

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

The period has now arrived, when it becomes the duty of the Directors of the Upper Canada Bible Society to submit a Report of their proceedings for the year, and of the various operations which have been carried on, with a view to the advancement of the great object for which the Society has been organized, viz., the circulation of God's blessed Word. In looking back upon the past year, we feel that we have abundant cause to record our gratitude to the Father of lights, for the blessing with which He has condescended to crown our humble labours, and that it well becomes us to erect another Ebenezer, for, in truth, "hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Within our own immediate field the work has been advancing with a rapidity even greater than that of former years. In the far wider field occupied by the Parent Society—a field whose limits are almost commensurate with those of the globe itself—the Bible has been gaining fresh triumphs, taking possession of new ground, and diffusing through many nations and tribes the blessings which are peculiar to itself. While, at the same time, we regard the events which are being developed in the course of divine Providence, as all tending to open new doors for the Bible, preparing the way for future victories, and hastening on the blessed day, when old systems of error, which have been for ages formidable barriers in the way of the Bible, shall have crumbled down; when Popery and Mahometanism shall have disappeared; and when the idols of the nations shall be utterly abolished.

When the last Report was presented, several of the nations of the earth were engaged in a mighty conflict. The world looked on in dread suspense. Thanks be to God, the suspense is over; the conflict is ended; the sword is sheathed. Long may it be ere it is again drawn from the scabbard! Peace has been proclaimed; peace which, we trust, will be found an honourable and a lasting one, and, at the same time, prove eminently favorable to the progress and improvement of the nations, and to the wide dissemination of the Scriptures of truth, with all the blessings, spiritual and temporal, which they