

A B S T R A C T
 OF THE
FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
 OF THE
UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY, 1896-97
 WITH RETROSPECT OF ITS WORK SINCE ITS ORGANIZATION.

In view of the fact that in a few weeks we expect to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, the present is an interesting and important period in the history of Great Britain and her Colonies.

The Word of God has ever been revered by our good and noble Queen; not only has she guided her own personal life by its principles, but has exalted the *Book Divine* to the highest place in the councils of the nation. In looking back therefore, over Her beneficent reign, in which the Bible has been the foundation of England's greatness, it seems fitting that we should commemorate this Jubilee year by a summary of the Upper Canada Bible Society's work from the beginning.

Upon the opening of the Victorian era, on the memorable day of her accession, June 22nd, 1837, this Society was nine years old, having been formed in the year 1828, under the name of the *York Auxiliary Bible Society*. Its first year's operations resulted in opening of thirteen Branch Societies, and an income of \$722.

In 1834 the name of the Society was changed to the "City of Toronto Auxiliary Bible Society." The number of branches had then increased to thirty, and the income to \$1,358.

In 1841, the name was again changed to the "Upper Canada Bible Society," being considered more appropriate to the work, which was gradually increasing and extending, having in that year eighty-eight branches, and an income of \$3,673.

It may be interesting to note the progress of the Society.

YEAR.	BRANCHES.	INCOME.
1850.....	109.....	\$ 4,808
1860.....	245.....	19,256
1870.....	256.....	25,105
1880.....	402.....	28,085
1890.....	517.....	33,444
1895.....	573.....	35,709