THE

TWENTY-FIRST REPORT

OF THE

NOVA-SCOTIA

BIBLE SOCIETY.

April 11, 1848.

HALIFAX, N. S.
PRINTED BY JAMES BOWES & SON.
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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 Subcriber of Ten Guineas at one time shall be a Member for Life.

V. Each Subscriber 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 Govenor 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 Member 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 Thirty-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.

XIII. Every Clergyman or Dissenting Minister, who is a Member of the Society, shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Meetings 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 preside at the Meeting.

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 LIFE, OR GOVENORS FOR LIFE.

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.

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 individual whatever.

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.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

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.

VII. 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 Excellency Major General SIR JOHN HARVEY, K. C. B.
&c. &c. &c.

HON. H. H. COGSWELL, *President.*

Hon. J. W. JOHNSTON,
MARTIN G. BLACK, Esq. } *Vice-Presidents.*
JAMES W. NUTTING, Esq.

M. G. BLACK, Esq., *Treasurer.*
W. PRYOR, jr., Esq., *Secretary.*
S. L. SHANNON, Esq., *Assistant Secretary.*

COMMITTEE.

REV. DR. TWINING,
" JOHN SCOTT,
" R. F. UNIACKE,
" JOHN MARTIN,
" E. A. CRAWLEY,
" P. McGREGOR,
" ALEX. McLEOD,
" F. SMALLWOOD,
HON. M. B. ALMON,
" H. BELL,
" ALEX. KEITH,
DAVID HARE, Esq.
HENRY PRYOR, Esq.

JAS. N. SHANNON, Esq.
GEO. N. RUSSELL, Esq.
DAVID ALLISON, Esq.
J. H. ANDERSON, Esq.
HENRY INCE, Esq.
S. SELDEN, Esq.
T. A. BROWN, Esq.
WM. SILVER, Esq.
ALEX. FRASER, Esq.
WM. HOWE, Esq.
T. A. S. DEWOLFE, Esq.
JAS. THOMPSON, Esq.

LIFE MEMBERS.

By Donation of Ten Pounds and upwards, at and since the formation of the Society.

The HON. CHAS. PRESCOTT,
WILLIAM A. CHIPMAN, Esq.
SNOW PARKER, Esq.
DR. WEBSTER.

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

AT THE

TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

NOVA-SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY,

HELD IN ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, HOLLIS STREET, HALIFAX,

Tuesday, April 11, 1848.

T. A. S. DeWolfe, Esq., in the Chair.

The Report of the Committee having been read by the Secretary, it was, on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Crawley, seconded by Rev. P. McGregor,—

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

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

On the motion of the Rev. F. Smallwood, seconded by James W. Johnston, Esq.,—

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

That this Meeting whilst cherishing a spirit of unfeigned gratitude to God for his continued kindness to the parent Society, and its numerous Auxiliaries during the past year, feels itself bound, from the importance of the work in which it is engaged, as well as from the numerous fields opened up for the circulation of the Scriptures, to make renewed and increased exertions in aid of the funds, and the operations of this Institution.

On the motion of the Rev. John Martin, seconded by the Rev. Alexander McLeod,—

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,—

That this Meeting beg leave to tender their thanks to the numerous Auxiliaries and Associations connected with this Society throughout the

Province, for their past liberality, and to solicit their countenance and friendly assistance to the Agent, who has been lately appointed to carry on a correspondence with them, and to advance the interests of the Society in all the districts and settlements of the Colony.

On the motion of S. Fulton, Esq., seconded by S. Creelman, Esq.,—

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

That this Meeting, fully assured that the Word of God is one of the great and important means of salvation, profitable at all times, and in all circumstances, affording instruction to the young, and consolation to the aged—one of the sure bulwarks of domestic happiness, and national prosperity—the pillar and the ground of truth—pledge themselves and each other to use their utmost endeavours to furnish every inhabitant of the Province, willing to receive and able to read it, with a copy of the Scriptures.

On the motion of the Rev. R. F. Uniacke, seconded by Mr. Kellogg,—

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

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. James W. Johnston, M. G. Black and J. W. Nutting, Esqrs.,* VICE PRESIDENTS; *M. G. Black, Esq.,* TREASURER; *W. Pryor, junr. Esq.,* SECRETARY; *S. L. Shannon, Esq.,* ASSISTANT SECRETARY. Committee, *Reverends Dr. Twining, J. Scott, Dr. Crawley, R. F. Uniacke, J. Martin, P. McGregor, A. McLeod, F. Smallwood,—Honbles. M. B. Almon, H. Bell and Alexr. Keith,—David Hare, H. Pryor, J. N. Shannon, David Allison, J. H. Anderson, H. Ince, S. Selden, T. A. Browne, W. Silver, Alex. Fraser, W. Howe, G. N. Russell, T. A. S. Dewolfe and Jas. Thompson, Esquires.*

On the motion of the Hon. M. B. Almon, seconded by the Hon. Hugh Bell,—

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

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

REPORT.

Never perhaps, has your Committee been permitted to meet the friends of the Society with a deeper sense of the great responsibility resting upon them, than they now feel, in submitting their annual Report. The aspect of the times calls loudly upon all who truly value the Bible, for active exertion. The passing events in Europe, enforce more and more, upon our minds the inestimable value of that "wisdom which cometh down from above," and of the solemn necessity that lies upon us with God's help, to use every endeavour to make it shine yet clearer and brighter. Yes, the Bible—the word of God, in all its purity—in all its simplicity, should be more and more dear to us—for is it not abundantly evident, that where we find the greatest attainments in science, and the highest intellectual cultivation, there we, too often, find the learned indulging in a vain philosophy, denying all human responsibility, and the souls immortality—the nobles of the land, in many cases, manifesting a degree of depravity almost beyond belief; and the mass of the lower orders sunk in complete infidelity or religious indifference, and whence arises this restless spirit of the age, —these abortive struggles for happiness? Alas! comes it not from the vain endeavour to substitute human reason for divine revelation? does it not proceed from the fruitless attempt, to be wise without God, and happy without a Saviour? If these things are so, surely it becomes all who love the Lord Jesus Christ, in sincerity and who truly desire to fight under his banner, to buckle on their armour afresh—to be watchful and ready to use "those weapons which are not carnal, but mighty through God, to the pulling down of strong holds," and though the enemy should come in like a flood, and opposition should wax stronger and bolder, go forward under the encouragement of the great Captain of their salvation, who has declared, "Heaven and Earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass away."

Your Committee, before going into local matters, will, as usual, take a hasty glance at the operations of the Parent Society for the past year, which are full of interest and encouragement. The total issue of the Society for the year 1847, has been 1,419,283 copies of the Scriptures, and their expenditure £128,525 3s. 3d. The total nett receipts, amount to £117,440 9s. 3d., of which £56,000 has been for the general purposes of the Society and £61,000 from the sale of Bibles and Testaments. Notwithstanding the unprecedented distribution of the Scriptures in England and Scotland during the previous

year, the Society are called upon to express their gratitude to God, for a yet larger issue during the year that has just passed. In Manchester, Bristol, and other manufacturing towns, increased efforts have been made, and those efforts crowned with success. In Manchester alone, 96,711 copies of the Scriptures have been issued, during the past year; and in Bristol 38,000 copies, which is even greater, comparing the population.

The operations of the Society, through their faithful and indefatigable agents, have been carried on in the various Countries of Europe with their usual vigour, although, in many quarters, they have been tried by more than ordinary opposition. Their Superintendent at Paris writes: "The year which has just expired, and on which I am called upon to make a general Report, has been abundant in labour, more so than almost any that has preceded it, while at the same time it has been marked, both by the success and the difficulties which have attended our operations: for the times were inauspicious, more particularly at that particular season of the year, when the circulation of the Scriptures is the most easily and most extensively effected. Never before had our Colporteurs more need of encouragement, and of being stimulated to perseverance in their work. My correspondence with them has been carried on with extraordinary activity, and often when at a loss to suggest the means of overcoming difficulties, which on the whole appeared to me insurmountable, all I could do was to cheer our poor friends with the words, Forward! Forward! God is for you, and who can be against you?"

In summing up the total distribution of the Scriptures in France, for the past 27 years, which amounts to 2,388,567 copies, he writes: 'This is assuredly a considerable number, and were it only for the circumstance that a very large proportion of the Bibles and Testaments of which it is composed, have been distributed in a country where the Scriptures were unknown, save to a very scanty portion of its inhabitants, it would be a degree of success calling for our warmest gratitude. But you have more substantial grounds for rejoicing, facts which, if I may be allowed the expression, might serve to change our faith to sight, have indemnified your Society for all the sacrifices it has made in behalf of France. You will, no doubt, here call to mind the various departments and cantonal districts, in which at one time, there was not a single protestant, and consequently, not a single Bible, but where copies of the Book of Life are now to be found in abundance. You will remember all the places of which I have many and many a time spoken to you, and in which thanks to your Bible Colporteurs and to the blessing vouchsafed to their labours by the Lord, there are now respectable congregations gathered around the altar of the Bible, and desirous of receiving no other instruction than what is found within its sacred pages, and where there are now souls to be met with who are indebted to the reading of the Scriptures for their conversion to the truth. Yes, I am certain you will remember all this, and in so doing will acknowledge to the glory and praise of God, that he affords you encouragement beyond your warmest hopes."

In Holland, Belgium and Germany the good work is proceeding with unabated endeavour, but sad and startling indeed is the fact, as exhibited in the reports of the agents, that the great adversary of the truth is making more than ordinary efforts to delude the people.

The Prussian Bible Society thus reports:—"Another year has passed by! and such a year! Full of commotions and strife in the Church and out of the Church! Never were the fundamental doctrines of evangelical faith so rudely assailed by the pretended partizans of light and truth, and so openly denied by Clergy, Churchwardens and Magistrates, as in the last year. It is true, what they have brought forward was all there before, and in their attacks, there is nothing progressive, but every thing retrograde, and on the field of science it has been long since confuted and annihilated. It is not very long ago—only from sixty to seventy years—that the same language was heard and the same attacks were made, and with ability rebutted; and if we examine the writings of Baron Von Moser Hermann, Matthias Claudius, Lavater, and Stilling, one can hardly believe these had been written in times past, for in all respects they are applicable to the present times.

But at that period the conflict was carried on with more caution and mostly among the learned. Among the common people the faith of their Fathers still remained, and they were not then disposed to enter into the contest: now, the state of things is different—now, though science be powerfully on the side of faith, yet the people are on the side of infidelity. Hence the applause which the so-called free spirits receive from the lower orders, and the abuse which is carried on, with things the most sacred."

The Saxon Bible Society thus refers to the same overwhelming subject:

"The greatest event of the past year is this, that we still exist; that we are still here and are yet permitted to bear testimony to the wonderful works of God. For who is there amongst us, that is unacquainted with what has been going on during the past year. Have the voice and efforts of the prophets and ministers of the spirit of the world, that is in rebellion against the word of God, His will, and His kingdom, are become louder and mightier, so that they have surrounded the Church like a flood, and threatened to overturn its very foundations; and like a devouring flame, strove to reduce it to ashes? But this has not taken place; and in our land the word of God and the Church which is built upon it, still remain, and we are here ready to bear our testimony to it." In remarking upon the work of their Colporteurs, they add—"In general, however, the hopes of the Committee have not been disappointed—respect for the Bible is not yet extinguished among the people, and though we here and there meet with expressions that the spirit of the age has engendered, such as, 'the Bible is the greatest book of lies,' or, 'I am a mortal enemy to the Bible,' or, 'God be thanked the Bible will soon be in discredit,' and as some of the false prophets have here and there predicted, 'soon we shall have a new Bible.' Yet our Colporteurs have mostly met with a kind reception." This is all very sad, yet we are encouraged

by their assurance that, "nevertheless, God has His people at work amongst all these adversaries to the truth—a people small in number as they have been in all ages—a people who look above this world, aspire after its spiritual pleasures and freedom from sin, and who spend their lives in promoting the temporal and eternal interests of their fellow creatures—are regulated in their faith and practice by the revealed will of their Maker, and rely for salvation on the finished work of their Redeemer, and in spite of all the efforts of the enemies of God, the numbers of this chosen people is increasing every day."

Your Committee are compelled to pass over many interesting notices of the Societies operations in Switzerland, Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Greece, and Turkey, in all which Countries they are prosecuting their labours with much encouragement, in order that they may be enabled before the Report runs to too great a length to engage your attention with a few passing notices of what is doing in the East Indies and China.

The Rev. J. H. Gray, one of the Secretaries of the Madras Auxiliary thus writes: "I think I can say that the word of the Lord is running, and our Lord Jesus Christ is being glorified in Southern India, if it be a proof of this that we find the strong man armed, no longer enjoying a peaceful possession of his goods, or that we see bitterness and persecution ripe among the heathen towards Christians, we are beginning to have these things abound at our doors, and the so called gentle and passive Hindoo is now seen in the streets of Madras, armed with a hatchet to cut down the gate of a missionary's house, and rescue the relative who had fled thither, as to a city of refuge, from heathen superstition and uncleanness, or he is seen casting his son's or his brothers' Bible into the fire, lest it should convert him; and thousands upon thousands can meet together, to cry as lustily as ever they did at Ephesus on behalf of Diana, for their Gods." The following pleasing evidence of the further progress of the good work is from the report of one of their associations, they say: 'While the Committee behold with joy, and would own with gratitude, the exertions made by Europeans and East Indians, they will confess that they feel especial delight and thankfulness in perceiving that the Native Church in India is now coming forward with increased liberality and zeal, to aid in the distribution of the Bible. Several applications have been received during the past year from *Native Associations* and individuals for grants of the sacred Scriptures, which they wish to distribute, and larger pecuniary aid has been received this year than ever before by the Committee from their *Hindoo fellow* Christians. The Committee cannot but consider this as the fruit of the Holy Ghost and an evidence that the leaven of God's Word is working surely and secretly."

The Parent Committee in their anxiety, still regard this portion of their work, as immeasurably vast, and refer to the report of the Calcutta Auxiliary, which has the following forcible remarks: "It is necessary still to remember that great provinces, counties, thickly populated cities and towns, and thousands of villages remain to be cared for by this Society. For this immense district your Committee feel that after all that has been attempted—little compar-

atively has yet been done. It is not too much to say, that there are not now one million of persons among all the millions of India, who are in possession of the Bible, or any part of it. There is a famine of the word of God, and the people are perishing for lack of knowledge —millions die yearly without having ever read one line, or perhaps ever having heard one sentence, of the lively oracles of God. Many others now hold the truth in unrighteousness. There are, however, thousands in India now, whose minds are no longer enthralled by the superstition of their ancestors, and who know that an idol is nothing, and that there is but one living and true God. The great responsibilities of this class, and their influence, present considerations, which add to the interest that is attached to the important work of this Society, as a Bible Society in a heathen land."

Your Committee now pass on to China, and in this interesting Country we find the Parent Committee are anxiously engaged with the Directors of the London Missionary Society in carrying on a revision of the Chinese version of the Scriptures, and in otherwise forwarding their great work. The following is an extract of a letter from one of the Missionaries: "To all this we have been led by your very encouraging letter of Nov. 21st, now before us, from which we learn the intense anxiety of the Bible Society to expedite the affair, and give to the millions of China a revised version of the Sacred Scriptures. This desire on their part, corresponds to the outcry of the natives of this country who have heard our preaching, to be put in possession of our sacred oracles, that they may search the Scriptures daily to see whether these things are so; and as the Missionaries who labor in word and doctrine, it is absolutely impossible to move a step further in our work, without an edition of the Scriptures to put into the hands of enquirers. With regard to ourselves, we have not a sufficient number of copies to supply half a dozen members of a very interesting Bible class, two being obliged to look over one book." On receiving this and other like letters, the Parent Committee immediately passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sum of £1000 be granted to the London Missionary Society for the purpose of enabling them to forward to Shang Hay, a cylinder printing press, and an additional quantity of Chinese Type, and also to defray the expenses connected with sending assistance from this country for printing the Chinese Scriptures."

The Committee, in their report, add: "The printer and the printing press have recently left England. May God speed their voyage and crown the undertaking with his largest blessing."

The Parent Committee introduce into this part of their report, an extract from an address delivered by Dr. Philip at a meeting of the South African Bible Society, which is so highly interesting, that your Committee here transcribe it:

"Passing from India to China, he says, there we are reminded of the labours of Morrison and Milne, and are brought into contact with a people composing the third part of the human race, who are waiting to receive the Scriptures at our hands. I had the honor and pleasure to enjoy the friendship of both, and of introducing Dr. Milne to the

missionary work. In reply to a letter addressed to him shortly before his death, "You ask me," said he, "what are you doing in China? In reply to your question, I have to tell you that we are standing and knocking at the gates of China, calling upon the Emperor in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to open the gates of his Empire for the admission of the Gospel. To the above summons the Emperor's reply is, "No! my gates are closed for ever against you and your message." While the Emperor is setting at defiance the mandate of our Divine Master Jesus Christ, the Prince of the kings of the earth, who shutteth and no man openeth, and who openeth and no man shutteth, and who has the keys of the gates of the nations of the earth at his girdle, is calling upon us to go on with our work, to continue knocking, and if the Emperor of China will not open his gates, He says, I have a key that will open them." In this work Dr. Milne continued to the last hour of his life, assured, that he who said of Cyrus, I will open the two leaved gates before him, will in his own time and manner cause the gates of China to be opened to his servants.

Dr. Milne did not live to see this particular act of his faith carried into action, but he saw the promise at no great distance—was persuaded of it, embraced it, and acted upon it in the fullest confidence of the certainty of the event he anticipated, leaving us an example that we should follow in his steps.

Let the contrast, continues the Committee, be made between the state of things then and now, and let the devout exclamation be heard,—what has God wrought? Let encouragement be taken, let labour be renewed, and let greater things still be expected. The Emperor willing—the people willing—the people whose duty it is to send the book, and the people to whom the volume is to be sent!

Your Committee would now turn your attention to a brief review of our domestic affairs—of the operations of our Society for the past year. And here your Committee are called upon to record and to deplore the loss of a warm and sincerely attached friend of the Society, the Rev. Wm. Cogswell, whom, since the last Annual Meeting, it has pleased the great Head of the Church to remove from His service here, your Committee humbly yet firmly believe, to "receive that crown of glory which fadeth not away." For very many years Mr. Cogswell was an active and zealous member of this Committee, and ever present when health permitted—at the Annual Meeting, to advocate its claims, and to aid in the circulation of that blessed book which he himself, read and loved so much. In his removal, your Committee feel they have lost a bright example of christian devotedness. 'He has entered into his rest, and his works do follow him.' May his sorrowing friends!—may your Committee!—may the whole wide circle, over which he exercised a salutary influence, follow him, as he followed Christ!—Amen.

In compliance with the desire of the Society, as expressed in a resolution at the last Annual Meeting, that your Committee would take the necessary steps to secure the services of a suitable travelling agent for the Society, the Secretary was immediately directed to address the Parent Committee on the subject, and they very kindly

offered to add £100 stg. to the same amount from the funds of this Society, for 3 years consecutively, as a salary for such agency. Since then, your Committee have been engaged in endeavouring to find a proper person for the situation, and are now happy to inform the Society, that they have secured the services of Mr. Isaac Smith, of P. E. Island, who commences his labours early in May, and your Committee feel assured, from the high character they have received of Mr. Smith, and the satisfactory testimonials he has produced, that the work will prosper in his hands; and they take this opportunity of commending him to the friends of the Society throughout the Province, wherever he may visit—both to aid him in his labours, and to esteem him very highly in love for his work's sake.' The receipts of the Society for the past year have been as follows:—

From the Truro Branch, per the Rev. Mr. McCulloch, as a free contribution, £10. From the Ladies' Guysborough Association, £5 8s. 3½d. From the Ladies' Association of St. Matthew's Church, in aid of an agent or colporteur, per Mrs. Scott, £15; and from the Ladies' Religious Society in connection with the congregation at Onslow, by the Rev. Mr. Baxter, a free contribution, £3; and from the Ladies' Association of St. Ann's, Cape Breton, by the Rev. Norman McLeod, £8. The sales at the Depository have amounted to £80 7s. 6½d. and the subscriptions and donations to £57 3s. 2d.

Your Committee are happy to be enabled to state that all claims against the Society have been paid in full, with a balance in the Treasurer's hands on the 31st December last, (of £122 19s. 1d.) as will appear in his account current annexed.

The issue of Bibles and Testaments from your Depository has been as follows:—

Sold for Cash at the Depository - - - - - - -	522	608
Delivered to Members of Committee for sale or distribution - - - - - - - - - - - -	270	315
Given to Sunday Schools - - - - - - - - - -	75	193
Total issue, 1847 -	867	1116

Making the total issue for 1847, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-three copies of the Scriptures, and leaving a stock on hand of 5054 Bibles and Testaments.

Your Committee have been induced from the signal success attending the system of Colportage in other countries, of trying the experiment in this city, and have engaged the services of Mr. McLeod as a city Colporteur, for a limited period. Mr. McLeod is now going over the city, from ward to ward, in regular succession, and they are happy to report that the result, so far, has been very encouraging: his sales amounts to 865 copies of the Scriptures for the 9 weeks he has been employed.

Your Committee have good hope that his exertions will continue to meet a good return. By visiting the country markets, as also the fishing and coasting vessels that throng our wharves at different seasons, opportunity will be afforded of distributing the word of God

among that class of persons, very difficult to be got at, in any other way.

Your Committee deeply feel how weak and insufficient they are for the solemn work entrusted to their management; but praised be God, who manifests His strength in the weakness of the instruments he employs; and thankfully do they ascribe all the glory to Him, for whatever of good they have been permitted to do.

In conclusion, your Committee trust, enough has been shown you of the operations of the Society for the past year, to awaken your earnest attention and to call forth your warmest gratitude to the God of the Bible, and in the impressive words of the Parent Society, would say to you, "all these things have a voice—a loud voice—and all cry earnestly to the Society's friends,—forward! forward! The new trophies that have been won in every clime, all speak the same language;—and what is it which they say, in accents as intelligible as any that was ever heard by human ear? or rather, what does the great Head of the Church say by them? Be of good cheer, it is I who am with you. As it is my word which you spread, it is my work in which you are engaged,—expect at my hands greater things; forget the things that are behind; press onward to the things which are still before you. Honour me, and see whether I will not honour you? Honour me by increased exertions,—by renewed liberality,—honour me by unreserved dependence upon me,—by looking to me for wisdom, for strength, for success, for the sufficiency of my grace,—honour me by thankfulness for what I have already given,—honour me by obeying my new commandment—to love one another—walk in love,—let there be no strife,—aim to realize the truth that ye are all one in Christ Jesus. Amen and Amen.

APPENDIX.

From the British and Foreign Bible Society Reporter.

THE Committee have much pleasure in laying before their friends the following documents which have been received from the CHESTER AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY:—

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Auxiliary Bible Society for the City and County of Chester, held on the 3d. inst., the Rev. F. Ford, M. A., Rector of St. Peter's, in the Chair, it was Resolved unanimously—

"That this Committee view with mingled pleasure and regret the translation of the Right Rev. John Bird Sumner, Lord Bishop of this Diocese, to the Metropolitan See of Canterbury. With pleasure—because they consider his elevation as an acknowledgement of superior merit, and a just and reasonable recognition of services of the highest and most laborious description conferred on the Church of Christ, and also because they see in his Lordship the best and most suitable person to occupy the high position to which he has been raised; with regret—as being thus deprived of the benefit which this Society has long enjoyed, from the superintendence of his Lordship, and from his repeated occupation of the Chair at their Public Annual Meetings, and as being for the future shut out from the very valuable support which has been derived from his connection with it. That the Committee desire to express their unfeigned gratitude for all his past activity and usefulness, and their hearty prayer that he may long be spared to defend the cause of truth, and to protect the interests of the Christian Church."

It was further Resolved, "That the above be inscribed in a copy of the Imperial Quarto Bible of the Society, and presented, with the following Address, to his Lordship on Monday next:—

'*To the Right Reverend John Bird Sumner, D. D., Lord Bishop of Chester.*

'From the Auxiliary Bible Society for the City and County of Chester:—

'MY LORD,—With sentiments of heartfelt respect and affection, we beg your Lordship to accept the accompanying copy of the Holy Scriptures, printed by the British and Foreign Bible Society, as an appropriate token of the uncompromising adherence you have ever manifested to the principles of that honoured Institution. While we unfeignedly lament, on personal considerations, your Lordship's removal from the Diocese of Chester, over which you have presided

for twenty years, our regret is diminished when we remember that the Church of Christ at large may still enjoy, through the influence of the Holy Spirit, the benefit of your matured wisdom and paternal supervision. We are assured that the Society, a section of which it is our privilege to represent in this city, the simplicity of whose constitution and the efficiency of whose labours have been so frequently and so fully recognised by your Lordship, will not cease to engage your affection, and to obtain an interest in your prayers. That a gracious and indulgent God may prolong your valuable life, for the furtherance of His own purposes of grace and mercy to a lost and ruined world, is the fervent prayer of your Lordship's obliged and faithful servants.'

'*Chester, March 6th*, 1848.

Accordingly, on Monday last a Deputation of twenty-six members of the Association waited upon the Bishop at his Episcopal Palace, in this city, when the Rev. W. P. Hutton, Rector of St. Bride's (Clerical Secretary to the Auxiliary), read the Address; and Dr. Davies (Lay Secretary), presented the Bible, and read the Resolution therein inscribed.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chester replied in the following terms:—'Gentlemen, I beg to express the satisfaction with which I receive your kind congratulations on the high ecclesiastical dignity to which, in the providence of God, I have been called; and I especially value your Address, because it is accompanied by the present of that Book to which I owe every thing. Whatsoever I am, as a man, or as a writer, or as a minister, that Book has made me; and the only hope which I now entertain of realizing the expectations of kind friends, and discharging with any degree of faithfulness the duties which lie before me, depends upon the Bible, for there I am assured, that He who dispenses to men their respective stations on earth, will also give strength for the performance of what those stations require, and together with the trial will furnish grace to meet the trial. It may happen that the new circumstances in which I am placed, may render me less able than I have been hitherto to attend the Public Meetings of your Society, to which I have been attached for more than forty years; but nothing can change my opinion of the excellence of that Society, which will always find me faithful to its interests, and anxious for its prosperity. And now, gentlemen, in bidding you farewell, permit me to express, together with my thanks for your kind feelings towards me, an earnest prayer for your welfare, both spiritual and temporal. May you be guided through life by the principles of the volume which you have presented to me, and experience their support when everything else has lost its value."

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HALIFAX, 1847.

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Augt. 19.	To Cash paid printing Reports - - -	£8	12	6
Septr. 16.	" do. paid for Bill of Exchange for £57 15s. 4d. stg., at 12 per cent, remitted to the Parent Society - - -	71	17	9
Decr. 31.	" Cash paid the Depositary, salary to date, 14 months - - - -	11	18	4
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January 1.	By Balance - - - - - - - -	£38	5	11½
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Errors excepted,

HALIFAX, 31st Decr. 1847,

MARTIN GAY BLACK, *Treasurer.*

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