

Thirteenth Annual Report

OF THE

Kingston Ladies' Bible Association.

Officers of the Society.

PRESIDENT :

MRS. MACHAR.

VICE-PRESIDENTS :

MRS. McLEOD, MRS. CARTWRIGHT, MRS. MAIR,
MRS. MUCKLESTON.

TREASURER :

MRS. CLARKE.

SECRETARY :

MISS F. DUPUY.

COMMITTEE :

The Wives of Ministers who qualify as Members of this Association ; Mrs. Macaulay, Mrs. Yates, Mrs. Paton, Mrs. H. Fraser, Mrs. Lauder, Mrs. Harkness, Mrs. Chaffey, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Irons, Mrs. J. Fraser, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Aitkins, Mrs. Skinner, Mrs. Kerr, Mrs. Renaud, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Hobart, Mrs. Corbett, Mrs. Macnee- Miss Sampson, Miss Robertson, Miss Fowler, Miss Tossel, Miss Forbes, Miss Charlotte Dupuy, Miss Mair, Miss Gray, Miss M. Gray, Miss Mowatt, Miss Nelson, Miss Jenkins, Miss Bryan, Miss Coy, Miss Wilson, Miss Stoughton, Miss Hill, Miss B. Hill, Miss T. Hardy, Miss Hardy.

REPORT.

This Society having reached its 13th Anniversary, it may not be unprofitable before reviewing its operations, to pause for a moment upon the object of the Association, and the duty and privilege of sustaining it. When the truth is fully realised that a knowledge of God as revealed in the Holy Scriptures is essential to salvation ; that this is the bread of life to the soul ; the fountain of all good ; the guide in perplexity ; the light in darkness ; the refuge in time of trouble ; the comfort and consolation in sorrow ; that it contains all that is needful for us to know ;—can there be a nobler object, or one in which the spirit of God will more fully sympathise, than that of spreading abroad the Word of God.

For thirteen years your Society have laboured in this field—to some it may have been as the dew of their first love ; others can testify that an increased personal appreciation of the Bible has always accompanied any effort for its dispersion ; while all connected with the work might echo the words of Peter, "It is good to be here." It is a source of congratulation that this privilege is extended far and wide. Many of the subscribers have but little of this world's good, and yet re-

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Through this Society the poor of Kingston and its vicinity are supplied with Bibles at reduced prices, or sometimes as a loan. This is particularly valuable to the aged, whose dimmed eyes require a large type. Many expressions of gratitude for such loans might be recorded.

During six months of this year, your Association have employed a Colporteur. The work of such an agent has been long acknowledged as a most important auxiliary to other means of grace ; carrying as he does the Bible and other religious books to the solitary farm house, and visiting the humble log hut of the back woods.

The Colporteur is a link between the Pastor and his distant flock ; he brings the Gospel to many a house whose inmates would not otherwise have it ; and in our inclement winters, when silent Sabbaths are often a matter of necessity, "a church in the house" has been often the result of his zealous labours.

CIRCULATION OF SCRIPTURES.

Distributed by the Ladies in the City, and by the Colporteur in the Country, 771 copies.

THE TREASURY.

The Treasurer's Reports show that the sum of \$269 70½ has been collected during the year.

The Expenditure has been \$312 26½.

The Balance from last year being \$42 56, it has left in the Treasurer's hands the sum of \$1 33½.

In the last Report a hope was held out of adding another agency and employing a Bible Woman. This anticipation has been realised, but not until much prayer had been offered and faith exercised. You are now called upon to thank God that the way has been opened and the work commenced by one well qualified for the duty she has undertaken,—a duty requiring much patience and unwearying perseverance, an ardent love for souls, a strong faith and humble dependence upon God's grace for strength and direction. The Bible Woman's work lies chiefly among the depraved and lost of her own sex—to search them out in their sin and misery, and to strive to win them to a better life, to watch the first token of repentance, and fan the feeble flame ; to be the friend of the friendless, caring for those who otherwise are uncared for,—are all objects within the sphere of the Bible Woman's mission.

How they have been carried out, the following extracts from her Journal will shew :

Miss Mary Henley says in one of her Reports, "I was much encouraged with my weekly class for young girls last month,—they seemed interested and anxious to meet again." "I met with some sad cases ; one woman had left her home for part of two days, and an infant who I found pining for food. I took it into a neighbor's house, fed it, and left it until the unnatural mother returned and took it home. This woman is improving ; she sent me 5s. towards procuring beds, and has been supplied with them."

In another report she says, "The utter want of comfort and absence of anything like furniture, is a sure indication of a drunkard's home. In one place where I called there was nothing to be seen of furniture but a little box on which a visitor was seated and a pile of shavings intended for the bed. The Mistress of the house offered me her seat, which proved to be an iron pot with a stick across the top of it. This is but one of many similar instances." "Called at a house where a woman had died from intemperance ; hoped to improve the awful

event. Three women were in the room in a state of intoxication, and three others came in in the same state. I could say nothing in such an assembly,—a corpse and six drunken women. It is much to be regretted that liquor is so easily procured at the small taverns in every street in Kingston. This woman had sent her little girl for a supply shortly before she died." "One girl who I had watched over and placed in service was dismissed, and returned to her old haunts. On my expostulating with her she said she did not know where to go for shelter. Another place has been found for her, and she is now going on hopefully."

"There is not much fruit visible yet, but I believe that God will bless my humble efforts, though I may not be permitted to see it.

"From April to November I have paid 877 visits ; many of the poor have been induced to subscribe for Bibles, and others have been supplied with free copies."

IN CONCLUSION,

We would commend this Association to the christian sympathy and prayers of all interested in the cause of Christ,—that a special blessing may rest upon it,—that it may be owned of God and may be found to the praise of His glory.

Abstract of issues of Bibles and Testaments

—BY THE—

Ladies' Bible Association,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1st DECEMBER, 1862.

	Bibles.	Testaments.	Total Copies.	Religious Books.	Children's Books.	Pages of Tracts.	VALUE.	
							£	s. d.
the City, and by the Colporteur, for six months, beginning on 1st May, and ending 1st Nov.	281	292	573	94	196	13,000	38	18 6
Do. Bibles and Testaments with the Psalms	113	85	198	94	196	13,000	33	14 11
Totals issued, and total value,	394	377	771	94	196	13,000	72	13 5

Included thirty-six Bibles and twelve Testaments, given to poor persons gratis, thirteen thousand pages of religious tracts, together with a donation of twelve (one).

Abstract of issues of

Kingston Ladies'

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

1862.

Issued by the Ladies' in the City, and by the Colporteur, for six months, beginning on 1st May, and ending 1st Nov.
Do. Bibles and Testaments with the Psalms
Totals issued, and total value,

In the above are included thirty-six Bibles by the Colporteur ; also, thirteen thousand pages Bibles to the Orphan's Home.

THE KINGSTON LADIES' BIBLE ASSOCIATION

In account with the Treasurer from Dec, 1861, to Dec, 1862.

CR.

DR.

To Cash, half of Colporteur's Salary from Dec. 1861, to Dec, 1862,	\$ 200 00	42 56
" " Printing Annual Report,	18 00	238 10½
" " use of Temperance Hall for Annual Meeting,	1 50	7 85
" " paid Stationary for Bibles & Testaments,	23 08	19 50
" " Stationary,	2 16	4 25
" " incidental Expenses,	3 25	
" " paid the gentlemen for the use of Committee Room,	20 00	
" " Salary of Bible Woman,	43 00	
" " Balance in Treasurer's hands,	1 33½	
	\$ 312 26½	\$ 312 26½
		\$ 1 33½

DIANA CLARKE, TREASURER.

Examined and found correct.

SAML. MUCKLESTON.

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BU 2370
KSAIL
1862