

Your Committee very much regret having to report, that, owing to the almost total failure of the wheat crop of the past year, and the consequent scarcity of money in this section of the country, the free contributions to your Society have fallen far below what we anticipated at our last Anniversary—only amounting to \$11 45.

The sales at our Depository only amount to \$3.

However, we trust in Providence for a return of better times, and hope to be able to report (if spared), at our next Anniversary, an increase of contributions in aid of the Bible cause, which we consider to be an institution of no secondary importance; and, being catholic in its principles, recommends itself to the benevolence and liberality of Protestants of all denominations.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HUGH BREAKENRIDGE, Secretary.

LANSDOWN, May 22nd, 1863.

REPORT OF THE ENGLISH RIVER BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY.

The institution in whose behalf we are met this evening has for its object the diffusion of the Word of God throughout the world—the spread of these great principles of truth which alone, through the power and demonstration of the Divine Spirit, can reclaim this dark and sinful world.

It is true that a Branch so very limited in its operations as ours, cannot be expected to have many facts of a very stirring or interesting nature. Still, even in its most limited operations, the Bible Society must carry a deep interest to the heart of every true Christian. Its work is Divinely appointed, and has the promised blessing of Heaven to accompany it. The field is the world. Our efforts are not circumscribed to our own immediate vicinity, but stretch forth on all sides, until they reach the remotest parts of the earth. The work of Bible distribution, as contemplated and carried out by the British and Foreign Bible Society, *is one work* in every clime; and just as the vast ocean depends upon the rivers and streamlets which ceaselessly flow on to supply it, so does the Parent Society look to its Branches all over the earth for assistance in this great and glorious work. For encouragement, let us look at the enlarged opportunities there are now for Bible circulation, as compared with the past; and we must say: "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes." * *

In looking over the operations of the past year, your Committee are happy in being able to report that the contributions to the Society are larger than on any previous year since it has existed. But this, they feel, is in a great measure due to the energy and untiring devotion of the ladies who canvassed the various districts, and to whom your Committee would hereby record their grateful thanks. The total of the amounts, as respectively collected by them, we give as follows:—

Collected by Misses M'Kell and Carson.....	\$8.52½
" " Misses Orr and McFarlane.....	2.50
" " Misses Laing and Galbraith.....	2.82½
" " Misses Ross and Robb.....	4.95