

THE
FIFTEENTH REPORT
OF THE
NOVA-SCOTIA
BIBLE SOCIETY.

APRIL, 1837.

HALIFAX :
PRINTED BY ENGLISH AND BLACKADAR.

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NOVA-SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT,

HIS EXCELLENCY LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

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The Hon. H. H. COGSWELL, }
The Hon. JOSEPH ALLISON, } Vice Presidents.

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M. G. BLACK, Treasurer.

J. W. NUTTING, Secretary.

M. G. BLACK, Depository.

LIFE MEMBERS.

By Donations of ten pounds and upwards, at and since the formation of the Society.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF
DALHOUSIE.
The Hon. CHARLES R. PRESCOTT.
WILLIAM ALLAN CHIPMAN, Esq.

Rev. WILLIAM CHIPMAN,
JAMES GOREHAM, Esq.
SNOW PARKER, Esq.
Dr. WEBSTER.

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 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 One Pound 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, during the sitting of the Legislature, before which shall be laid the accounts and proceedings of the preceding year.
- VI. The whole of the subscriptions and donations, after deducting incidental expences, 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.

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THE
FIFTEENTH REPORT.
OF THE
NOVA-SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY.

At the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Nova-Scotia Auxiliary Bible Society, held at the Rooms of the Mechanics' Institute, in Dalhousie College, Halifax, on the evening of Wednesday the 10th of April, 1837.

The Meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. R. F. Uniacke.

The Hon. H. H. Cogswell, Vice President of the Society, took the Chair.

The Report of the Society was read by the Secretary, whereupon, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Mackintosh, seconded by Winthrop Sargent, Esq. it was

1. *Resolved*, That the Report be received and published under the direction of the Committee.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Cogswell, seconded by Gaius Lewis, Esq.

2. *Resolved*, That this Meeting desire to express their grateful thanks to Almighty God for his continued favours bestowed on the labours of the Parent Society, its various Auxiliaries, Branches and Associations, and on those of every other Society engaged in the same holy enterprise of distributing the Scriptures of truth throughout the whole Earth, and unite in the fervent prayer that through their means every nation of the Globe may shortly be furnished with the word of God in their own tongue, and may feel its saving and sanctifying influence.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Crawley, seconded by Hugh Bell, Esq.

3. *Resolved*, That this Meeting desire affectionately to urge upon the various Branch Societies and Associations connected with this Auxiliary, the importance of entering with renewed vigour on the wide field of usefulness before them, in providing the Scriptures not only for the destitute parts of our own Province, but also for those who are perishing in the darkness of superstition and ignorance in other lands.

On motion of the Rev. John Martin, seconded by Wm. Pryor, jr. Esq.

4. *Resolved*, That it appears highly desirable that an effort should be forthwith made to increase the funds of the Society at Halifax—that it be recommended to the Committee to adopt necessary measures to that effect; and that for the purpose of obtaining a larger amount of subscriptions, any person who shall hereafter subscribe the sum of 10s. per annum shall be entitled to become a member of this Society.

On motion of Andrew Dewolf, Esq.

5. *Resolved*, That the Secretary, Treasurer and Depository of the Society be requested to continue their services, and that M. B. Almon, Esq. Hugh Bell, Esq. Rev. E. A. Crawley, David Hare, Esq. James W. Johnston, Esq., Rev. John Martin, Rev. James Morrison, Rev. John Scott, G. N. Russell, Esq., James N. Shannon, Esq., Rev. R. F. Uniacke, Rev. W. Cogswell, Major Pringle, R. A., Wm. Pryor, jr. Esq., Rev. James McIntosh and Rev. J. P. Hetherington be appointed the Committee for the ensuing year.

On motion of G. Smith, Esq. seconded by Major Pringle, R. A.

6. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Meeting be given to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor for his continued patronage of this Society.

A Collection was then taken, and the Meeting closed by singing the Doxology.

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REPORT.

It is a high and delightful privilege amid the harassing and unsatisfactory pursuits, which occupy so much of human life, and the scenes of anxiety and sorrow, which so often disturb its course, to be permitted to engage in any occupation which has for its object a permanent relief for all the evils, and a final and blessed termination to all the sorrows and reverses, which are the lot of humanity.

In the accomplishment of such an object, the committee of the Nova-Scotia Bible Society feel that they are now privileged to be engaged, and they would once more express, the satisfaction they derive from seeing the friends of the institution assembled on the present occasion.

Your committee however, have to regret that their detail of the proceedings of the Society during the past year, must necessarily be more limited than usual, as they have not been favoured by many of the Branch Societies, and Associations, with such accounts of their meetings and labours as have often rendered the Report of your committee so highly interesting and important.

In the absence, however, of matters of local and domestic interest, there is an abundance of other information connected with the great cause of Biblical effort throughout the world, to afford the highest degree of grateful satisfaction and thanks

to the Author of every blessing for the large measure of success that has attended the labours of the friends and advocates of Bible Societies.

The Branch of the Cape Breton Society at St. Ann's has, since our last Report, been formed into a separate Branch Society, and your committee feel that they cannot speak in too high terms of commendation of their continued labours and success ; and which are in a great measure due to the indefatigable exertions of the Rev. Norman M'Leod, the zealous friend of the Society in that place.

They have remitted during the past year the sum of £36 10s.

The Truro Branch Society have forwarded their contributions to the amount of £3 15s 6d. We trust that the spirit which once prevailed in this district may be again revived, and that they may once more take the position among our Societies and in our Report, which they so long maintained with credit to themselves and benefit to the cause.

From the benevolent Society of the Presbyterian Church at Onslow, a donation of three pounds has been received, through the Rev. Mr. Baxter the Pastor of the Church.

A number of copies of the Holy Scriptures have been distributed during the past year by different ministers and other individuals in various parts of the Country, not within the immediate province of any of the Branch Societies, and consequently where the dearth of the word of life must have chiefly prevailed.

From the subscriptions and donations to the Society at Halifax, there have been received the sum of £51 2s, and your committee entertain no doubt but that with a little more exertion the

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yearly amount arising from direct contributions, to the Auxiliary Society in the capital, might be very much augmented.

There has been remitted to the Parent Society during the year the sum of £188 6s 8d currency, and the balance now in hand is £115 10s. One hundred and seventeen copies of the scriptures have been sold from the Depository at Halifax at cost and reduced prices, producing the sum of £27 0s 10d.

There have been received from the British and Foreign Bible Society since our last Report 410 Bibles and 985 Testaments; and distributed to Branch Societies, and agents in various sections of the Province 204 Bibles, and 143 Testaments. Different Sunday Schools have been supplied with 78 Bibles and 114 Testaments, and 39 Bibles and Testaments have been given gratis from the Depository at Halifax, making the whole amount of distributions by the Society for the year 379 Bibles, and 316 Testaments.

The very brief review which we have thus been enabled to give from the limited materials with which we have been furnished, evidently show that much more might be effected, than has lately been done in reference to the interests of the Society; and we sincerely hope that we may ere long witness a greater spirit of enterprise prevail, not only to supply the wants which are constantly springing up among ourselves, but also to make a nearer approach to the fulfilment of the manifest calls of duty in supplying, out of our abundance, the destitute parts of the Earth with the word of God.

In referring to the labours of the British and Foreign Bible Society during the past year, there is abundant cause for gratitude to God, that he

has been pleased in many instances to enlarge the field of its extensive operations, and to increase its usefulness ; and although some of its oldest and most valued supporters have been removed from the scene of their earthly labours, yet others are constantly raised up to fill their ranks with equal ardour and perseverance, and the simplicity of object and union of effort, which have so long distinguished the progress of the Society, still continue to render it, the favoured instrument of enlightening the dark places of the earth, and of turning many to righteousness.

During the year preceding the last Report, ninety five new Societies had been established, and there were connected with the Parent Society, in all two hundred and ninety six Auxiliaries, three hundred and twenty nine Branches, and 1,598 Associations. Their revenues amounted to nearly £87,000. About £46,000 of which arose from the sale of the Scriptures. The expenditure of the Society, as on many former occasions, exceeded its receipts being £107,000 and upwards. The whole amount of issues of Scriptures for the year was 558,842 copies.

In France, there is good reason to hope, that the dawn of a better day as regards Scripture light and influence is already appearing. The operations of the British and Foreign Bible Society in that interesting Country are already extensive, and are daily gaining ground ; and the French and Foreign Bible Society is not only looking forward to cultivate the immediate field before them, but in the language of their last Report, “ although their views are mainly directed to France, they have not lost sight of that part of the work which embraces Foreign Countries. One of their Auxiliaries has cast

its eyes on Spain in the hopes of benefiting it, and the Society considers itself as an advanced fort, to the occupants of which God has confided the duty of looking out for the arrival of that day, when there will be no more Pyrenees for the divine word to surmount." A happy day will that be, when the scenes of domestic bloodshed and horror which are now the awful scourge of that noble country, shall be succeeded by a heavenly zeal to promote the word of Life.

There were distributed in France in the year ending in March, 1836, by the British and French Societies in all nearly 100,000 Copies of the Scriptures.

Vast exertions have been made in England, especially by the British and Foreign Bible Society, to furnish means of instruction to the emancipated slaves in the West India Colonies, and thus to fit them not only for the proper exercise of their duties as freemen, but also to make them, as far as human means can effect it, denizens of a better country. The amount raised in connection with the general funds of the Society for that special purpose, the last year, exceed £15,000, which as is observed in the Report "will stand on the page of History, a pleasing memorial of British benevolence and piety."

Very cheering prospects are still opening for the diffusion of the Scriptures in Greece, and great efforts are making both in England and America towards furnishing improved translations, and increasing the number of depots for the Scriptures, as well as of missionaries and agents to teach and disseminate their saving doctrines.

But there is no country which has lately afforded fairer hopes of success in the Bible

cause than China, a land hitherto almost untouched by the utmost zeal or effort of Christian benevolence. The avenues to the introduction of foreign intercourse, and consequently to the spread of the Scriptures in that immense Empire have within a very short period, seemed to have been almost miraculously opened, and the ever watchful zeal of Christian enterprize stood ready to profit by the unexpected event. Large distributions of Scriptures and Gospel Tracts have taken place on the extensive shores of the "Celestial Empire," as they proudly designate their country, and sanguine hopes have been entertained by those who have long watched and prayed for its evangelization, that the word of God would ere long "have free course and be glorified," in those regions of the shadow of death. We regret to state however that such hopes have been greatly damped by the latest news from the East, which brings accounts of a very severe edict issued by the despotic Government of that country against the admission of Christian Ministers, or the dissemination of Christian books among the population of China. The earnest prayers of all that have the salvation of souls at heart must ascend to heaven that all obstacles may be finally removed, and that the Gospel may shed its precious light, over what has seemed as yet to have been the peculiar dominion of the Prince of darkness.

The endeavours now making in India, and the countries adjacent, to diffuse enlightened education among the teeming millions of its population, and more especially the unwearied labours of the numerous missionaries who have devoted themselves in those lands, to the service of God, have drawn largely on the resources and energies of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and its

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numerous branches at home and abroad, and afforded an appropriate and delightful field for the exercise of holy zeal among all who rejoice in the extension of Gospel truth.

The various Bible Societies in the United States of America are still engaged with unceasing and increased energy in effecting the vast object which they have pledged themselves to achieve, not only to furnish every destitute family in the Union with a copy of the word of God, but also to contribute liberally to the necessities of the world at large.

Your Committee trusting that they feel in some slight degree, the importance of the holy enterprise in which they are engaged, would in conclusion urge upon every friend of the institution to consider seriously how much it is in his power to contribute to its final success, and firmly believing that the Almighty Author of the Bible will prosper the feeblest effort to spread abroad its sacred contents, they would commend the labors of this Society to his blessing, with the fervent desire that every heart may be awakened to feel the importance of its objects, and every hand enlisted to accomplish its success.

HALIFAX, 10th APRIL, 1837.

A P P E N D I X.

Wilmot Mountain, April 14th, 1837.

DEAR SIR,—I have been recommended to apply to you for assistance in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to supply the destitute among the people of my charge. It is not unfrequently the case that I am deprived of reading certain parts of the Sacred word at their dwellings, unless I carry the volume with me, or they send away and borrow it, owing to the entire want, or the shattered condition of their Bibles. I have travelled from house to house; several in succession without finding one whole Bible, and often not even a remnant. In some cases, *no* doubt, this is occasioned by neglect; but in many instances extreme poverty may be considered as the reason. Many of our people are becoming old; their eye-sight leaving them, which increases the difficulty of supplying them, as they use print of the largest kind. One case I will mention: W. a native of England, upwards of fifty years of age, formerly one of the most irreligious of my congregation, about fifteen months ago, was arrested by the power of God; and I believe savingly converted; at that time he was unacquainted with the alphabet, but now would be able to make out a chapter, if he were favoured with a Testament or Bible of large type. He has since his conversion been a Sabbath School pupil, and learned his "ba's" and "be's," and still struggles to inform himself; doing (all things considered) credit to the profession he has made.

Now could you, from the Bible Society, assist me to 20 or 25 Bibles, and a few Testaments, you would administer to the wants of the destitute, and cause joy and gladness to enter the hearts of many of God's dear children, who have but few of the comforts of this life. It is probable that I could receive pay for something near half the quantity I have mentioned; you will know from what I have written, the assortment necessary to meet our wants. Rev. Mr. McLearn kindly offered some, but the size of the type will be quite too small for our aged people. Many more than I have stated will be necessary to supply the deficient families in my small circuit, with the word of life, but that number, or any part, will be most gratefully received.

Yours, &c.

JOHN CHASE.

To J. W. Nutting, Esq., Halifax.

Paid con

CONTRIBUTIONS.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS AT HALIFAX, IN 1837.

His Excellency Sir Colin Campbell	£2 0 0
Allison, Hon. Joseph V. P.	1 0 0
Almon, M. B. Esq.	1 0 0
Anderson, Mr. John H. 1836 & 7	2 0 0
A Friend at Sydney, per J. W. Nutting Esq.	5 0 0
A Friend (donation)	0 14 0
Binney, S. N. Esq.	1 0 0
Bell, Hugh Esq.	1 0 0
Black, Mr. Martin Gay	1 0 0
Bayard, Mrs. S. (Annapolis)	1 0 0
Cogswell, Hon. H. H.	1 0 0
Cogswell, Rev. W.	1 0 0
Crawley, Rev. E. A.	1 0 0
Crawley, Captain R. N. (Sydney)	1 0 0
Fraser, Mr. Arch. (Douglas)	0 10 0
Grant, Mr. Peter, (Douglas)	0 10 0
Howe, Joseph Esq.	1 0 0
Hill, N. T. Esq.	1 0 0
Head, Dr. Samuel	1 0 0
Hare, Mr David 1836 & 7	2 0 0
Hamilton, Mr. James	1 0 0
Hutchinson, Miss	1 0 0
Johnston, James W. Esq.	1 0 0
Jeffery, Hon. T. N.	1 0 0
Kelly, Captain (83d Regt.)	1 0 0
Knight, Rev. R.	0 15 0
Leishman, Mr. James	1 0 0
Lydiard, Mr. Thomas	1 0 0
Lynch, Miss S. (Chester) for 1833, 4 & 5	1 10 0
Leaver, Rev. Thomas	0 10 0
Martin, Rev. John	1 0 0
Morrow, John Esq.	1 0 0
Nutting, J. W. Esq.	1 0 0
Pryor, Wm. William jr.	1 0 0
Pringle, Capt. R. A. (don. 25s. sub. 20s.)	2 5 0
Russell, G. N. Esq.	1 0 0
Snelling, W. H. Esq.	1 0 0
Solomon, Miss	1 0 0
Scott, Rev. John	1 0 0
Shannon, James N. Esq.	1 0 0
St. Andrew's Church Sunday School,	1 0 0
Thompson, J. S. Esq. (Chester) 1834, 5 & 6	3 0 0
Uniacke Rev. R. F.	1 0 0
Wellner, Mr. John	1 0 0
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Paid commission for collecting £32 of the above	1 12 0
	£51 2 0

11th, 1837.

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CHASE.

CAPE BRETON BIBLE SOCIETY.

JUDGE MARSHALL, President,
 PETER H. CLARKE, Esq. Vice President.
 C. E. LEONARD, jr. Secretary.
 _____ Treasurer.

GUYSBORO' LADIES BIBLE ASSOCIATION.

Mrs. THOMAS CUTLER, President;
 " HARTSHORNE, Treasurer;
 Miss NEWTON, Secretary.

LONDONDERRY BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY.

Rev. JOHN BROWN, President;
 _____ Treasurer;
 _____ Secretary.

ECONOMY BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY.

Rev. ANDREW KERR, President.
 S. H. CRANE, Secretary and Depository.
 JOHN M'GRATH, Treasurer.

HORTON BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY.

_____ President;
 Rev. THEODORE S. HARDING, Vice President;
 SIMON FITCH, Esq. Treasurer and Depository;
 T. A. S. DEWOLFE, Esq. Secretary.

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 DANIEL DIMOCK, Secretary and Treasurer;
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 Mrs. A. SHAW, Treasurer,

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 _____ Vice President;
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 Wm. O'Brien, Esq. }
 Henry Blois } Vice Presidents.
 David Frieze }
 Adam Roy, Treasurer
 Adam Dickey, Recording Secretary.

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SOCIETY.

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Treasurer;
Secretary.

CORNWALLIS.

President;
Rev. EDWARD MANNING, Treasurer;
WILLIAM COGSWELL, Esq. Treasurer and Depository;
Rev. WILLIAM CHIPMAN, Secretary.

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JAMES M'CURDY, Esq. Vice President;

Secretary;
ISAAC LOGAN, Treasurer.

TRURO.

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ANDREW McKIM, Esq. Secretary;
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REUBEN YOUNG, Vice President;
WILLIAM M'KEEN, Esq. Secretary;
LEWIS SMITH, Esq. Treasurer.

Dr. The Nova-Scotia Bible Society, in account current with Martin Gay Black, Treasurer, Cr.

1836		1837	
July 15,	To cash paid for bill £150 Sig. on London at 13 per cent prem. remitted to the Parent Society	£188	6 8
	To cash paid for 1000 copies of 14th Report, and for hand bills	12	5 0
April 11,	To cash paid for bill of £100 Sig. at 14 per cent prem., to be remitted to the Parent Society	126	13 4
	To cash paid expence lighting Room, for annual meeting and for attendance	1	3 0
	To balance	5	9 6½
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		£333	17 6½
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May 17,	By balance	£174	12 2½
" 24,	Cash from the Rev. Mr. Snowball for Testaments	/ 0	10 0
June 8,	Do. from Mr. Fulton of Wallace, for Bibles and Testaments	/ 2	10 0
" 11,	Do. from Rev. Mr. Brown, on account of Turo Branch Society	3	15 6
" 20,	Do. from Rev. Mr. Baxter—donation from the Benevolent Society of the Presbyterian Church, Onslow	3	0 0
" 25,	Do. from Rev. Mr. Harris, for Bibles and Testaments sold in Harbours along the eastern shore	/ 1	18 0
Sept. 8,	Do. from the Rev. Mr. Stannage for Bibles and Testaments, disposed of at St. Margaret's Bay	/ 2	5 0
Oct. 25,	Do. from A. H. Coochen—Shelburne	/ 0	9 6
Nov. 12,	Do. from Mr. Fulton of Wallace, for Bibles and Testaments	3	0 0
" 30,	Do. from St. Ann's Branch Socy., by Rev. Mr. McLeod	36	10 0
1837		<hr/>	
Feb. 23,	Do. from Economy Branch Socy, by S. H. Crane, Esq.	9	0 0
March 25,	Do. amount of subscriptions and donations	/ 51	2 0
" "	Do. from Judge Marshall, for Bibles and Testaments	0	16 0
" "	Do. for Bibles and Testaments sold at the Depository	27	0 10
April 10,	Do. amount of Collection taken up at the annual meeting, including the sum of £5 from His Excellency Sir Colin Campbell	/ 17	8 6
		<hr/>	
		£333	17 6½

Errors excepted.
 HALIFAX, 12th April, 1837.
 MARTIN GAY BLACK.