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THE FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE FREDERICTON RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY,

READ AT A MEETING HELD IN

THE TEMPERANCE HALL,

ON

THURSDAY THE 29TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 1859.

AND A LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

FREDERICTON.

PRINTED BY J. SIMPSON, AT THE ROYAL GAZETTE OFFICE.

1860.

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RULES AND REGULATIONS

Submitted to the Directors and others of the Fredericton Auxiliary Religious Tract Society, on the 31st August 1859, and by them adopted:—

1st.—That this Society shall be called the Fredericton Tract Society, Auxiliary to the London Religious Tract Society; and its object shall be the circulation of Religious Books and Tracts, in this and the adjoining Counties.

2nd.—That every Annual Subscriber paying a dollar or more shall be considered as a Member, and as such shall be entitled to the privileges allowed to Members by Rule 4th.

3rd.—That the subscriptions obtained be employed as the means of carrying out the objects of this Society, and any surplus that may arise shall be appropriated towards furthering the operations of the Parent Society.

4th.—That Members as described in Rule 2nd shall be allowed one fourth of their subscription in Tracts and Children's Books free of charge.

5th.—That a Committee shall be annually appointed to manage the affairs of the Society, consisting of a President, Treasurer, nine Directors, with a Corresponding and a Recording Secretary; and that the Ministers of the different religious denominations of this city and neighbourhood, and who are Members of the Society, shall be *ex-officio* Members of Committee, and any five of whom shall be a quorum.

6th.—That an annual meeting shall be held in the month of October, when the Report for the previous year shall be read, and Office bearers appointed for the subsequent year.



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Fredericton, Thursday, 29th December, 1859.

This Evening, a Public Meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, with a view of organizing a Religious Tract Society in this City, auxiliary to the London Religious Tract Society.

The Honorable Judge Wilmot occupied the Chair, and the Rev. T. M. Albrighton opened the Meeting with prayer.

The Report of certain preliminary proceedings was then read by the Rev. C. Spurden; whereupon the following Resolutions were submitted to the Meeting, and unanimously adopted:—

1st.—*Resolved*, That this Meeting approve of the formation of an Auxiliary Society in this place, in connexion with the London Religious Tract Society; and request the following Gentlemen to act as a Committee of Management:—

President,

HONORABLE JUDGE WILMOT.

Treasurer,

T. R. ROBERTSON, Esquire.

Corresponding Secretary,

REV. DR. BROOKE.

Recording Secretary,

Mr. C. W. WETMORE.

Directors,

JOHN EDWARDS,
ANDREW INCHES,
ASA COY,
GEORGE HUNT,

GEORGE THOMPSON,
JOHN SIMPSON,
CHARLES H. GIBERSON.

2nd.—*Resolved*, That the Report of the proceedings that have taken place, in connexion with the Society now formed, be adopted and printed under the direction of the Committee.

REPORT.

The Religious Tract Society has been, for sixty years, pursuing its useful and unobtrusive course, but has not hitherto attracted much attention in this Province. The Society was formed, in 1799, by a few christian men in London, to promote the circulation of religious tracts and books throughout the British dominions, and in foreign countries. Its operations are conducted by a Committee, composed of an equal number of members of the Church of England, and other Protestant Churches. The Society has printed important books and tracts, in about one hundred and fourteen languages and dialects; its annual circulation has risen to forty two millions.

In August last, the Secretary of the Society, Dr. George Henry Davis, visited Fredericton, and a meeting was held at the Manse of St. Paul's, for the purpose of hearing from him an explanation of the objects of the Society, and taking into consideration the desirableness of forming an Auxiliary in this City.

It was resolved, after hearing a statement of the plans and operations of the Society, to organize an Auxiliary, and, at subsequent meetings, Rules and Regulations were adopted, Officers provisionally appointed, and Collectors requested to canvass the City.

The result of this application was as follows:—

Collected by Mr. Edwards,	£12. 9 6
Mr. Giberson,	7 11 3
Mr. Thompson,	4 8 9
Mr. Wetmore,	3 9 4½
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	£27 18 10½

A Bill of Exchange was accordingly transmitted to England, to purchase a supply of Books, and there are now a great variety of the Society's publications on sale, at Mr. Miller's Book Store.

The name of the Religious Tract Society upon any Treatise is a guarantee for soundness of doctrine and catholicity of spirit: the saving truths of the Gospel are set forth in its works; every section of the Christian Church has shared in its benevolent appropriations; and seeking as it does to combine all christians against unbelief and fatal error, it deserves the sympathy and support of "all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."

The following Letter from Dr. George Henry Davis, Secretary to the Parent Institution in London, as affording much important information respecting its proceedings, is here inserted:—

London, November 18, 1859.

Religious Tract Society, 56 Paternoster Row.

RESPECTED AND DEAR BRETHREN,

There are some points as to the Libraries supplied to our North American Branches, to which I am desirous of inviting your attention.

1. A desire was expressed to me, in various parts, that we should prepare lists of books to constitute Libraries of various prices. We were accustomed to do so in England, but it has been found much more desirable to permit Ministers and Sunday School Superintendents to make their own selection, for which purpose Catalogues have been supplied to them. Should you prefer this plan, we shall willingly supply you with a sufficient number of Catalogues to carry it out.

2. These Libraries are furnished at *half subscriber's* prices, that is, considerably below the cost. It has, therefore, been the rule of the Committee, that they should not be supplied until the amount was remitted.

This rule is strictly observed in England, but it has been completely overlooked in some of our Canadian Societies. Permit me to call your attention to it, and to observe that, if

you adopt it in relation to the individual Schools or Congregations assisted by you, you will have no difficulty in acting upon it in your relation towards us.

3. It was suggested that many Ministers, of some years standing, would be glad to receive the benefit of a plan adopted by the Committee, on behalf of Ministers in the first year of their ordination, namely, a Library not exceeding £10 in value at *half Catalogue* prices. I brought the subject before the Committee on my return, and it gives me the greatest pleasure to inform you, that they are prepared to furnish the Ministers in the British Provinces, of all Denominations, with Libraries, on the prepayment of half their value, and of the expense of sending them to the nearest depôt to their several stations. Will you, therefore, kindly undertake to be the medium of communication, and announce the fact to the Ministers of your district, receive their orders, and transmit them home, and then dispatch the Libraries to their destinations, on their arrival from England?

Praying that the God of Peace may be with you,

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours-very truly,

GEORGE HENRY DAVIS.

Rev. C. Spurden and Committee Tract Society,
Fredericton, New Brunswick.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.

Collected by Mr. Edwards.

Judge Wilmot,	£0 15 0	Thomas H. Boyd,	£0 5 0
Thomas Morris,	0 2 6	David Wilson,	0 2 6
S. R. Miller,	1 0 0	C. W. Wetmore,	1 0 0
Andrew Archer,	0 5 0	Thomas M. Albrighton,	0 10 0
John Lawson,	0 5 0	H ₂ Fairweather,	0 5 0
John Anderson,	0 5 0	Robert Orr,	0 2 6
E. H. Wilmot,	0 10 0	John M'Beath,	0 3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. Bedell,	0 5 0	T. R. Robertson,	0 5 0
John Edgcomb,	0 2 6	Samuel Akerly,	0 2 6
Solomon Denton,	0 5 0	M. Tweeddale,	0 5 0
John M. Brooke, D. D.	0 10 0	Alex. Miller,	0 3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
John Fleming,	0 5 0	Chas. S. Beverly,	0 5 0
James M'Alpine,	0 2 6	Mrs. Clark,	0 1 3
Charles Wilson,	0 2 6	John Livingston,	0 1 3
Andrew Lottimer,	0 2 6	Robert Caldwell,	0 1 3
G. W. Anderson,	0 2 6	Richard Phillips,	0 1 3
M. Colter,	0 5 0	R. S. Plummer,	0 1 3
William Paisley,	0 2 6	T. L. Simmons,	0 5 0
Thomas Paisley,	0 2 6	John Guion,	0 5 0
W. Halford,	0 2 6	A. Phair,	0 3 3
Richard Payne,	0 2 6	C. Clark,	0 2 6
Thomas A. Armstrong,	0 2 6	H. Dougherty,	0 1 3
Robert Wiley,	0 2 6	A Friend,	0 1 3
Captain Hunt,	0 5 0	Joseph Pickard,	0 5 0
Mr. Pattison,	0 5 0	Peter Parker,	0 1 3
Robert Baxter,	0 2 6	Mr. M'Causland,	0 2 6
John Edwards,	0 5 0		
S. L. Tilley,	0 10 0		
			£12 9 6

Collected by Charles H. Giberson.

Rev. Charles Spurden,	£1 0 0	Jacob Miller,	£0 2 6
Asa Coy,	1 0 0	James R. Howje,	0 1 3
Robert Davies,	0 5 0	B. Atherton,	0 1 3
A. G. Gunter,	0 5 0	G. Freeman,	0 1 3
Alexander Macpherson,	0 5 0	George Reicker,	0 1 3
C. H. Estabrooks,	0 5 0	J. Doak,	0 1 3
Wm. Stevenson,	0 5 0	Mrs. G. F. Atherton,	0 1 3
David Lawrence,	0 5 0	Thomas Merchant,	0 1 3
David Scott,	0 5 0	Hugh Wiley,	0 5 0
W. A. Clarke,	0 5 0	James Hogg,	0 5 0
N. S. Hooper,	0 5 0	Charles H. Giberson,	0 5 0
Mrs. Alex. Donald,	0 4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	W. B. Phair,	0 5 0
George Hatt,	0 2 6	A. Cumming,	0 5 0
J. Scarr,	0 2 6	George Grosvenor,	0 2 6
W. H. Tower,	0 2 6	W. H. Smithson,	0 2 6
James Bennett,	0 2 6	A Friend,	0 0 3
A. F. Randolph,	0 2 6	A Friend,	0 0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Geo. F. Atherton,	0 2 6		
J. M'Causland,	0 2 6		
Joseph Sands,	0 2 6		
			£7 11 3

Collected by George Thompson.

J. S. Coy,	£0 2 6	Cash,	£0 1 3
Andrew Inches,	1 0 0	Cash,	0 1 3
Cash,	0 2 6	W. Moore,	0 2 6
J. Simpson,	0 10 0	J. Carter,	0 1 3
John Thomas,	0 5 0	Cash,	0 1 3
Cash,	0 1 3	George Thompson,	0 5 0
Robert Sutherland,	0 2 6	M. Lemont,	1 0 0
Charles S. Lugin,	0 5 0	W. Lemont,	0 5 0
Cash,	0 1 3		
Cash,	0 1 3		£4 8 9

Collected by C. W. Wetmore.

Hon. Chas Fisher,	£0 10 0	H. B. Robinson,	£0 2 6
James Agnew,	0 10 0	Mrs. David Barker,	0 2 6
John M'Innes,	0 5 0	T. R. Barker,	0 2 6
Mrs. Ruth Clark,	0 5 0	Mrs. Rossborough,	0 1 3
Jeremiah Burpe, Sheffield,	0 5 0	E. O. Bradley,	0 1 3
Mrs. Priestly,	0 5 0	Mrs. Cadwallader,	0 1 3
R. Fulton,	0 5 0	John Gregory,	0 5 0
Stephen Whittiker,	0 5 0		
W. A. M'Lean,	0 3 11		£3 9 4