

REPORT OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF  
THE UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.HELD IN THE RICHMOND STREET METHODIST CHURCH, ON WEDNESDAY MAY  
5TH, 1875.

The Hon. G. W. Allan, President of the Society took the Chair, and was supported by a large number of clergymen and other gentlemen on the platform.

The proceedings opened with the singing of the hymn, "The heavens declare thy glory, Lord," followed by reading of Scripture and prayer by Rev. T. W. Jeffery.

The Chairman then delivered his annual address. He said—"It is now just 45 years since the York Auxiliary Bible Society held its first annual meeting at an hotel on Front Street, in the then town of Little York. Ten years after, at the annual meeting held on the 6th of May, 1840, in the Wesleyan Methodist Church on Newgate Street, a resolution was passed to the effect that the laws and regulations of the Toronto Auxiliary Society, as it was then called, should be repealed, and that the same society should be continued, under the name of the Upper Canada Bible Society. From that meeting we date our anniversaries, and we are assembled to-night to celebrate the thirty-fifth annual gathering of the friends of the Bible Society of Upper Canada. I do not look upon these anniversaries as merely intended for the purpose of bringing the society before the public, for they serve another and a very valuable purpose, in enabling us to mark our progress in the great and noble work for which we were organized. Upon such occasions we take stock as it were, of our gains and losses—what fresh inroads have been made upon the kingdom of Satan by carrying the Word of Life into those dark and benighted regions where superstition and idolatry have hitherto held undisputed sway, or we note where the enemy of souls has been gaining ground, it may be even in the midst of civilization and the highest mental culture, for lack of due and faithful exertion on the part of those who love the Bible. Again, such gatherings as these serve to cheer and stimulate us to fresh efforts in the Master's cause. Whatever may be our conscientious differences on many other subjects, here we are to-night all bound together heart to heart by our love and reverence for that one blessed Book, which is our common inheritance as Christian men and women, and which we cling to and cherish as the dearest, the most priceless treasure on this earth. Still, anniversaries doubtless also bring with them occasionally a retrospect not altogether free from regrets. We all know that in the family and social circle the day as it comes round may sometimes find us less prosperous in this world's goods, or saddened by the remembrance of loved ones taken away; or, if all has gone well, yet as year after year passes there is old age creeping on, and the years draw nigh when we have no pleasure in them. I have no fear of our society growing old in the sense of decrepitude or decay. The noble President of the great Parent Society, at its last annual meeting, in opening the proceedings, said that the society had now reached its three score years and ten, and yet it stood out like Moses of old, "its eye not dim, nor its natural force abated," and I am sure we can all join in the fullest faith in the heartfelt prayer which Lord Shaftesbury uttered on that occasion, and humbly believe that it will be realized for us also, and that if this society, as well as its great parent, should be permitted to complete its centenary, it shall be found not worn nor wearied, but acting in the Spirit of God, and still living and vigorous, and true to its great objects. But our anniversary to-night, as the report will presently