

FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

In the midst of great excitement among the nations, depression in commercial circles, low prices for agricultural products, and a winter of more than ordinary severity, it is matter for thanksgiving to God that the affairs of the Upper Canada Bible Society have gone steadily on, and that our report, at the close of another year, is, on the whole, satisfactory as well as progressive.

During the year the Society has been called to mourn the loss of two of its Vice-Presidents, Professor George Buckland, and the Rev. Dr. Fuller, Bishop of Niagara. Three of its Directors, Samuel Rogers, Esq., F. A. Ball, Esq., and Colonel Moffatt, have also been removed by death, all of them highly valued members of the Board, and active workers in the Bible cause to the very last. More extended notices of these lamented friends of the Society will be found in recent issues of our quarterly Bible Society Recorder.

We cannot omit reference in this place to the recent death of James Leslie, Esq., who, although not of late years a Director, was a life-member, warm friend, and liberal supporter of the Upper Canada Bible Society. He was the last surviving member of the original Board of Directors of our Society, then called the York Auxiliary Bible Society, when it was originally formed in the town of York, now the city of Toronto, fifty-five years ago.

Reference should also be made to the sudden death, by accident, of the Rev. Charles E. B. Reed, Corresponding Secretary of the Parent Society, last summer, during a visit to Switzerland. All these warnings speak loudly to us, saying, "Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

It is with special regret that the Board of Directors has to record the resignation, at its last meeting, of its Secretary, Robert Baldwin, Esq. Mr. Baldwin has long been a friend of the Society, was for many years a Director, and for more than ten years its permanent Secretary. Efficient, painstaking and conciliatory, with a wonderful faculty, especially in correspondence, for using the right word in the right place, his services so judiciously rendered will be greatly missed. Through failing health he has been constrained to tender his resignation, which the Board only accepted under the most urgent pressure, still hoping however, that he may be spared to give the benefit of his presence and counsel for a long time to come.

The income of the Society for the past year, though not equal to that of some previous years, is yet very satisfactory, seeing that any slight falling off