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REPORT

OF THE

MIDLAND DISTRICT COMMITTEE

OF THE

SOCIETY

FOR

PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE;

FOR

1827.



KINGSTON, U. C.

PRINTED BY JAMES MACFARLANE.

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REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF THE

GENERAL LAND OFFICE

1881

WASHINGTON, D. C.

1882

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE Midland District Committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, in submitting their first annual report of their proceedings, cannot fail regretting that it is not in their power to offer such an account of their success as they could have wished, and which they had fondly anticipated; but the arrangements which have been made are such as to lead your Committee to hope, that no delay will prevent "that labour of love" in which you are engaged, from being productive of those lasting advantages, which must be the fervent prayer of all devout and zealous Churchmen.

As soon as your Committee were formed, they immediately proceeded to the soliciting of subscriptions, which have amounted to £37, including the collection at a sermon preached for the occasion, by the Rev. Mr. Morgell, at the particular request of His Lordship the Bishop of this Diocese, whose kind interest in promoting the objects of the Society, have been gratefully felt by your Committee, and cannot fail of

being highly gratifying to every member of the Church.

YOUR Committee then proceeded to further the principal objects of the Society in the distribution of Bibles and Prayer Books, and other religious tracts, and the advancement of education in the promotion of Sunday and other schools, founded upon the principles of the Society.

WITH regard to the circulating of the Scriptures, and other religious works, your Committee being destitute of any supply, and finding that the sum of £25 was at their disposal in the hands of the Diocesan Committee at Quebec, considered that they could not better promote the interests of the Society, than having at their disposition the supply which this would afford; and they, accordingly, gave directions, that books to that amount should be forwarded to the Archdeacon, which was immediately complied with; and your Committee finding them to be books peculiarly adapted for Sunday Schools and gratuitous distribution, have directed that they shall be given to the Clergymen of the District, and the members for that purpose.

YOUR Committee, however, being desirous of corresponding directly with the Parent Society, and of obtaining a supply of Bibles and other books with as little delay as possible, in May last, addressed a letter to the Secretaries of the Parent Society, and acquainted them, for the information of the Society, with the formation of this District Committee, requesting a supply of books agreeably to an accompanying catalogue, recommended, and furnished by the Archdeacon of Kingston. And your Committee have much pleasure in announcing, that their wishes were immediately complied with, and that the books ordered, have been received during the past month, and that

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they are now at your disposal ; they amount, per inventory, including shipping and insurance, to £43, 9s. 2d. sterling, in part payment of which, your Committee have remitted £25 sterling, in Bills of Exchange through the Bank of Upper Canada, to the President and Directors, of which Institution the thanks of your Committee are due in remitting the money without any premium, which is equivalent to a subscription of £3. The letter of the Secretary of the Parent Society, in answering the application of your Committee, is very gratifying, and affords another among the many numerous instances of their cordial co-operation and support in furthering the objects of this, and other institutions, founded upon similar plans. The following extracts are taken from it :—

“ I lost no time in submitting your communications
 “ to the consideration of a general meeting, and I
 “ have now the pleasure of acquainting you, that the
 “ Board most cordially approve of the proceedings of
 “ the District Committee, as stated in the Report.—
 “ Having had long experience of the benefits resulting
 “ from the formation of Committees, both at home and
 “ abroad, the Board received official intelligence of
 “ the establishment of such an Institution for the Mid-
 “ land District of Upper Canada with great satisfact-
 “ ion, and even led to anticipate very important ad-
 “ vantages to the cause of sound religion, and to the
 “ interests of humanity, from the united exertions of
 “ the Clergy and Laity resident in that District.—
 “ With a view of enabling the Committee to com-
 “ mence their operations as speedily as possible, the
 “ Board gave directions that all the Books and Tracts
 “ which are specified, should be immediately forward-
 “ ed by the earliest vessels bound for the Canadas.”
 “ I take this opportunity of mentioning, that on the
 “ application of the Venerable Archdeacon Strachan,

“ the Society has made a grant of £500 to the University shortly to be established in Upper Canada, and that the sum so granted will be laid out in the purchase of theological works, to be approved of by the Society ‘ for the use of the Students.’ ”

YOUR Committee cannot help recommending the propriety of establishing a parochial library, which will afford to the destitute members of the Church, access to the writings of our best divines, and will be one great means of affording that spiritual sustenance of which too many are destitute, and which, by the blessing of Providence, may be to them “ a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

YOUR Committee regret, that from the want of a parochial church, and other obstacles, the Sunday School has not proceeded with any degree of regularity, and that it has fallen through; but hope, that in the accommodation which the new Church will afford, an institution which is of so much vital importance to the eternal interest of the rising generation, will meet with general support; and under the fostering hand of the District Committee, will again flourish and be permanent. The incitements to the furtherance of this object are so apparent, that every member must feel a personal interest in its advancement, and will endeavour to procure for the children a religious education; in which laudable service we are assured we shall have our reward, and “ that he who saves a soul from death shall cover a multitude of sins.”

THE expenditure of your Committee for the past year is £31, leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of £6; but your Committee are indebted to the Parent Society, for Books already received, £18, 9s. 2d. sterling, exclusive of expenses of transport, &c. which must be remitted on their next application for a further supply.

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1841
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

Your Committee, in concluding their Report, cannot help calling upon the Members of the Church for their earnest and persevering co-operation, without which, their efforts must at last prove ineffectual; and that they will endeavour, by the blessing of Heaven, to do good to the souls of their destitute brethren, and afford all the means of reading the "Book of Life," and of becoming acquainted with a Saviour, "who is both "able and willing to save to the uttermost."