again in a few weeks with equal success. Was ultimately taken in the act of cutting through the brick wall of a jeweller's shop, convicted, and imprisoned for two years. Was *unutterably wretched*. It was almost a relief to be captured and placed under restraint. No honest man can conceive the misery of a life of crime. Thanks God that he ever heard of Mr. Jackson &c.

No. 2. Age not known, but probably 35. A native of Maidstone. Was left an orphan. Began to steal when about 15 or 17. Was apprenticed to a tailor, but ran away. Was sent to Boys' Refuge in Whitechapel, but before the expiration of a month ran away. Went begging, but did not get enough to live upon. One day, when walking through the streets in a half-starving condition, did not seem to care what became of him, and smashed the pane of a pawnbroker's window to snatch some jewellery. Was caught and sent to prison. When released thought, "Well, I've lost my character, so must steal to get a bit of bread." Gave himself up to shoplifting as his way of getting a living. Used to look carefully through the window to see if the shopkeeper was out of the way, then step in as softly as he could, and seize the first thing he came to. Sometimes so confused that he did not know what he was doing. Always nervous and miserable. Often envied the happiness of a dog; and when he saw sheep feeding used to think, "They so happy!" Has been imprisoned twelve times. Released the last time July 27, and is resolved by God's grace to die rather than steal again. When he came out

of prison had a sherbet-can given him. Sold sherbet in the streets, and made a few shillings; then bought a bushel of pears, which he sold in White-chapel and Bishopsgate-street. Crept one Sunday into church and was encouraged to hope in the mercy of God. Has no doubt that God has forgiven all his crimes and sins, but can never forgive himself.

No. 3. Age 23. Went to Sunday-school for years. Was potman in a public-house. Stole cigars, and lost his situation. Was engaged as a waiter in a betting-house. Was discharged again for dishonesty; then went to live in a lodging-house in Brick-lane. Late master refused to recommend him elsewhere; took to walk about the docks, but could get nothing to do, and was literally starving. Met with a man who asked him to go out with him at night. Knew his meaning, and consented. Stole a perambulator out of a yard, and sold it for 6s. 6d. Then took to thieving as his trade. Became quite an adept at stealing wet clothes off clothes-lines. Could get almost any quantity of clothes. Frequently made 10s. or 12s. a-day. Had no difficulty in disposing of any thing. Did not know where receivers of stolen goods lived; but used to go to some lodging-house and inquire for the "Fence," who was immediately brought, and would buy anything at what was considered about half its value. Did also a great deal of "snatching," that is, stealing watches and chains off the person wearing them in the streets. But O the misery! *Used often to pray to God that something might happen to prevent him.* Would have welcomed anything to stop him. Broke into a house with a "pal;" were both caught and imprisoned. On his release heard of Mr. Jackson; came to his meetings, and humbly trusts that God has forgiven him.

This young man is now at a distance in the country. In a letter just received by the missionary to whom he ascribes his conversion, he says: "I cannot thank you enough for your kindness, but I know and feel that there is a great God above who has put it into your heart to do what you have done for me, whose sins have been as the sands on the sea-shore for multitude. I thank God for his great mercy in bringing me, through you, to seek my Saviour Jesus Christ."

These cases, so far as they indicate a readiness to forsake evil practices, may be taken as fair samples of the state of thousands. There are no doubt some desperadoes who seem to be beyond the reach of all effort to save them. But the masses of criminals are weary and oppressed; eager to grasp any hand held out for their rescue. Is the Church of Christ rightly discharging its obligations in reference to them?—*Christian Work in London.* By the Rev. Frederick W. Briggs.—*London Recorder.*

BEAUTIES OF BIBLE READING.

If we need high illustration, not only of the power of natural objects to adorn language and gratify taste, but proof that here we find the highest conceivable beauty, we would appeal at once to the Bible. Those most opposed to its teachings have acknowledged the beauty of its language, and this is due mainly to the exquisite use of natural objects for illustration. It does, indeed, draw from every field. But when the emotional nature is appealed to, the reference is at once to natural objects, and throughout all its books the stars, and flowers, and gems are prominent as illustrations of the beauties of religion and the glories of the church. "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad of them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose." "The mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the brier shall come up the fir-tree, and instead of the thorn shall come up the myrtle." "The power and beauty of the same objects appear in the Saviour's teaching. The fig and the olive, the sparrow and the lily of the field, give peculiar force and beauty to the great truths they are used to illus-

trate. The Bible throughout is remarkable in this respect. It is a collection of books written by authors far removed from each other in time, place and mental culture, but, throughout the whole, nature is exhibited as a revelation of God. Its beauty and sublimity are appealed to arouse the emotions, and to reach moral and religious nature. No language can be written that so perfectly sets forth the grand and terrible in nature and its forces, as we hear when God answers Job out of the whirlwind. No higher appreciation of the beautiful, and of God as the author of beauty, was ever expressed than when our Saviour said of the lilies of the field, "I say unto you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these, and then adds, "If God so clothes the grass of the field," ascribing the element of beauty in every leaf and opening hue to the Creator's skill and power.—*Prof. Chudbourne.*

PRAYER.

Tennyson says :—

"More things are wrought by prayer
Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice
Rise, like a fountain, for me, night and day ;
For what are men better than sheep or goats,
That nourish a blind life within the brain,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer,
Both for themselves and those that call them friend ?
For so the whole round earth is every way
Bound, by gold chains, about the feet of God."

THE BIBLE IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The friends of the Bible in Cincinnati are rejoicing over a victory. At the late municipal elections the great question was whether the Bible should be read in the public schools, and a School Board has been elected in favour of the Bible.

Bible Society Recorder.

TORONTO, 15TH MARCH, 1871.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Upper Canada Bible Society will be held (D. V.) on Wednesday, the 3rd day of May, in the Wesleyan Church, Richmond street, Toronto. Chair to be taken at 7:30 p.m., PRECISELY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

SECRETARIES, Treasurers and Depositories of Branches, are respectfully reminded that the accounts of the Society are made up on the 31st of the present month, with which closes our current Bible Society year. All remittances, in order to their insertion in the next annual report, should be forwarded with the least possible delay.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY RECORDER AND THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The following information was given in the last number of the RECORDER ; but as we were unable to fill all the orders received for the January number, and as it is very desirable to remove any misconception which may possibly still exist on the subject, we again insert it :—

As some misapprehension exists in reference to the Annual Report of our Society, we re-insert the information on the subject which was published in the first number of the Recorder. In this you read : “ *The Annual Report* of the Board shall be inserted in a double number of the journal, and its publication in its present form discontinued.” Our aim has been to combine, as far as practicable, the fullest intelligence required in a report, with such periodical items as a Bi-monthly could furnish, and as were in harmony with the grand aims of a Bible Society. When we become, under the Divine blessing, stronger in position, and richer in resources, we may more closely imitate the Parent Society in publishing not only an Annual Report in a separate form, but also a Monthly instead of a Bi-monthly Recorder. The Board are assured, from the reception which the first volume has received, that they have acted judiciously in its publication.

The prospect for the present year is still more hopeful. Several Branches have ordered additional numbers for the year commencing January, 1871. Terms for additional numbers will be found on the last page.

The accompanying Draft of Report, adopted by the Committee appointed to consider the question of the publication of a *Bible Society Recorder*, was submitted to the Board of Directors at its Quarterly meeting, October 12th, 1869, and unanimously approved. It fully and distinctly presents the objects contemplated in its dissemination :—

Draft Report of the Sub-Committee appointed to consider the subject of the publication of a Bible Society Recorder.

1. That a *Bible Society Recorder* for Upper Canada shall be issued every second month, under the authority of the Board of Directors, and that the Secretary, the Rev. John Genley, be editor of the Recorder.

2. That this journal shall contain a summary of intelligence relating to the operations of the Bible Society in this Province, as well as in other parts of British America, the Mother Country and elsewhere ; extracts from the reports of auxiliaries, branches, agents and colporteurs ; notices and circulars issued by the Board, the Secretaries or the Agents ; acknowledgments of remittances from branches, &c., and such items of general information, in regard to the promotion of Bible work throughout the world, as may be of interest to the subscribers to the society. *The Annual Report of the Board* shall be inserted in a double number of the journal, and its publication in its present form discontinued.

3. That the tender of Messrs. Hunter, Rose & Co. for printing 5,000 copies of the *Bible Society Recorder* be accepted, and that the Secretaries take the necessary steps to have the journal issued as soon as possible, under the following regulations, viz :

- (1) A copy shall be sent, gratuitously, to every officer and member of the Board of Directors, and of the London and Kingston auxiliaries.
- (2) That three copies shall be sent to the parent and kindred societies in England, the United States and Canada; and copies to each of the branches—the proportion to be determined by the total amount of the subscription to the Society by each of the branches.

INCREASE IN THE CIRCULATION OF THE "RECORDER."

In accordance with the TERMS for additional copies, as found on our LAST PAGE, many Branches have favored us with orders. We printed in January, 1870, five thousand; in January, 1871, six thousand. We find, however, that we will be under the necessity of publishing seven thousand of the present number. We are thankful for this encouragement, and hope that its distribution may fully accomplish the end contemplated in its origin. Any more orders, which will be cordially welcomed, should be sent in immediately.

THE MAY NUMBER OF THE "RECORDER."

The "double number"—48 pages—will contain the annual report, the report of speeches delivered at the annual meeting, &c., &c. Some Branches last year ordered additional copies of this number ONLY. Such orders should be mailed us in due time, as we do not wish to print in excess of the demand. The May RECORDER will contain "a summary of receipts from Branches and Auxiliaries;" we will also commence the *Lists of Subscribers*, and if all the lists are furnished in season, we will endeavour to include all in this number. The summary of last year's receipts did not appear until January, 1871. The cause of this apparent remissness was the opinion that it was hardly necessary to present such summary after each remittance had been duly acknowledged in the number of the RECORDER first published after it was received. But our judgment favored the repetition. We are convinced it will give satisfaction, although some may think there is too much space occupied with mere figures.

REPORTS FROM BRANCHES.

We are in receipt of reports from the Brantford, Elora, and Malton Branches. Brantford yet abounds in her gifts. The free contributions from Brantford this year are eleven hundred dollars. To the U. C. B. Society \$100; to the Parent Society \$1,000.

As we were going to press a copy of the Report of the St. Mary's Branch was received, giving details of a most interesting Anniversary Meeting.

MONTREAL BIBLE SOCIETY AND Y. M. C. ASSOCIATION.

We have much pleasure in learning that the members of the Young Men's Christian Association of Montreal are successfully directing their energies, and appropriating a portion of their resources, for the erection of suitable buildings in Montreal for the use of their Society. They have secured one of the most eligible sites in the city (corner of Radagonde and Craig streets) for this purpose. "Suitable and improved plans have been gratuitously furnished by a generous city architect, and the work is to commence very soon." The sum required for the completion of the undertaking is \$50,000, of which two-thirds have been already procured. They have, with most commendable generosity, resolved to set apart a portion of their new edifice for the use of the Montreal Bible Society; and have further decided that, in the possible event of their Association at time any becoming extinct, the building shall become the property of the Bible Society,—in view of which the Montreal Bible Society has recently become incorporated. Montreal presents us with a pattern worthy of imitation, in the magnificence of her public buildings. The new edifice of the Young Men's Christian Association will doubtless be an additional ornament to the Eastern Metropolis. *Is there nothing suggestive in this act of our friends in Montreal?*

MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

The Meeting for the month of February was held in the Board Room, on Tuesday evening the 14th ult., at 7-30 o'clock; John McBean, Esq., Director, in the chair. After the reading of the 23rd Psalm, and prayer by the Secretary, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Encouraging reports were received from the Rev. Messrs. Manly, Warden and the Secretary. The report of a sub-committee on Ward Bible Meetings in the City, was presented by Dr. Geikie and adopted. *The Meeting* for the present month was held on the 14th inst., commencing at the usual hour. The Secretary read part of the 119th Psalm, and engaged in prayer. Reports of a most gratifying kind were received from the Revds. Messrs. Caulfield, Manly, Ball, Warden, and the Secretary. Mr. Gemley presented at this, as well as at the previous meeting, a Schedule of Reports of the labors of the Colporteurs, which showed that these toiling servants of the Society are not deterred by bad roads or cold weather from persevering in their useful work. One of the Colporteurs, Mr Finlayson, who is engaged under the direction of the Kingston Auxiliary, has been quite sick during the past month. It was decided that the next Annual Meeting should be held on Wednesday the 3rd of May, and that the Secretaries request the use of the Wesleyan Church, Richmond Street, for that occasion. We have much pleasure in stating that the Trustees have cordially granted the use of this Church for the Anniversary. It was also resolved that the Secretaries of the Society request the ministers of the different Churches in the City, and in

Yorkville, to direct the attention of their respective Congregations to some subject connected with the Bible Society, on the Sabbath prior to the holding of the Annual Meeting. The Secretaries were desired to act in co-operation with the Secretaries of the Tract Society in endeavouring to procure reduced fare tickets for persons intending to be present from a distance at the services of the respective Societies. The meeting closed with prayer by the Rev. S. Rose.

Remittances.

RECEIPTS AT THE BIBLE HOUSE, TORONTO, FROM AUXILIARY AND BRANCH SOCIETIES, FROM 1ST JAN. TO 28TH FEB., 1871.

	On purchase account.	Free to U. C. B. Society.	Free to B. & F. B. S.		Free to Sundries.
			General.	French and German Soldiers.	
<i>January.</i>	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Paris Branch		70 00	70 00		(1) 70 00
Brooklin "	17 50				
Lynedoch "	19 22	21 00			
Minden "	6 87				
Peterboro' "		100 00	100 00		
Guelph "		20 00	20 00		
Hampton "	17 19	23 02			
Bowmanville Branch.....	56 76	56 00	56 00		(1) 20 00 (2) 20 00
Zion "		13 96	13 95		
Oshawa "		19 18	19 18	(3) 19 17	
Whitby "	18 00	50 00	50 00	19 17	
Dunbarton "		26 55		26 55	
Arthur "	4 74				
Hawksville "	14 41				
Mono Mills "	8 48				
Claremont "	(4) 6 00	27 09	27 08	27 08	
Columbus "	26 42	8 37	8 38	8 38	
Brooklin "		13 00		13 00	
Parry Sound "	30 22	5 16			
Brantford "	81 81				
Galt "		110 00	200 00		
Hamilton "	319 29				
Orangeville "	40 00				
London Auxiliary :					
Mosa Branch		20 00	40 00	1 63	
Strathburn Branch.....		15 00	30 00		
Wardsville "		12 50	25 00	2 76	
Widder "		20 00	35 00	5 16	
Forest "		20 00	30 00	3 75	
North Plympton Branch...		10 00	16 00	3 22	
Sarnia "		10 00	100 00		
Corunna "		10 00	20 00	2 00	
Mooretown "		10 69			
Sutherland's Corners.....				2 80	
Glencoe				0 80	
Thamesville Branch		15 00		3 62	
Petrolia "		35 00	75 00	15 00	
Wyoming "		10 50	20 90	2 74	
Warwick "		10 00	20 00	10 10	
Ailsa Craig "		8 79	16 00		

	On purchase account.	Free to U. C. B. Society.	Free to B. & F. B. S.		Free to Sundries.
			General.	French and German Soldiers.	
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
<i>January—Continued.</i>					
E. McGillivray Branch.....		5 00	10 00		
Parkhill		10 00	30 00		
N. W. London "		32 26	32 27		
Appin		20 00	40 00	(5) 20 00	
Dorchester Station.....			7 58		
E. Westminster Branch.....		20 00	50 00		
Belmont		5 00	10 00		
Watford		9 23	18 00	4 08	
Brooke		10 00		1 05	
Euphemia		10 00			
Bothwell		12 50	25 00	6 77	
Florence		10 00	14 26	5 00	
Ridgetown		20 00	20 00	3 00	
Dover				1 03	
Chatham		50 00	100 00	8 22	
Amherstburg		10 00	15 00	3 03	
Windsor		25 00	50 00	5 00	
Cashmere				1 42	
Dresden Branch				3 50	
Dungannon	13 32				
Streetsville	24 45	26 40			
Cooksville		17 02			
Nelson (Mid. Road) Branch...	(4) 1 56	11 27	11 27	(5) 11 26	
Port Rowan	72 00				
St. Williams		10 75			
Port Dover	9 43	36 25			
Vittoria	19 60	2 50			
do (P. W. Rapelje, Esq.)		20 00			
Waterford Branch	41 50				
Simcoe	60 09	30 00	30 00		
<i>February.</i>					
Preston Branch	36 97				
Elimville	22 75				
Bluevale	7 00				
West Darlington Branch.....		13 28		13 28	
Orono		20 22		20 21	
Newtonville	12 90	20 00		10 00	
Newcastle	47 67	36 06		36 00	
Cobourg	117 94	50 00		50 00	
			(5) 20 00	(6) 25 00	
Belleville	125 32	100 00		50 00	
Cambray		12 65			
Copetown			20 00		
Waterford	24 00				
Exeter	38 56				
Ingersoll	31 00				
Lloydtown	(4) 1 95	25 92	25 92		
Schomberg	(4) 1 56	16 81	16 81		
Bolton	20 00	30 00			
Coldsprings		13 25	13 25	(6) 13 24	
Baltimore		20 00	40 00		
Colborne		13 34	(6) 13 33	13 33	
Fonthill	8 39	32 85			
Crediton	19 00				
Malton	(4) 1 56	20 00	20 00		
Otterville	34 59	10 00			
Beverley		50 68	50 68		
Aurora		20 00	40 00		
Minesing		5 75			

	On purchase account.	Free to U. C. B. Society.	Free to B. & F. B. S.		Free to Sundries.
			General.	French and German Soldiers.	
<i>February—Continued.</i>	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
North Pelham		10 00			
South Etobicoke	(4) 2 00	33 52	33 52		
North Etobicoke			60 70		
Columbus		3 50	3 50	3 50	
Nassagaweya		20 00	20 00		(7) 5 00
Cheltenham	35 00		28 00		(8) 28 00
Campbell's Cross	6 54	22 00	22 00	(5) 22 00	
Cæsar's		20 00	20 00		
Woodbridge and Pine Grove Branch		20 00		(5) 24 70	(9) 20 00
Egmondville Branch		5 00	10 00		(9) 5 00
Brucefield	33 68	22 41	32 00		
Dungannon		10 00	10 00	1 25	
Lucknow	26 00			2 85	
St. Helens	0 41	6 09	12 18	3 00	(9) 6 09
Manchester		20 00	30 00		(9) 9 17
Clinton	66 90		17 44	5 75	
Hullett	22 36	15 00	30 00	3 00	
Blythe		20 00	20 00	3 00	(1) 10 00
Wingham	6 18			1 07	
Bluevale		2 58	2 59	4 00	
Fordwich	15 07			0 97	
Newbridge				0 92	
Lakelet	10 69	2 50	2 50	0 69	
Gorrie	18 48	13 98	13 97	3 33	(10) 20 00
Trowbridge	6 01			1 09	
Listowell	57 00			5 94	
Eramosa		45 00	50 00		
Arthur	23 00				
Fergus		80 00	100 00		
Elora		70 00	100 00		(1) 35 00
Garafraxa		33 32			
Berlin		25 00	25 00		
Winterbourne		20 00	20 00		
Erin	66 67				
Orangeville	11 81				

(1) For Montreal Auxiliary (2) For Freedmen, U.S. (3) For Italy. (4) For "Recorders." (5) For Spain. (6) For Rome. (7) For the Blind. (8) For Quebec Auxiliary. (9) For French Canadian Mission. (10) For Manitoba.

DONATIONS TO THE LONDON AUXILIARY, RECEIVED BY THE TREASURER OF THAT SOCIETY, JANUARY, 1871.

Mosa Branch	\$20 00	N. W. London Branch	\$32 26
Strathburn Branch	22 86	Appin	20 00
Wardsville	12 50	Komoka	6 69
Widder	16 88	E. Westminster	25 00
Forest	18 43	Belmont	5 00
North Plympton Branch	9 00	Watford	9 23
Sarnia	10 00	Brooke	8 00
Corunna	10 00	Euphemia	7 95
Thamesville	11 40	Bothwell	12 50
Petrolia	25 00	Florence	10 00
Wyoming	10 50	Ridgetown	20 00
Warwick	5 00	Chatham	50 00
Ailsa Craig	8 78	Amherstburg	10 00
E. McGillivray	5 00	Windsor	25 00
Parkhill	10 00		

Upper Canada Bible Society Communications.

1. All Communications relating to the *Bible Recorder* to be addressed to "The Rev. JOHN GEMLEY, Bible House, Toronto."

2. All Reports, Letters and other communications, from Branches, Agents, Colporteurs, and other parties, relating to the Bible Society work, and designed for the Board of Directors or for the Secretaries, to be addressed to "The Secretaries of the Upper Canada Bible Society, Toronto."

3. All orders for Bibles and Testaments, from Branches, etc., and all remittances on Depository Purchase Account, to be sent to "Mr. JOHN YOUNG, Bible Society Depository, Toronto." Money letters should be registered.

* * Parties desirous of communicating with the Bible Society, Toronto, on any of the matters indicated above, will greatly oblige the Secretaries by adhering to the foregoing regulations. Separate communications relating to any of the three subjects named, can, when necessary, be enclosed in one envelope, as it will be a great convenience to the Secretaries not to have the matters classified above, mixed together in one communication. They should be kept quite separate.

Stated Meetings of the Board of Directors.—Representation of Auxiliaries and Branches.

Quarterly and other Meetings of the Board. The Board of Directors shall meet for the transaction of business once in each quarter, and at any other time when called together by the Secretaries, or by any three of the Directors.

Quarterly Meetings of the Board shall be held on the second Tuesday of January, April, July, and October, of each year, at 7.30 o'clock P.M. Monthly Meetings are held on the second Tuesday in each month, at the same hour.

Appointment of Agents. No Travelling Agent of the Society, shall be appointed by the Board, except at one of these Quarterly Meetings.

Representation of Local Branches at the Board.—The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Agents of each Auxiliary and Branch in connection with the Upper Canada Bible Society shall be *ex-officio* Members of the Board of Directors, at Toronto; and as such, shall have the right to attend all the Meetings of the Board.

GRANTS TO SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

That in all applications for grants of Bibles to Sunday Schools, the applicant be requested to furnish the Secretaries with an account of the state of the School; the number of Scholars and Teachers; the amount of Funds at the disposal of the Managers; who are its officers; and why it is necessary to make such application; all which should in every case be certified by a Minister of the Gospel, or some other person of known respectability. And further, this Board recommends that the Secretaries make grants in future only to destitute settlements; reporting the same to the next Meeting of the Board of Directors.

PRICE OF THE "RECORDER."

Some of the Branches having expressed a desire to obtain a larger number of *Recorders* than those already forwarded to them, the Board recommend that a small price be paid by each Branch for any additional supply they may be pleased to order, viz: Single copies, 20 cts.; ten copies, to one address, \$1.50; over ten and under fifty copies, \$13.00 per 100; any quantity over 50 copies, \$12 per 100; in each case including postage.