

LETTER FROM THE REV. J. THOMSON, AGENT OF THE PARENT SOCIETY,  
TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE MONTREAL BIBLE SOCIETY.

*Montreal, 30th December, 1840.*

My dear Friends and Fellow-labourers in the Circulation of the Holy Scriptures,—Agreeably to your wish expressed to me at your Committee Meeting held on the 1st instant, I sit down to give you a sketch of my Bible Society movements during the last summer in the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward's Island.

I arrived in the city of St. John, the capital of New Brunswick, on the 1st day of June. Before I landed from the Steamboat which conducted me from Boston, I had a sensible proof that the great work in which you are so worthily labouring here is felt also as a great object by many in New Brunswick, and by persons distinguished for their standing in the community in its different departments. I was gratified on board by a deputation appointed by the New Brunswick Bible Society to welcome me on arriving in the Province. This unexpected salutation on anchoring in a place new to me, was greatly encouraging in respect to the object of my visitation; and this favourable indication was not belied by subsequent circumstances during my stay in that city and Province.

In a few days after my landing, through previous notices and arrangements, a public meeting was held of the New Brunswick Bible Society, at which were present *all* the Ministers of each denomination in that place, and a good assemblage of all classes of the community. From all I could perceive at this meeting, and from conversations afterwards with those who attended it, I was convinced that the Bible Society cause in that city and Province has obtained a firm hold in the minds of a great many, and to some extent over the whole community.

After thus meeting the Bible Society of that place in public, and after meeting the Committee of the same on different occasions, I went up the River St. John to Fredericton. As soon as the steamboat closed into the wharf, the President of the Bible Society there, came on board and kindly took me to his house, where I remained during my stay in the city.

A public meeting of this Society was held, which was well attended, and meetings also of the Committee were held for making arrangements for fresh work and additional exertions in the Bible cause. A good deal has been done by this Society, and a large field of operation still lies before them, which they are desirous of entering upon with zeal. His Excellency, Sir JOHN HARVEY, the Lieutenant-Governor, patronises this Society, as he does also the New Brunswick Society at St. John; and Lady HARVEY patronises the Ladies' Branch.

After returning to St. John, I passed over to Nova Scotia, where I spent some months; and in September I again entered the Province of New Brunswick at Miramichi. From thence I proceeded northward to Bathurst, on the Bay of Chaleur. In this place, in full sight of Canada, which lies on the other side of the Bay, an Auxiliary Bible Society was formed; thus extending Bible Society operations to the full extremity of the Province northward; and thus also calling upon the Lower Canada Bible friends there to meet them by the formation of a similar institution at Gaspé, on the other side of the estuary. Journeying southward I passed through, and held meetings at, several places, till I came to St. John, where the Anniversary of the New Brunswick Bible Society was held. It was numerously attended, and exhibited a high state of feeling in favour of the Bible cause,