

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

During the last twelve months the world has been hearing of wars, rumours of wars, and famines in divers places. These things should stir up Christians to broader benevolence and more earnest efforts in promoting peace. "Blessed is that servant whom His Lord when He cometh shall find so doing." For some time our whole nation has been fearing that British interests in the East were imperilled, and our statesmen have differed as to the best way to defend those interests. But whatever may be the right course for England to take in the present crisis, Christians cannot doubt that British interests will be best promoted by Britain fulfilling the mission God has given her. The Directors of the Upper Canada Bible Society believe that the most important part of that mission is to give to all nations of the world that blessed Book, which has done so much for her own people. It is at this time their duty and privilege to report what this part of the British Empire has done during the year to help on this great work.

It is with mingled feelings that the Directors present this their annual report. They desire to be thankful for the preserving care of our Heavenly Father over the Society's Agents and Colporteurs, and for the many mercies vouchsafed to themselves and other officers and friends of the Society, while they regret to record the loss of one of the Society's most useful Directors. The late Mr. John McBean had been a member of the Board for several years, and not only was he very regular in his attendance, but his practical experience was at times of great service. The Society has also lost several old and valued friends in the country, such as the late Rev. H. C. Cooper of Etobicoke, and Mr. McAnnany of Belleville. They rejoice at the peace and plenty enjoyed in our own land, yet cannot but feel sad when they think that so many of our fellow-creatures in other parts of the world have been starving and suffering the horrors of war. They feel some disappointment that the expected revival of business has not taken place, and that the total income of the Society has fallen short of that received in the previous year, but they think there is good cause to congratulate the members of the Society that, notwithstanding the activity of denominational schemes and the consequent demands on the members of the different churches, united effort to scatter the good seed of the Word still commends itself to them, and this Society retains a chief place in their affections. The abundant harvest that cheered the husbandman led the Board of Directors to anticipate an increase in the resources of the Society, and up to the end of February the income was largely in advance of the receipts in the corresponding period of the preceding year. But in March so much less was received that the total income fell short \$708, being \$31,335 compared with \$32,043. It is very encouraging however to note that this difference is more than accounted for in bequests during the previous year, and