

## BIBLE ADVOCATE.

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## HISTORY OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

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The only charitable sources, of a public nature, which were at that time in existence, from which a distribution of the Scriptures could be looked for, were the following. Most of them circulated with the Bible, several volumes and Tracts intended to contribute to their main purposes:—

<i>The Society for promoting Christian Knowledge</i> ... ..	1698
<i>The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts</i> ... ..	1701
<i>The Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge</i> ... ..	1709
<i>The Society for Promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor</i> ... ..	1750
<i>The Bible Society (now the Naval and Military Bible Society)</i> ... ..	1780
<i>The Society for the Support and Encouragement of Sunday Schools</i> ... ..	1785

“The Society for promoting Christian Knowledge is composed of subscribing and corresponding members. The former hold regular meetings, and transact the general business of the Society. The latter are such persons in Great Britain, Ireland, and other Protestant countries, as are chosen to correspond with the Society on the state of religion in their neighbourhoods, to suggest such methods of doing good as occur to them, to distribute Bibles and other books recommended by the Society, and to remit occasional or stated contribu-

tions. Under the patronage of this Society, Charity-Schools have been erected, Bibles, Prayer-Books, and Religious Tracts dispersed, and foreign Missions, particularly in the East Indies, supported. It has printed the New Testament in Arabic, the whole Bible in the language of the Isle of Man, and four editions of it in the Welsh language.”

“The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts appears to have grown out of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, which refers to it, we believe, in all its annual accounts. The object of this Society is limited by charter to Foreign Parts, and more especially to the Plantations, Colonies, and Factories, beyond Seas, belonging to the Kingdom of England. Missionaries, Catechists, and Schoolmasters, are employed by this Society in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Upper and Lower Canada, Cape Breton, the Bahama Islands, the Coast of Africa, New South Wales, and Norfolk Island. The Missionaries are supplied with books, for a library, and Bibles, Prayer-Books, and small Religious Tracts, to distribute among their people as occasion may require. This and the preceding Society are directed entirely by members of the Established Church of England.”

The Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge, employs School-masters, Catechists, and Missionaries, and distributes the Holy Scriptures, and a few other religious books. The Scriptures have been translated at the Society's expense, into Gaëlic. A Parent Board is es-