

met with instances where a misconception has prevailed as to the general designs of the Society, or a want of information has been manifested as to the particular character of its plans. To such they cannot render more concise information than that which is contained in the two first of its "laws and regulations," and which are as follow : I. "The designation of this Society shall be the British and Foreign Bible Society, of which the sole object shall be to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment: the only copies in the languages of the United Kingdom, to be circulated by the Society, shall be the authorized version. II. This Society shall add its endeavours to those employed by other Societies, for circulating the Scriptures through the British Dominions; and shall also, according to its ability, extend its influence to other countries, whether Christian, Mahometan or Pagan."

A regulation adopted at a subsequent meeting provides that "the fundamental law of the Society, which limits its operations to the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, be fully and distinctly recognized as excluding the circulation of the Apocrypha."

Such, then, are the objects of the distinguished Society, which, with increased, and yet steadily increasing, success, has continued its career for a period of thirty-seven years—diffusing spiritual light, in the first place, through the Kingdom in which it was founded, and from thence extending its rays in every direction, and illuminating the benighted nations of the earth, who for ages had lain in darkness and in the "shadow of death." And such are the objects—though on an infinitely more limited scale—such are the objects of this Society, established a few years since in Amherstburgh, and revived, when it had become nearly extinct, by an Agent sent to us by the Parent Association, in the year 1839.

Your Committee lament that, where such an obvious blessing to mankind is intended, and where motives of so unquestionable a nature are exhibited, there should be any confliction of sentiment whatever; yet active opposition to the Bible is but too frequently maintained, and in their own field they have been furnished with too many proofs that the same baneful prejudice operates against the dissemination of the Word of Life. But although they have to regret the existence of these obstacles, they are gratified in being enabled to state that pleasing exceptions are not wanting among the number of those over whom gross darkness still broods. Notwithstanding the principles of a Faith professing to be grounded on God's revealed word, are opposed to the general circulation of that divine revelation, a desire for personal examination into its sacred truths has, in several instances, been unequivocally manifested; and with the candid temper of the noble Bereans, they are now "searching the Scriptures daily, whether those things are so." This temper is, so to speak, of spontaneous growth, and has not been forced into birth through any importunate agency