

THE
THIRD REPORT
OF THE
NIAGARA DISTRICT COMMITTEE,
IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE
QUEBEC DIOCESAN COMMITTEE.
OF THE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING
CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT
NIAGARA, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1829.

NIAGARA:
PRINTED AT THE GLEANER OFFICE.
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PRESIDENT,
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BISHOP OF QUEBEC.

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GEORGE BALL, Esquire.
CHARLES RICHARDSON, Esquire.
GEORGE CONNOLLY, Esquire.
And all Officers of the Society.

NIAGARA DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY
FOR PROMOTING
CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

BEGULATIONS.

The object of this Society is—

- 1.—To circulate the **BIBLE** (either with or without the Prayer Book,) and such other of the Society's publications as appear calculated to be useful in this Province.
 - 2.—That to constitute a *Member* of this local Committee, an annual subscription of 12s. 6d. shall be sufficient; and all the money thus raised shall be expended under the direction of the Committee.
 - 3.—That an Annual Meeting of this Society shall take place during the Assizes for this District, on the second day of the Court at 10 o'clock.
 - 4.—That the Quarterly Meetings of the Standing Committee be held on the 2d day of the Quarter Sessions, which commence on the second Tuesday in January, April, July and October, at the hour of 10 o'clock.
 - 5.—Persons keeping small Depositories, at a distance, are expected to close their accounts quarterly, viz on the 1st January, April, July, and October, and to pay over the amount received for books to the nearest Vice-President; who is requested to cause it to be lodged in the Treasurer's hands, or at the Depository, before the next Quarterly Meeting of the *Standing Committee*.
 - 6.—All applications for donations of Books for the use of Sunday Schools, must be transmitted, through one of the Vice-Presidents, to the Standing Committee, at a Quarterly Meeting: and it is requested that the application be accompanied by the return of the number of Boys and Girls attending the School.
 - 7.—It is requested that the *Annual Returns* of Sunday Schools, shewing the number of children, and such other information as may be considered worth communicating, may be sent to the Secretaries before the 1st July in future.
- Subscriptions and Donations may be paid to the Treasurer, or at the Depository.
- * * Persons at a distance, wishing Books to be sent to them, are requested to forward orders to one of the Secretaries, by application to the Vice-Presidents in their Neighbourhood.

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REPORT, &C.

IN making the Third Annual Report of their proceedings, the NIAGARA DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE, are most happy to state that their labours during the past year have been as successful as could have been expected; and now, that a large supply of books has been received from the Parent Society, they hope, with the assistance of the Divine Blessing on their humble exertions, to follow up the design of this excellent Institution, with increased activity and success.

During the winter, the sum of £190 sterling was remitted to the Parent Society, which, with the sum of £50 sent in 1827, has nearly paid for the large supply of Books received in the summer of that year: the Committee, therefore, felt themselves warranted in ordering another supply on a still more extended scale, a Catalogue of which is annexed to this Report, embracing, it is hoped, the most important publications of the P. S. which are likely to be required in this Country. The prices to Members, however, will be found rather higher than formerly, in consequence of the regulation of the Parent Society, adverted to in the Report of last year, by which Foreign Committees are charged the full cost prices of the Books furnished to them, a departure from which regulation, on account of any individual Committee, has not been thought expedient, as none of the Foreign Committees are now required to contribute to the funds of the Parent Society in any way, which it appears from their last Report, sustained a loss of upwards £20,000 during the preceding year, by the expense of reducing the prices to members in England, (who all pay an annual subscription of one Guinea,) together with the amount of gratuitous distributions of Books to Foreign Committees: so that the revenues of this Institution, though amounting to upwards of £68,000, are barely sufficient to meet the demands made upon them; and consequently, it is even apprehended that, unless the subscriptions and benefactions at home increase, it will become necessary to raise the prices of Books to Members in England, or to limit the quantity which they are at present allowed to purchase.

The following extract from the Secretary's Letter to the Lord Bishop, dated 8th April last, contains the Society's Reply to the application made by His Lordship in favour of this Committee:—

"I am directed to acquaint Your Lordship that the Society do not consider it expedient to accede to the application made by the Niagara District Committee, for a reduction in the charge for the Books consigned in 1827, or on those about to be forwarded. Neither the District Committee itself, nor the individual members of that Committee, contribute any thing in aid of the Society's Funds: and the Board determined two or three years ago, that in future all Books and Tracts, furnished to Foreign Committees, should be charged at the Society's cost prices. These cost prices, it should be remembered, though higher than the prices charged to subscribing members of the Society, (in England) are considerably lower than the Booksellers prices to the Public."

It is truly gratifying, however, to observe the lively interest which the Parent Society appears to take in the Proceedings of the District Committees in this country, and the satisfaction with which it received the account of the formation of the Committee at Cobourg last year.

Considering the tie which exists between us and this venerable Institution, it must be a source of great satisfaction, to all its friends in this country, to hear that it continues its valuable and unostentatious labours, with increasing success throughout the British Empire, and especially in the East and West Indies, where the state of ignorance, and the consequent depravity, in which a great part of the inhabitants of those Colonies are still living, call for more than ordinary exertions, particularly in the East, where this Society has long ago been most actively employed.

In Ireland also, during the past year, the spiritual wants and interests of the poor appear to have obtained an especial share of the Society's attention; and a regular system of Religious Instruction, founded on the genuine principles of the Reformation, has been commenced in that distracted country, under the superintendance of the Parochial Clergy, from which the greatest benefits may confidently be anticipated.

In most of the Colonies, likewise, it appears that, by means of assistance in books or money, the bounty of this Society has been distributed where requisite: some of the District Committees in this country have been partakers thereof; and no doubt can be entertained that if the Sunday Schools, &c. which this Committee has under-

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taken to supply with Books, should render it necessary to ask assistance, it will be readily granted to us, in aid of this most important work.

In these Provinces the several District Committees appear to be carrying on the objects, for which they were established, with energy and success. In this District, the circulation of the publications of the Society has been its more immediate care, and this Committee are much pleased to state that they have not been disappointed in the advantages which they anticipated from the formation of small Depositories in various parts of the District, under the superintendance of the Vice-Presidents, which have been a great convenience to the people residing in their neighbourhood.

In addition to those mentioned in the Report of last year, a Depository has been established at Waterloo, under the direction of the Rev. J. Anderson; and as there is now such an ample supply of Books on hand, it is confidently hoped that by the exertions of the Vice-Presidents in other parts of the District, these Depositories will become more general.

Books have been supplied to the following Clergymen: The Rev. George Archbold at Woodhouse, Rev. William Macaulay at Hallowell, Rev. J. Robertson at Edwardsburg, Rev. Alexander M'Intosh at St. Thomas, Rev. John Wenham at Brockville, Rev. G. R. Grout at Grimsby, and Rev. Ralph Leeming at Ancaster, for the use of their respective congregations.

Small donations of Books have likewise been given to such Sunday Schools as have applied for them; and a number have also been sent so far as Penetanguishene, on Lake Huron, and distributed gratis along the road leading to that distant settlement, by the authority of the Lord Bishop.

On examining the account of sales, it is truly gratifying to observe, that several individuals and families, in every part of the District, have been supplied with Books from hence. Thus affording a most satisfactory proof, that the objects of this Society have, in many instances, been fully accomplished; which will also be shewn, more particularly, by the following statement of Books issued from the Depository during the past year:—

Mant's BIBLE, 3 vols.	4to.	-	-	-	-	-	3
Do. PRAYER BOOK,	4to.	-	-	-	-	-	2
BIBLES,		-	-	-	-	-	59
TESTAMENTS,		-	-	-	-	-	124

PRAYER BOOKS	225
BOUND BOOKS, of various descriptions	103
UNBOUND DO. AND TRACTS	1139

It is much to be regretted that so few Reports from the Sunday Schools in the District have been received in time to be noticed in this Report; and it is particularly requested that, in future, they may be sent in, a month before the Annual Meeting. Many of these important institutions are known to exist in this District, and to be in a flourishing condition; the number of children attending which, however, can only be stated as regards the following:

At Waterloo, 30 boys and 25 girls attend regularly, among whom are a number of coloured persons.

At Niagara, 30 boys and 35 girls, also attend with tolerable regularity. And at Drummond Hill, near the Falls, 12 boys and 18 girls attend very punctually.

In consequence of the departure of His Excellency Major General Sir Peregrine Maitland from this Province, whose assistance and encouragement in the formation of this Committee was so beneficial to its interests, application was made to His Excellency Major General Sir John Colborne, to become Patron of this Institution, which office, His Excellency was pleased to accept, in the most gracious manner.

Complaints having been made that the prices, at which the books have been charged to Non-Subscribers, appeared in many instances to be very disproportionate to those charged to the members (although the catalogue of the Society's prices to the public, in London, was the guide by which these charges were determined) it has consequently been resolved, in order, as far as possible, to make this institution useful to the Province at large, and to give universal satisfaction, to alter these prices; and they will accordingly be found much reduced in the catalogue now published. This step, it is hoped, by silencing objections, and complaints, will ensure a more general circulation of the Books.

In some instances, the Committee are aware that the prices will still be considered high, when compared with the prices of books published in the U. States; but when the quality of the paper, and printing, together with the greater durability of the binding is taken into consideration, the very great advantages resulting from the establishment of this Committee, must forcibly strike every candid mind.

It would be highly improper to conclude this Report without re-

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turning thanks to the Treasurer, for his laudable attention to the interests of the Society, as well as to Mr. W. D. Miller, who still continues to keep the Depository with his usual care. The trouble of both these offices is necessarily much increased by the Committee's augmented success, which, however, has served on their part, as a stimulus to greater exertions.

It is still a source of regret to this Committee, that the low state of the funds prevents them issuing many books gratuitously; yet they have the satisfaction to state, that no application, when properly recommended, has, during the past year, been made to them in vain: but, nevertheless, it behoves every friend of this Institution to exert himself to procure additional subscribers, and to offer up his prayers daily to the Throne of Grace for increasing success.— And, as regards the Sunday Schools particularly, the Committee beg leave, most earnestly, to call upon all persons concerned, to leave no means untried to form these important Seminaries in every part of the District, where necessary; in order that Christian Knowledge, the most important of all acquirements, may be promoted more and more, and that the rising generation of these highly favored Colonies may hereafter have reason to look back, with gratitude, on the exertions of those, who have been instrumental in training them up, when young, in the paths of true religion and virtue, the only sources of peace of mind here, or happiness hereafter. And that the Members of this Institution may be the more induced to exert themselves, they have only to remember that the active Christian has the assurance of the Divine Blessing on all his works of faith and labours of love, as well as the animating prospect of being received into the Kingdom of our Blessed Redeemer, with this most gracious and approving invitation—“Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”

By desire of the Committee,

THOMAS CREEN,
GEORGE PHILLPOTTS, } SECRETARIES.

CATALOGUE OF BOOKS,

FOR SALE IN THE DEPOSITORY, AT

W. D. MILLER'S STORE, NEAR THE MARKET PLACE.

	Members' Prices.		Charge to the Public.	
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	£			
FAMILY BIBLE, with notes, by D'Oyley, & Mant,				
4to. 2 vols. calf, lettered,	4	10 0	5	10 0
Prayer Book, with notes, by Mant, 4to. (calf,)	3	0 0	3	10 0
BIBLES.				
4to. Medium, with Apocrypha and Marginal References,	1	9 0	1	16 3
8vo. Royal, Small Pica, with Marg. References and Apocrypha,	1	0 6	1	5 6
8vo. Medium, Small Pica, without References, and with Apocrypha,	0	12 6	0	15 8
8vo. Medium, Brevier, with Ref. and Apoc.	1	3 2	0	16 6
8vo. Crown, Ruby, with Ref. (pocket edition,)	0	9 0	0	11 3
12mo. Demy, Nonpareil, without References,	0	4 0	0	5 0
24to. Demy, Nonpareil, do. do.	0	3 9	0	4 9
24to. Demy, Minton, do. do.	0	6 3	0	8 0
TESTAMENTS.				
12mo. Brevier,	0	1 9	0	2 3
24to. Nonpareil,	0	2 3	0	2 10
24to. Minion,	0	2 3	0	2 10
PRAYER BOOKS.				
4to. bound in calf,	1	5 0	1	10 0
8vo. Demy, Great Primer, with new version of Psalms, and Companion to the Altar,	0	9 0	0	11 3
8vo. Demy, Pica, with new version of Psalms,	0	6 0	0	7 6
12mo. Demy, Brevier, do. do. (calf)	0	3 6	0	4 6
do do. do. do. do. (sheep)	0	2 10	0	3 6
24to. fine paper, long lines, do. do. (calf)	0	4 0	0	5 0
24to. Demy, Nonpareil, do. do. (sheep)	0	1 3	0	1 7
Psalter,	0	0 10	0	1 1
12mo. Brevier, Extracts from new ver. of Psalms,	0	1 3	0	1 7
24to. Nonpareil, do. do. do.	0	1 1	0	1 4

* These prices, now charged to Non-Subscribers, do not exceed 10 per cent. over and above the cost of receiving and issuing Books from the Depository. The inferior Bible and Prayer Books are actually 10 per cent. under that cost.

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8. Of the declining from God, - - -	0 0 1½	0 0 2
9. An exhortation against the fear of death, - - -	0 0 2	0 0 2h
10. An Exhortation to obedience, - - -	0 0 2	0 0 2h
11. Against whoredom and Adultery, - - -	0 0 2	0 0 2h
12. Against strife and contention, - - -	0 0 1h	0 0 2
13. Of the right use of the Church, - - -	0 0 2	0 0 2h
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15. For repairing and keeping clean the Church, - - -	0 0 1h	0 0 2
16. Of Good Works and first of Fasting, - - -	0 0 2	0 0 2h
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