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FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY,

SUBMITTED AT THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING HELD AT  
TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, 29TH MAY, 1889.

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By the kindly Providence that for nearly half a century has guided the movements of the Upper Canada Bible Society, we are brought, as directors of its work, to the time when it is customary to review the way by which the Lord has been pleased to lead us during the past year.

The retrospect, on this the forty-ninth anniversary of our existence as a representative organization, is fitted to inspire our hearts with gratitude and praise.

Our "work of faith and labour of love" has been crowned with a large measure of success, and in pausing to consider the past, we are led, with one of old, to exclaim "Great is Thy faithfulness," and with one heart we would inscribe the word "Ebenezer" as best expressing our recognition of the Divine assistance, which, as workers together with Him, we have experienced.

It is a source of great satisfaction to us—and will be to all who are interested in the advancement of the Lord's kingdom—to note the fact that though changes take place in the aspect of the religious world, and in the political relations of nations, the claims of the Bible Societies, organized as they are for the distribution of the Word of God, continue to be well sustained.

The nations are learning that material progress and glory are inseparably connected with an open Bible and the acceptance of the truths it contains. Individuals, not only in Christian, but in pagan lands, are discovering that the longings of the human soul for life and immortality can only be satisfied by personal contact with the once crucified but now risen Saviour, verifying the truth of God's word, that "Righteousness exalteth a nation."

The intellectual and the ignorant alike are subjects of the transforming influence of the Word of God, and to-day it is enshrined in the hearts of millions, and is more universally revered than ever before.

During the past eighty-five years 197,767,688 copies of the Scriptures, and portions thereof, have been issued by the British and Foreign Bible Society, and kindred societies in Europe, British India and America. Tribes and peoples, speaking nearly three hundred different languages and dialects, are now supplied with the Word of God in their own tongue. And our prayer is that the Word of God may thus continue to "have free course and be glorified."