

withdrew from all connection with it. I am not now going to allude further to the reasons which induced the Bishop to give up his connection with the Society, except to say that all who were acquainted with him, knew well that he invariably acted from strong convictions of what he believed to be his duty.

When, however, on the death of the late Honorable Robert Baldwin, who for so many years filled the chair which I now occupy, the Society did me the honor to offer me the presidency, I mentioned the subject to the Bishop, and in the conversation which ensued, he told me, that although he had many years ago ceased to be connected with the Bible Society, because he had not been able to see his way clearly through difficulties attending his own position in reference to it, he nevertheless thought, that the office having been offered to me I ought to accept it, as opening a door to much usefulness in the service of God, and that it would give him (the Bishop) great pleasure to see me filling it. Well my friends, I did accept the office, and I thank God that the opportunity was afforded me, and I unhesitatingly declare, that there is no position of trust or responsibility which I have ever been called upon to fill, that I esteem a greater honor, than standing before you here this evening as President of the Upper Canada Bible Society.

The Annual Report was then read by the Rev. John Gemley, one of the Secretaries.

THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE U. C. BIBLE SOCIETY.

On this very day, when we are privileged to meet under such favourable auspices to celebrate the Thirtieth Anniversary of the U. C. B. Society, the venerable Parent Society has met to acknowledge the goodness of God in permitting it to chronicle the 66th year of its marvellous and divinely-guided history.

The B. & F. B. Society, according to announcement, was to celebrate today its anniversary, to be presided over by that distinguished christian nobleman, Lord Shaftesbury; and our Canadian Society is favoured by the presence and presidency of one of her christian senators.

In the following exclamation of Israel's regal prophet, we find a sentiment becoming the occasion of our present assembling: "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy loving kindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy *Word* above all thy name." If, by David such language was appropriate, how much more by us upon whom God has bestowed the clearer light of a fuller and more perfect revelation. To aid in the world-wide dissemination of this great gift of our Heavenly Father is the object of our meeting in this christian sanctuary.

In the marvellous progress of the Parent Society—in its struggles and in its successes—no former period has been characterized by such signal indications of an over-ruling Providence, as those which have distinguished her more recent operations. As an auxiliary of that Society, we rejoice in her magnificent moral victories.