

THE FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MISSIONARY SOCIETY,

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Bible Christian Conference in Canada,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1857.

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"After that, in the wisdom of God, the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God  
by the foolishness of Preaching to save them that believe."—1 Cor. 1: 21.  
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In the year 1831, at the request of some members of the Bible Christian Church, who had emigrated thither from England, the English Conference sent their first Missionary to Canada. The entire Missionary receipts of the Parent Society for that year did not amount to £105 sterling. At this time there were nine Home Mission Stations, and a debt on the Society of above £66. Under these circumstances, the sending of two Missionaries to America,—one to Prince Edward Island, and the other to this Province, must be regarded as a bold act on the part of the officers of the Society. Two years after this, Bro. J. H. Eynon was stationed in Canada, and 30 persons only are reported as belonging to the Bible Christian Church in the Province. Truly this was a day of small things, but He who "hath chosen weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty," deigned to bless the means employed, and from that time till now, the Bible Christian cause in Canada has been growing and spreading.

The affairs of this Society continued under the direction of the Conference and Missionary Committee in England, until the Conference of 1854, when arrangements were made for the Connexion in Canada to manage their own affairs, and hold a separate Conference. This alteration took place at the request of the friends in Canada; not that they had any desire to separate from the Home Connexion—for this never entered their thoughts; but from circumstances arising out of the growing interests of the Connexion in this country, which rendered it very inconvenient, not to say inconsistent with the liberal church polity of the Connexion, for so large a portion of its ministers and members to be entirely subject to foreign legislation.

This denomination in Canada, has now 2589 persons in churches, 60 Chapels, and the Divine goodness has been manifested.

Respecting the contributions received:

Peterboro'.—year. Eighteen causes, the number died happy. openings presented another preacher.

Dummer is in Line Chapel has the burying ground.

Huntingdon.—the church. Meetings the two last

Hungerford.—year, and two hundred local preachers and us a gracious revival.

Seymour.—and have taken persons have churches two members have been partial erection of another spot, the lumber season; our quarterly meeting opened, and the us."

Port Perry is until we have a worked to great

Mariposa.—we should be, and we, perhaps, could and three have which, we hope, extra efforts to be expecting that, us, and make use the time. Amen

Pickering and do not make up