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THE

## TWENTY-SECOND REPORT

OF THE

## NOVA-SCOTIA

## BIBLE SOCIETY.

April 10, 1849.

HALIFAX, N. S.
PRINTED BY JAMES BOWES & SON.
1849.

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#### LAWS AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

#### BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

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.

III. Each Subscriber of one Guinea annually shall be a Member.

IV. Each Subscriber of Ten Guineas at one time shall be a Member for Life.

V. Each Subsriber of Five Guineas annually shall be a Governor.

VI. Each Subscriber of Fifty Pounds at one time, or who shall by one additional payment, increase his original Subscription to Fifty Pounds, shall be a Governor for life,

VII. Governors shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Meetings of the

Committee.

VIII. An Executor, paying a bequest of Fifty Pounds, shall be a Mem-

ber for life: or of One Hundred Pounds, a Governor for Life.

IX. A Committee shall be appointed to conduct the business of the Society, consisting of Third-six Laymen, Six of whom shall be Foreigners, resident in London or its vicinity; half the remainder shall be members of the Church of England, and the other half members of other denominations of Christians. Twenty-seven of the above number, who shall have most frequently attended, shall be eligible for re-election for the ensuing year.

The Committee shall appoint all officers, except the Treasurer, and call Special General Meetings, and shall be charged with procuring for the

Society suitable patronage, both British and Foreign.

X. Each Member of the Society shall be entitled, under the direction of the Committee, to purchase Bibles and Testaments at the Society's prices,

which shall be as low as possible.

XI. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held on the first Wednesday in May, when the Treasurer and Committee shall be chosen, the Accounts presented, and the proceedings of the foregoing year reported.

XII. The President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer, shall be considered ex officio, Members of the Committee.

XIV. The Secretaries for the time being shall be considered as Members of the Committee; but no other person deriving any emolument from the Society, shall have that privilege.

XV. At the General Meetings, and Meetings of the Committee, the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President, first upon the list then present; and in the absence of all the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer; and in his absence such Member as shall be voted for that purpose,—shall

XVI. The Committee shall meet on the first Monday in every Month,

or oftener, if necessary.

XVII. The Committee shall have the power of nominating such persons as have rendered essential services to the Society, either MEMBERS FOR

XVIII. The Committee shall also have the power of nominating HONORARY MEMBERS from among Foreigners who have promoted the

objects of the Society.

XIX. The whole of the Minutes of every General Meeting shall be signed by the Chairman. commission the beginned through the British Dominion of

#### sense to other countries REGULATIONS

Adopted at the Annual General Meetings of the Society in 1826 and 1827.

I. 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.

II. That, in conformity to the preceding resolution, no pecuniary aid can be granted to any Society circulating the Apocrypha; nor, except for the purpose of being applied in conformity to the said resolution, to any

III. That, in all cases in which grants, whether gratuitous or otherwise, of the Holy Scriptures, either in whole or in part, shall be made to any Society, the books be issued bound, and on the express condition, that they

shall be distributed without alteration or addition. IV. That all grants of the Scriptures to Societies which circulate the Apocrypha, be made under the express condition that they be sold or distributed without alteration or addition; and that the proceeds of the sales of any such copies of the Scriptures be held at the disposal of the British and Foreign Bible Society. and sal Harls bas , excuses

Second visible emitted, under the direction of Bibliogrand Test month at the Surger's prices white-og as wal se ad I site dailw The Annual Meeting of the Sec. which is held on the first Wed menday in May, when the Treasurer and committee shall be cheeren, the menday in May, when the Treasurer and committee shall be cheeren, the mendage presented, and the proceedings of the foregoing was reported.

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### NOVA-SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY.

I. This Society shall be called THE BIBLE SOCIETY of NOVA-SCOTIA AND ITS DEPENDENCIES; the object of which shall be the same as that of the British and Foreign Bible Society, viz:—To encourage the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, without note or comment, and to furnish copies of the Scriptures gratis to the indigent, and at reduced prices to those requiring them.

II. The business of this Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and Committee.

III. In order to give effect to the design of this Institution, benefactions and subscriptions shall be solicited, and books opened for receiving the names of benefactors and subscribers.

IV. Every person contributing annually Ten Shillings at one time, or a donation of Ten Pounds, shall be considered a Member of this Society.

V. A general meeting of the Members of this Society shall be held every year, before which shall be laid the accounts and proceedings of the preceding year.

VI. The whole of the subscriptions and donations, after deducting incidental expenses, shall be remitted annually, in aid, of the funds of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

vII. Every Member of this Society shall be entitled to purchase, under the direction of the Committee, Bibles and Testaments, at the reduced prices of the Society, which are as low as possible.

VIII. The Committee shall be authorized to meet, for the purpose of conducting the business of the Society, as often as may be necessary, and shall have power to add to their numbers, as occasion may require.

## NOVA-SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY.

PATRON.

His Excellercy Lieut. General SIR JOHN HARVEY, K.C.B. &c. &c. &c.

HON. H. H. COGSWELL, President. Hon. J. W. JOHNSTON, MARTIN G. BLACK, Esq. JAMES W. NUTTING, Esq. Vice Presidents. WILLIAM PRYOR, junr. Esq.

M. G. BLACK, Esq. Treasurer. S. L. SHANNON, Esq. Secretary. ISAAC SMITH, Esq., Assistant Secretary.

-ibai edipor sistems COMMITTEE. REV. DR. TWINING, Hon. W. A. BLACK, " JOHN SCOTT, R. F. UNIACKE, " A. KEITH, Dr. AVERY, JAS. N. SHANNON, Esq. JOHN MARTIN E. A. CRAWLEY, D. D. GEO. N. RUSSELL, Esq. P. G. McGREGOR, ALEX. W. McLEOD, DAVID ALLISON, Esq. J. H. ANDERSON, Esq. A. MacKINLAY, Esq. WM. BULLOCK, R. ARNOLD, HENRY PRYOR, Esq. E. EVANS, HENRY INCE, Esq. G. HILL, S. SELDEN, Esq. F. SMALLWOOD, T. A. BROWN, Esq. WM. C. SILVER, Esq. JOHN MILLER, W. H. HEUDEBOURCK, T. A. S. DEWOLFE, Esq. JAS. THOMSON, Esq. J. G. A. CREIGHTON, Esq. ALEX. FORRESTER, Hon. M. B. ALMON, " H. BELL, CHAS. ROBSON, Esq.

#### LIFE MEMBERS.

By Donation of Ten Pounds and upwards, at and since the formation ender the direction of the Cytical at the les and Testaments, at the

The How. CHAS. PRESCOTT, | Dr. WEBSTER. 2000ag becomes WILLIAM A. CHIPMAN, Esq., The Hon. H. H. COGSWELL, of conducting the business

SOCIETY'S DEPOSITORY .- Corner of Barrington and Sackville Streets, opposite Halifax Grammar School.

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#### TWENTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

#### NOVA-SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY,

HELD IN THE BAPTIST CHAPEL, GRANVILLE STREET, HARMAN,

Tuesday Evening, April 10, 1849.

#### Hon. H. H. COGSWELL, in the Chair.

The Meeting was opened with singing and prayer, by the Rev. John Scott.

The Report of the Committee having been read by the Secretary, it was, on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Twining, seconded by J. W. Nutting, Esq.,—

#### RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

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That the Report now read be received, adopted, and circulated, under the direction of the Committee.

On the motion of the Rev. E. Evans, seconded by Rev. R. Arnold,-

#### RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

That this Meeting desire to record their unfeigned gratitude to Almighty God for the success with which He has been pleased, hitherto, to crown the exertions of the Parent Society.

On the motion of the Rev. Dr. Crawley, seconded by the Hon. M. B. Almon,-

#### RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

That this Meeting tender their best thanks to the numerous Branches and Associations connected with this Society, for their kind reception and friendly support to Mr. Smith, their Travelling Agent, during his recent tour throughout the Province; and they trust that the praiseworthy exertions of the new and revived Branch Societies in the

Country, may stimulate the Auxiliary in this city, to increased and combined effort in the great cause in which we are engaged.

On the motion of the Rev. P. G. McGregor, seconded by T. A. S. DeWolfe, Esq., \_\_

## RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, WALLEY OF THE STATE OF

That this Meeting gratefully acknowledge the services rendered to the Society by its Officers; and that the following be appointed for the present year:—Hon. H. H. Cogswell, President; Hon. J. W. Johnston, Martin Gay Black, J. W. Nutting, and William Pryor, jr., Esqrs., Vice Presidents; M. G. Black, Esq., Treasurer; S. L. Shannon, Esq., Secretary; Isaac Smith, Esq., Asst. Secretary; Committee, Reverends Dr. Twining, John Scott, R. F. Uniacke, John Martin, Dr. Crawley, A. W. McLeod, P. G. McGregor, F. Smallwood, Houdebourek, Alex. Forrester,—Honbles. M. B. Almon, Hugh Bell, W. A. Black, A. Keith,—Dr. Avery, Jas. N. Shannon, Geo. N. Russell, T. A. Brown, Wm. Silver, T. A. S. De Wolfe, J. G. A. Creighton, and Chas. Robson, Esqrs.

On the motion of the Rev. Inc. Martin, seconded by W. Silver, Esq.,—RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY.

That the cordial thanks of this Meeting be presented to the Chairman for his kindness in presiding on this occasion.

The Doxology was then sung and the Meeting dismissed, with the benediction by the Rev. Dr. Crawley.

RESULVED UNANTHOUSEN.

"That this itseting desire to recess their unfergues gracities to firmathly God for the survey with which He has been alreaded billies to crouncide exertions of the Parent Society.

(in the motion of the Rev I). Crawley seconded to the Lim M. R.

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The Annual General Meeting of the Nova Scotia Bible Society again, by the good Providence of God, affords the Committee another opportunity of coming before the friends of the institution with a statement of the progress, during the past year, of the great cause with which they are connected.

They meet their patrons and friends on this occasion with thankfulness, for, although the circumstances of the Province during the past year might have caused some doubt as to the success of their efforts, yet they have been enabled amid every difficulty, to carry on their operations, and to lay, they trust, a foundation for future usefulness.

Before proceeding to consider the operations of our auxiliary within its humble sphere of action since the last meeting, the Committee would refer to the progress of the parent Society during that period, the details of which are to be found in its interesting Report.

At a time of unprecedented commotion throughout Europe, when the very foundations of Society seemed to be upheaved, and anarchy and revolution to prevail, what is more important than the diffusion of that Word of Life, which alone can calm the troubled waters and bring peace to the agitated? The influence of the Bible Society becomes then more deeply felt, and its progress of greater interest, and the Committee of the parent society in their Report might well suppose "that under the present circumstances of the times, it would be asked with more than wonted earnestness,—What is the Society doing? What has it in prospect to do?" And it is pleasing to observe their statement, that, although a great part of the year had been passed in the midst of commercial embarrassments, and though the storms of political agitation have gathered around its close, yet to their society the year had been one of great mercy; its resources had been affected far less than could possibly have been expected; its labors had been uninterrupted and abundant, and the tokens of the blessing of the Most High still resting upon it were such as the Committee were delighted and thankful to record.

In reviewing the progress of the parent Society during the past year, we observe that their operations at bome and abroad have been attended with their usual success.

In France the Committee say, that though it may be difficult, in the present state of that country, to speak with confidence of the future; yet they have no difficulty in referring to the past, as affording great matter for thankfulness. Above two and a half millions of copies of the Scriptures have been issued from the Society's Depot, at Paris,

since it was instituted there in 1820. These copies have been dispersed throughout every province in France. They have penetrated by means of the Colporteurs, to almost every village and hamlet; the seed "has been widely scattered, and in many happy instances, the fruit has already appeared. The Society would not have laboured in vain were its work from that hour suspended;" but such was not its intention, for they have recently confirmed an order for 54,000 additional copies of the French Scriptures to be put to press, in hope that a merciful Providence will keep open the channel for their this hope; they are even sanguine that passing events will turn out to the furtherance of the cause of evangelical Truth.

The progess of the Society in Belgium and Holland has been equally satisfactory, and in the Rhenish provinces a new field has been opened, which promises to yeild abundant success. The system of colporterage has been extended, and these labourers in the Lord's vineyard have gone to the mansions of the great and wealthy, as well as to the humble cottages of the poor and needy, commissioned by that God with whom there is no respect of persons. And it is pleasing to remark that in the schools of the Roman Catholic city of Cologne, the Society's edition of the testament is used as a class book.

In Germany and Hungary the good work is still prospering amid the storms of political convulsions to which those countries have also been subjected. Interesting details of the success of the cause are given in the extracts from the communications of the Society's agents who are labouring in those countries.

In Switzerland too the success of the Society's agent has been both surprising and gratifying during the past year. Not only have his sales been continued in most of the principal places previously visited; but even in Geneva and in Basle, cities so distinguished for their biblical and missionary efforts, he has found openings and unexpected encouragement. The sales of the year have exceeded those of any other years.

In Russia the Committee notice that a large increase has taken place in the circulation of the Scriptures by means of the agency at

In Spain and Portugal but little has been done; in Italy however the Committee are watching with anxious eye the progress of events. The political changes which have there taken place, are of too recent date to allow of any positive conclusions as to their effect on the operations of the Society; but hope predominates and it will indeed be delightful to see the beautiful cities and plains of Italy overspread and illumined with the light of pure Biblical truth.

Much interesting information has been communicated from Turkey by the Society's agent, relative to the religious movement which is gotog on among the Armenians, and which in a great measure is to be attributed, under the blessing of God, to the circulation and reading of the Holy Scriptures. They are now distinguished from the remaining portion of their body by the name of Protestant Armenians,

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At to announ Parent and they have lately had the privilege conceded to them, of acting as an independent religious body, and worshipping God in spirit and in truth.

From India gratifying accounts are still received, but the Parent Committee regret that they have not much to report respecting the progress of the work of the Society in China. They have however embraced an opportunity which was opened for spreading the Scriptures, by granting a sum of money to the China Union working under the auspices of the Rev. Dr. Gutzlaff, which is represented as composed of converted natives, a considerable number of whom traverse the interior parts of China, and introduce the Word of God into those portions of the country to which no missionary has access.

Turning to what the Society has done in that field of its labours which comprises the mother country we find the cause still prospering. The entire receipts of the Society for the past year amounted to £90,146 8s. 4d. There is a decrease as compared with last year; it has however chiefly taken place either in legacies, which are always uncertain, and which in the former year were unusually large, or in the sales. On the free contributions there has been an increase as compared with last year of £451. 12s. 5d. This, when the commercial difficulties of the year are borne in mind, is truly delightful, and is a pleasing evidence of the interest which is felt in behalf of the Society by the country at large.

The sales of the Parent Society for the year have amounted to £46,189 11s. 5d. The issues of the Society for the past year have amounted to one million, one hundred and twenty-four thousand, and sixty seven. The total issues of the Society from the first have been twenty millions, eight hundred and sixty-five thousand, eight hundred

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The decrease in the issues of the year, say the Committee of the parent Society in their Report, has principally been found in the diminished circulation at home: this is in part to be attributed to the pressure of the times, but is doubtless chiefly owing to the extraordinary efforts which had been made, and which had been followed by such extraordinary success, in the two preceding years. It was hardly to be expected that demands like those which sprung up at Manchester, Liverpool, Bristol, and other large places, should be permanent; it was very delightful to witness them, but we must not be discouraged because these have somewhat subsided. The demand now is more diffused, and on the whole very gratifying; but the efforts at home must not be diminished till the home population is more fully supplied.

Your Committee having thus laid before you a slight sketch of the Parent Society's proceedings, as contained in their interesting Report, now invite your attention to the state of the cause in this Province,—

to the operations of our Auxiliary during the past year.

At the last Annual Meeting your Committee had the pleasure of announcing that in accordance with the arrangement made with the Parent Committee, they had secured the services of Mr. Isaac Smith,

of P. E. Island, for the important duty of acting as their Travelling Agent throughout the Province. They commended him to the friends of the Society, and they trusted that by the blessing of God his efforts would be crowned with success, and that he would arouse the public mind to the importance of co-operating more efficiently in the dis-semination of the Word of Truth. Their hopes, they are happy to state, have been to a great extent realized. Mr. Smith has undertaken the mission, and has persevered in it amid many discouragements; he has excited the drooping minds of our friends, reorganized many of the former branches, and commenced many new ones. The trying nature of the times,—the great destitution of the people of our country,—their want, in some instances, of almost the very necessaries of life, placed great obstacles in his way, and prevented any been sown, a more systematic organization has been effected, and your Committee doubt not that in this own good time, the Lord will your Committee doubt not that in His own good time, the Lord will abundantly bless the new effort which was made during the past year, to the extension of His kingdom and the salvation of many souls.

Mr. Smith has furnished your Committee with a journal of his proceedings, from which many interesting extracts might be made, exhibiting the feeling of our population in favour of the cause; but your Committee deem it preferable to refer to his own Report as published in the Appendix, and the results will be considered cheering, as they lay the foundation for further exertions, and we trust future usefulness. Your Committee hope that the operations of the auxiliaries and Branches hereafter will be permament and progressive, and not distinguished by only occasional periods of activity.

Your Committee are also happy to state that the efforts of the Colporteur Mr. Mcleod, whom they have engaged for this city, have been attended with great success. He has been unceasing in his visits through the several wards of the city, the markets, and the shipping at the wharves; and he has in this manner by the blessing of God been able to do much good in the dissemination of the Scriptures.

The following Returns will show what has been done in the various modes of distribution in this city bear good bad dully while granibe There have been sold at the Depository:

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not demands like those which spring of Hristol, and officer large places, should be delightful to winness there, but we must not delightful to winness there, but we have not	Testamente 1112
Sold by the Colporteur :- Bibles Testament	2179
Given for the use of Sabbath Schools:—Bibl	otal copies 6293 es - 77 aments 46— 123

Distributed gratuitously:— Bibles - - 72
Testaments 62-Total distribution of the year 6550 copies.

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There are now remaining in the Depository for sale.  Bibles - 1912 Testaments - 1560 Foreign Languages - 77  Total 3549 copies.
Making the total issue for 1848, six thousand five hundred and fifty copies of the Scriptures and leaving a stock on hand of 3549 Bibles and Testaments.  The Receipts of the Society for the past year have been as
follows:-
From the Annapolis Branch £7 0 0
Ladies' Association Guysborough 6 0 0
Barrington Branch:Free contribution £15 } 31 0 0
to give twenty the transport of the Sales of the transport of the transpor
Bridgetown Branch, 7 0 0
Lawrencetown, 7 0 0
St. Mary's Branch, 5 12 6
Weymouth Branch, 5 0 0
Manchester Branch—Sales 3 0 0
Collection at Annual Meeting, Halifax 15 6 5
St. Matthew's Church Ladies' Bible Asso-
disting to sid in supposeding and to the state of
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The Sales at the Depository for the year
The Sales at the Depository for the year, \ 92 7 9
The Sales effected by the Colporteur during 186 18 11
the jour amounted to
The Subscriptions and Donations received 72 18 6
The Treasurer has also received since the end of the year 1848, the following amounts from the several Branch Societies, as under, viz:—  From Ladies' Association of Guysborough 6 0 0
Stewiacke Branch Society 12 10 0
Maitland Branch Society 11 4/9
Cornwallis Branch Society 14 0 0
St. Ann's, Cape Breton 12 0 0
Port Hood 2 5 0
Newport 2 7 1
Lunenburg 8 18 2
Lower Londonderry 3 0 0
Upper Londonderry 1 10 0

Your Committee cannot close their Report without making an appeal to their friends, particularly in this city, for an increased exertion in aid of their Auxiliary. When we consider what an ample field there is before us, and what the object of the Society is, ought we not to count upon larger funds, upon greater efforts, than have

ever yet been made. Much has been done, and when we consider the peculiar circumstances of our Province during the past few years, we should be thankful that so much has been effected. But cannot we do more? Ought not our efforts to be increased with the hope that the time may come when almost every family throughout the length and breadth of our land shall be supplied with a Bible? If we sincerely believe in the important results to be effected by the circulation of this book;—if we see, to use the language of the present Primate of all England, that where it is, there is light, where it is not, there all is gross darkness; - if the Bible, not the theory of the politician, nor the act of the legislator, be the true regenerator of the age; if it be true, as stated by the Reverend Hugh Stowell, that the security of the manufacturing districts of England during the past year, amid the convulsions of the Continent, and the agitation of the Chartist, and the deep distress and poverty of the operatives, was preserved, not by the bayonets of the army, nor the stringent acts of the Government, but by the happy effects produced from the 90,000 Bibles which had been circulated among them during the two previous years, ought we not in our sphere, to endeavour to enlist more friends and contributors in the service of such a cause? We want a more combined effort to be made by its friends; we require the sympathies of a greater number to be enlisted in its behalf, and its true value appreciated, and then we shall have a bright prospect for the future, for the light of God's Word will be among us, and may we not humbly hope that His Spirit will instruct us in our further progress, and that we may look up calmly and cheerfully to Him who has said, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Branches and Agents in the Country are particularly requested, when they order Books from the Depository, to provide a conveyance, or direct how they may be sent without delay.

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#### APPENDIX.

#### EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

From Mr. Smith, the Travelling Agent.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE NOVA SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY-

Gentlemen,—On returning from my first tour as Travelling Agent for your Society, in August last, I submitted to your notice a brief Report of my proceedings and also my Journal, which contained, simply, such memoranda of facts daily noted down, as occurred in connexion with the objects of my agency. Since that time I have visited almost every other place in the Province, where there seemed a probability of doing any thing to benefit the cause,—and now present a condensed statement of the whole, including such reference to my former communication as appeared requisite to bring that also under review, so that the results, as far as they have been realized, may be correctly estimated, and serve as a guide to future operations. To my Journal likewise, I would again respectfully refer, as containing more minute particulars, continued up to the time of my recent return

to the city.

My first tour embraced the Western part of the Province, in commencing which I took the "Shore Route" to Yarmouth, and returnedby the valley of Annapolis, through Kings and Hants Counties, to Halifax. The second included the Eastern and Northern Counties, in prosecuting which I passed along the Guysborough Road, through Musquodoboit and Caledonia, to the Strait of Canso—visited the principal settlements of Cape Breton and those along the "Gulf Shore" by way of Pictou and Pugwash, to Amherst.—I then crossed the Country to Parrsborough, and continued my route along the Shores of Cobequid Bay, through Londonderry to Truro, and back to Pictou and neighbourhood, where I had made engagements as I passed along, to hold meetings on my return,-and from thence came on by Lower Stewiacke and Shubenacadie, to Halifax, which I reached on the 24th of January. Since that time I have made another tour through Lower, Middle, and Upper Stewiacke, Truro, Onslow, Shubenacadie, and other places, in order to carry out some previous arrangements ;--and still more recently visited Margaret's Bay, where I held a meeting, and made appointments for future operations.

In these several journeys I visited Eighty-five Towns, Villages, and principal Settlements,—in fifty-five of which, interesting public meetings were held,—and thirty-nine new Branch Societies were formed: sixteen in my first tour, and twenty-three since. Thirty-three of

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these are in connexion with the Nova Scotia Auxiliary, and six with that of Pictou. Two of these last perhaps had scarcely ceased to exist.

Before my agency was begun, there had been in this Province, as stated in the published reports, fifty-five Societies, in connexion with the British and Foreign Bible Society, including the Ladies' Associations, viz.:—Three Auxiliaries—Halifax, Pictou and Yarmouth,—thirty-three branches in connexion with the Halifax, or "Nova Scotia Auxiliary,"—twelve in connexion with that of Pictou, and one, at Amherst, in connexion with St. John's.—Also five Ladies' Associations,—Yarmouth, Newport, New Glasgow, Guysborough, and St. Ann's. Of this number I found that thirty-eight had become extinct, (except perhaps two which, as before stated, were very nearly so.) Twenty-nine which had been connected with Halifax—eight of the Pictou branches, and one of the Ladies' Associations—leaving only sixteen in operation. To these sixteen, thirty-nine new branches have been added, as already said, making in all fifty-five societies and associations now in the Province, in connexion with the parent institution in London.

It must be borne in mind, however, that only thirty-nine of these are connected with your Auxiliary, viz:—thirty-three new branches in the following places,—Chester, Mill Village, Liverpool, Shelburne, Weymouth, Digby, Annapolis, Bridgetown, Lawrencetown, Aylesford, Cornwallis, Horton, Windsor, Newport, Rawdon, Maitland, Middle Musquodoboit, Upper Musquodoboit, St. Mary's, Guysborough, Manchester, Strait of Canso, Arichat, Sydney, Sydney Mines, Margarie, Mabou, Port Hood, Parrsborough, Five Islands, Economy, Lower, & Middle Londonderry, and Upper Londonderry. Four of the old branches which had continued in operation,—Lunenburg, Barrington, Truro and Stewiacke;—and two of the Ladies' Associations,—Guysborough and St. Ann's. But it may be hoped that, in some of the other places which I visited, additional branches may yet be formed—and if they can all be brought into active and permanent operation, a great accession of funds, and a vast amount of good will be ultimately realized.

In forming these various Branches the most serious obstacles, almost every-where presented themselves, and seemed likely for a time, to preclude the hope of any good being effected. The importance of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and its consequent claims upon the attention of professing christians, which had once been acknowledged and liberally responded to, by almost all classes, seemed now to be in a great measure overlooked and forgotten—other objects, some of a local or denominational, and some of a general character, having been allowed to supersede it—and perhaps its funds had been regarded as so abundant, that it did not now require support as formerly; while the circumstances and objects of other societies seemed to present superior claims, just in proportion as they were more constantly and more ardently pressed upon public attention. But the greatest difficulty, and more severely felt than all others put together, was the peculiar depression of the times, arising from the failure of the wheat and potatoe crops of three successive years, ren-

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Under these circumstances it was difficult to collect a sufficient number of persons together for holding a meeting, which impelled me to solicit contributions and co-operation from house to house, where it was found practicable and likely to succeed; and I was encouraged to find, in every place, some warm friends to the cause. But the attention of the people generally required to be more powerfully arrested and fixed,-their minds animated and aroused by a just exhibition of the claims of the Society, -- and an habitual direction given to their exertions in its behalf, by the adoption of means for keeping the subject in view, before any extensive and permanent advantage could be anticipated. And hence, in all our meetings, which were sometimes small and of discouraging aspect at the commencement, and at other times large and well supported, my chief object was to set forth the supreme excellence of the Sacred Scriptures, and the consequent importance of promoting their increased circulation, our position and duty as professing christians in reference to this good work, and the loud providential calls thereto as heard in the passing events which are re-echoed through every land. referred also to the unequalled facilities and powers for carrying on this work, possessed by the British and Foreign Bible Society-its origin, its object, its successes and prospects, all demonstrating it to be of God, and all urging us to renewed and increased exertion for the promotion of its benevolent design. And I had reason to be truly thankful that our meetings generally were attended by a solemn and gracious influence, which rendered them apparently pleasing and interesting to all, and especially encouraging as to their final results. These however are with the Lord, on whom alone our dependence can be placed, and to whom our prayers should be unceasingly directed for success.

In many of these meetings I was associated with Clergymen of the different denominations, and other zealous and influential friends of the Bible, who greatly encouraged and assisted me, both by their excellent counsel and very efficient help.—And with all the deductions I have had to make on other accounts, I cannot look back upon those scenes but with gratitude and pleasure—and also with hope that, notwithstanding the discouragements to be surmounted, the opposing influences to be overthrown, and the delays to be endured and accounted for, some fruit will ere long appear which will be alike grateful and cheering to the friends of the cause, and will redound to the praise and the glory of God.

In my former report I mentioned, that in one of our meetings it was stated, as an evidence of the want of Bibles in some remote districts, that an inquest had been recently held, in a distant settlement, and when the Jury had to be sworn, neither Bible nor Testament could be found. In another place containing about one hundred B

and fifty inhabitants, it was said,—they had not more than five copies of the Scriptures amongst them. In Annapolis County, a clergyman told me he had imported a considerable number of Bibles and Testaments, which were readily sold, and had ordered more; not knowing that a Branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society was so soon to have its depot there. And in the more remote settlements of other Counties, the same destitution prevails. But in all the principal places, as also along the sea-board, and the shores of navigable rivers, almost every house is supplied with Bibles and Testaments. To a further enquiry into this subject, the attention of the office-bearers of the several Branches was especially directed, both at our meetings and by letters since; in which I particularly requested some estimate to be made of the probable number of copies required to meet the existing deficiency. But no returns have yet been made, except in a few instances, in which but little destitution could be found.

In my second tour, through the Eastern parts of the Province, where the travelling was extremely difficult and slow, the bridges having been mostly swept away by a terrible flood which preceded me—and there being no houses of entertainment, I was frequently thrown upon the indiscriminate, but kind hospitalities of the settlers; and was glad to find in every household, that a Bible or Testament was used by each member, in their morning and evening family devotions, in which, under my circumstances, it seemed a hallowed privilege to join. And in some of the more recently-formed settlements of Cape Breton, "far in the wilds unknown to public view," where as yet no manse had reared its head to give life and character to the scene, nor "sound of the church-going bell," had been heard to gladden and break the stillness of the sabbath morn, these humble settlers had their own Bibles, and their own social and family worship, which gave to the wilderness, in the eyes of a passing stranger, an interest and a loveliness that hung a charm upon his memory, not to be torn off by the ruggedness of the pathway which led him to more favoured climes.

There are indeed many places, both in Nova Scotia proper, and Cape Breton, where books in general are much needed, and where protestant settlers are very destitute of the sacred Scriptures; but only to a few of these have I as yet had access; nor can I form any proper estimate of the number of persons so circumstanced, till those friends who have promised, shall have furnished me with the means. But these places are happily "few and far between" as compared with earlier times and other lands. For in addition to the thousands of copies issued from the depositories of the British and Foreign Bible Society, thousands more have been distributed, both by Clergymen and laymen, from those of the "Christian Knowledge" Society, Diocesan Societies, Naval and Military Bible Society, Edinburgh Bible Society, Coldstream Bible Society, and other sources, which are constantly pouring out their streams to water and fertilize the Province. But it is to be lamented that there is not that sympathy amongst the masses of Society, for other lands more destitute, which

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Some of those branches which I found still in existence through the Province, had suspended their operations, or diverted their funds into other channels, in consequence of statements put forth by Dr. Adam Thomson of Coldstream, respecting the proceedings of the Parent Society, until such explanations could be obtained as would remove the unfavourable impressions thus produced. And though some delays and interruptions to my progress were thereby occasioned, I have reason to believe the whole will be overruled for ultimate good. A calm investigation and candid review of the circumstances, as furnished by such correspondence on the subject as could be found accessible, and the long cherished attachment of the office-bearers and contributors, to the Parent Society, have prevailed to turn back the resources, so diverted for a time, to their wonted channels,-at least to the extent of the free contributions. I was glad to find, on reading over Dr. Thomson's pamphlets, which had been so understood by some, as to weaken their confidence in the Directors at home, the following candid advice to the friends of Bible circulation there,and which tended, I have no doubt, by placing the design of these publications in a more correct light, to produce the favourable results above referred to:—" Your support of a free Bible press," says the Rev. Doctor, "need not interfere with your efforts to give your aid as heretofore in promoting what should now be regarded as the only legitimate efforts of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The translation of the Scriptures into foreign languages, and their distri-bution in foreign countries should, under existing circumstances, be its leading, if not its exclusive province: and it is obvious that its funds, if duly applied to so grand an object, can never be increased to too great an extent. Give your shillings to the new Societies, which, with the low price of English Bibles, will be sufficient for home purposes; but give pounds to the old one, the mother of them all, that she may supply the heathen abroad; nor can your liberality be too great, while she makes it her object to regenerate the world." (vide "Bible Circulation—an appeal to the christian community at large"—"by Adam Thomson, D. D.", page 15.)

On reviewing the places I have visited, and the Societies which

have been thus hopefully formed, amidst such unpromising appearances, I cannot but feel thankful to God that so much power and influence has been collected and organized, to help forward such an important work. And now the question seems to suggest itself,-how can this amount of instrumentality be rendered most efficient, and most subservient to its great end? Every person who is connected with it, and all who feel interested in this blessed cause, should be impressed with the conviction, that there never was a period, perhaps since the creation, when the influence of divine truth was so much needed, or was likely to exert so vast an influence, if properly received, on the temporal, spiritual, and eternal well-being of mankind, as now. The bonds of superstition and error, which for ages

have held great masses of the world's population together, are being broken, and passions without principles are being let loose, and are striving to assert their dangerous independence. For men in their fallen condition are averse to all restraint, especially to that of God, and will be more inclined to infidelity than to religion. And this is more to be apprehended where error had arrogated to itself the name, and assumed exclusively the authority of truth, but whose real character is now being openly revealed. There the Bible, if read and studied, however it may be disliked at first, will be seen to contain the grand desideratum—the great secret of individual and social happiness. It lays bare the foundation of all human misery, and so propounds the effectual and only remedy, as to commend itself to every man's conscience in the sight of God. It proposes restraints and laws, not by the authority of man, nor based on the arbitrary will of a fallible creature, but on the infinite perfections of the great Creator-the immutable and irrevocable foundations of right and truth. On such principles it courts and rewards, though it far transcends, the investigation of man. It claims and secures his obedience, yet, by an exhibition of the Divine character and goodness, sets him free, subdues his enmity, engages his affections, and secures to him the happiness adapted to his condition and being-present, perfect and eternal.

To make known and send forth to all mankind, this only remedy for all the evils of our fallen humanity-this only real perfect and everlasting good-so much needed in our world and our times-undiluted by human weaknesses, and unmixed with human errors, -- is the glorious object and work of the British and Foreign Bible Society. By the means and facilities which it possesses for carrying out this Godlike design-so efficient and extensive in its labours-so approved and supported by the wisest and best of men-so owned and blessed of God,-it presents altogether, to the judgment and consciences of Christian men, such claims as can hardly be exceeded—and only require to be known and appreciated, to be acknowledged and responded to.

Much then will depend, under God, upon increasing and keeping alive the attention of the christian public in these Provinces, to this great subject, by using all the means which the advocates and friends of the cause can exert :-- by holding periodical meetings-by making personal applications and appeals as extensively as circumstances will allow and prudence dictate-by regular correspondence with the office-bearers of the Branches-by frequent publication in all the religious periodicals throughout the country, of interesting facts, &c., connected with the doings, successes and prospects of the Society and its numerous Auxiliaries and Branches—and, with fervent prayer for the divine blessing, by relying on the Omnipotent arm as the foundation of hope for success.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant, Sans to spine law learned has receiving ISAAC SMITH,

HALIFAX, 21st March, 1849.

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#### FROM THE COLPORTEUR.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE NOVA SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY,

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Gentlemen,—As the Annual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Bible Society is about to be held, it is requisite that I should lay before you a statement of my labours as Colporteur for this City and its

I commenced this important work on the 8th day of February 1848, and have continued it without intermission to the present time-being altogether Thirteen months and twenty-three days. During this period I have sold 1562 Bibles and 2552 Testaments.

These sales have been made chiefly amongst the middle and lower classes, such as Sailors and Fishermen whom I found on board of Vessels and about the Wharves-Farmers and others at the public markets, who have come from different and distant parts of the Province-and various descriptions of working people residing in every part of the City,-in Dartmouth, and along the principal roads leading to the Country. And these parties generally, it may be inferred, would have still remained destitute of the written word, had not this method been adopted of bringing it to their notice, and offering it on such reasonable terms.

That great and lasting good will result from this work cannot be doubted, though the amount must remain unknown except to Him who "knoweth all things," and who "seeth the end from the beginning." Had the times continued as favourable as they were wont to be, these sales would have been much greater, -for although the want of Bibles and Testaments has been in some good measure supplied, as far as the sphere of my labours extended, there were cases which presented themselves, where the temporal wants of individuals and families were such, that the desire for a Bible had to give place to the more pressing claims of hunger and starvation. Some of these however were supplied gratuitously by friends of the cause, but others were unwilling to allow their circumstances to be made known.

In carrying out these objects many interesting incidents occurred. One poor man from the country, whose family consisted of a sickly wife and nine children, told me he had sold his only cow to buy provisions, and had now but eighteen-pence left, which he desired to lay out in the purchase of two Testaments, as he had not one in his house. But on hearing his tale of woe, I procured for him a Bible and three Testaments gratis, for which he seemed very thankful. A short time ago I met the same man in the City :- He caught me by the hand which he held in both his, and said,-" your books have been blessed to my family-my oldest son, sixteen years of age, died, since I saw you, in great peace, - having been brought to true repentance, I have no doubt, by reading his Bible—and a great change has been wrought throughout my entire household." Another person I met with said he had a wife and seven children, but had never owned a Bible. I remonstrated with him, on his awful neglect of duty to his family-He seemed to be sorry for his conduct and bought one. And many other cases of a similar character occurred. Often I was told that I

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the aye of the Lord, not only

was doing more good, by thus distributing the word of life, than I could have done by pursuing my ordinary duties, had I been a zealous and active minister of the gospel. Sometimes indeed my offer of a Bible or a Testament seemed to provoke only opposition and resentment; nevertheless there were instances of such conduct being exchanged for kindness, manifested by temperate language and a request for a Bible. And I afterwards saw, in one such case, the purchaser retire to a place which he thought secure from observation, that he might read the blessed word without interruption.

In some parts of the City I have been much pained to see drunkenness and card-playing permitted on the Sabbath day. If these haunts of vice could be shut up, many who frequent them might be induced to read the word of God and attend our Churches, and thereby secure the blessing of Heaven, instead of thus exposing themselves and their neighbourhoods to some awful visitation, by such daring impiety

and wickedness.

I may also mention in conclusion as an encouraging fact, that I have been repeatedly urged to visit the settlements along the shores, where there are no Stores or other places for the sale of the sacred Scriptures, with a view of carrying out and extending the object of my labours-and have been offered a free passage by several of them, should I find it convenient to comply with the wishes of the inhabi-

In my labours generally I find great encouragement and happiness, and hope by the blessing of God, much good will result therefrom—and I shall be glad to continue them, if they can still be rendered available to the promotion of the blessed objects contemplated-or to resume them at some future period, if such a course be deemed most

> I remain Gentlemen, Your most obedient servant, JOHN McLEOD, Colporteur.

Halifax, 31st March, 1849.

FROM MISS NEWTON, SECRETARY OF THE GUYSBUROUGH LADIES' ASSOCIATION. January 30th, 1849.

I have partly to apologize, for the intrusion of a letter,—but hope however to be excused on the score of benefits received ;-desiring to acknowledge, (though at this late period) our most grateful reception, of your Society's important, timely, and very interesting communication, through your living, " General Epistle," Mr. Smith; whose repeated counsels, to urge onward, in more zealous, and efficient efforts, on behalf of the Bible cause, we pray, may be crowned with the heavenly benediction. A public meeting, of more than ordinary interest, was held in this Town : at which, a succinct body of deeply interesting facts was brought before the audience; much to the satisfaction of every enlightened mind: and clearly demonstrating, that the eye of the Lord, not only looked down from Heaven to behold the

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things done upon the earth, His footstool, but, that His providences ever have been, and are now, in an especial manner employed, (however mysterious or afflictive, in their developement) to clear the way, for a more speedy reception, and more general diffusion of his most Holy word, among the nations; and also, that the heavenly protection and blessing, has ever been most signally extended over, and abundantly rested on, those sections of the earth, as well as their individual inhabitants, who have most honoured the Lord, by a due estimation of His revealed will, as the richest treasure to be possessed, and have been most heartily and zealously occupied in the dissemination of His "statutes," which "are right," and "rejoice the heart." It was also plainly shown, that the great proprietor of all things, in the use of means, has designed, that his redeemed creature man should be employed in carrying out the divine purposes of mercy, to his fellow-man. And that the golden chain of instrumentalities, in the blessed work, has innumerable links; and although some may be feeble, and almost impervious to view, yet that they are nevertheless, needful, and not to be broken, but each to bear its proportionate weight or influence on the other, and all requisite to the general strength, and extension of the whole great scheme of human agency :- making it manifest, that every one has something to do, in the Bible cause, and that every one, can do something. And that from the feeblest, and most obscure agencies, it hath pleased God, (not unfrequently) that the most important and extensive blessings should spring.

Our Association were not a little gratified, that Mr. Smith, who is so happily intrusted with your Society's business, should have been instrumental, in reviving the interest of a Gentlemen's Branch Bible

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We have to thank your Depositary for attention to our request last season; the Testaments came safe to hand, and met a ready sale; we shall be pleased, in the spring, to receive a similar supply. Our small remittance, is matter of heartfelt regret. We can only hope, for better things in future, and for a more general interest, in a cause of deepest import.

#### FROM REV. N. McLEOD, St. Ann's, Cape-Breton.

March 27th, 1849.

The enclosed you will find to be twelve pounds currency as proceeds of butter given by our women during the past autumn, for the service of the Bible Society. We regret the smallness of the amount, but it is all that we could collect in the meantime. There is yet some balance due which we intend to forward along with the ensuing Summer's donations. That general destitution has prevented any larger remittance, is the best apology which we can render on the subject. We have sincerely the cause at heart, as the best means of the appointment of Heaven, for the circulation of saving knowledge

for the instruction and salvation of men throughout the world. In the mean time we request no books in return, only a few of the largest reports for the last year, if convenient.

Earnesily wishing the Lord's blessing to accompany the endeavours of the Society.

of the Society, I am, &c.

# Subscriptions and Donations.

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