

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

"Without the Bible it is impossible to establish the laity in the truth." So said the great Tyndal, who determined, therefore, that if God gave him life, every ploughboy in England should know the Scriptures. When the enemies of the truth strangled and burned that holy man at Vilvorde, they thought they had put an end to his fruitful life on earth. But is not God continuing and expanding that life in the Bible Societies of to-day, whose great aim and object is to translate God's Word into every language, and to place it not only in every house but in every hand and in every heart among the millions of this great world of ours, for whom Christ, the Light of Life, came down from Heaven. To report to the members of the Upper Canada Bible Society what has been done during the past year in thus diffusing the light is, at this time, the duty and the privilege of its Directors. They will, however, only attempt to give a short but faithful account of their own stewardship in the Society's field, and a very brief sketch of the world-wide work of our great Parent and kindred Societies.

Before speaking of the operations of our Society, the Directors cannot but refer to the loss it has sustained in the death of the late Rev. Dr. Jennings, who had been one of its Vice-Presidents for twenty-seven years. From the beginning of his residence in this country he was always a warm advocate of the Bible Society. He is now "with Christ, which is far better," but his memory will long continue among those who remain here, as that of one of the oldest and truest friends of the cause.

The number of copies of the Scriptures issued by the Society within the last twelve months is 37,971, being 2,260 more than in the previous year.

The total income received during the twelve months is apparently \$573 98 less than that of last year, but is in reality \$403 79 greater. Although it is still far short of what it was in the late years of prosperity, the Directors think that when the continued commercial depression is considered, cause will be seen in this little increase for thankfulness to God and congratulation to the members of the Society. The apparent decrease in the income is owing to the discontinuance, at the