## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# TORONTO CITY MISSION,

PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL MEETING

#### HELD IN KNOX'S CHURCH,

ON MONDAY, APRIL 6TH, 1863,

WITH THE

LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

TORONTO:

PRINTED AT THE GLOBE STEAM JOB PRESS, 1863.

### CITY MISSION SOCIETY.

#### Committee:

HON. JOHN MCMURRICH, Messrs. Robert Lawson, " WILLIAM MCMASTER, P. R. RANDALL, " OLIVER MOWAT, " ROBERT SPENCE, JOHN SNARR. GEORGE HAGUE. Messrs. Robert Baldwin, R. REYNOLDS, G. L. BEARDMORE, ROBT. WYLIE, H. MORTIMER, Dr. Agnew. A. T. McCord, John McDonald, ALEX. CHRISTIE. JOHN McBAIN, WILLIAM KERR. WILLIAM R. Ross, DR. CLARKE, JAMES FRASER. JOHN McIntosh,

And all Evangelical Ministers who co-operate with the Society.

#### Treasurer :

Mr. G. L. Beardmore.

#### Secretaries :

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MR. WILLIAM KERR.

MR. JOHN McIntosh.

The regular Monthly Meeting of the Committee is held in the Tract Society's Rooms, on the First Friday of each month, at half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

### EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION.

"The object of the Society shall be, to extend the knowledge of the Gospel, irrespective of peculiar tenets in regard to Church government, among the poor of this City, by domiciliary visits for religious conversation and reading the Scriptures; by meetings for prayer and Christian instruction; by promoting the circulation of the Scriptures and Religious Tracts; by stimulating the poor to a regular attendance upon the preaching of the Gospel; by increasing Scriptural education; by the formation of Loan Libraries; and the adoption of such other means as the managers may judge important, in order to attain the designs of the Society.

such other means as the managers may seek, the Society, recognizing the obligations on Chris-Society.

"For carrying these objects into effect, the Society, recognizing the obligations on Christians to visit the poor, will avail itself of voluntary agents, as far as they may be obtained, who shall be employed as Superintendents or Visitors. Individuals of approved character and qualification shall also be engaged to give up their time to the work, who shall be remunerated for their services, and be entirely at the disposal of the managers. No person shall be recognized as an agent of this Society, either gratuitously or paid, who is not of decided piety and evangelical principles."

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The regular Annual Meeting of the Society was held in Knox's Church on Monday, April 6, 1863, the Rev. Mr. Topp in the Chair.

The Meeting was opened with devotional exercises, Rev. Mr. Reid engaging in prayer.

The Chairman having made some very suitable remarks, introduced the Rev. Mr. Marling, who, at the request of the Secretary, read the Annual Report.

The following Resolutions were unanimously adopted :-

Moved by the Rev. Mr. Marling, seconded by A. T. McCord, Esq.-

1. That the Report now read be received and adopted, and that it be printed and circulated.

Moved by John McDonald, Esq., seconded by the Rev. Mr. Gregg-

2. That this Meeting desire to express their gratitude to God for His kindness to the Mission in the past, and for its present hopeful prospect; and to record our earnest determination to give a hearty support towards it in the future, believing that in so doing a large amount of wickedness is reached and sought to be removed, which cannot be so well accomplished by any other agency.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Caldicorr, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Willis-

3. That appreciating the value of female agency in Mission work, this Meeting recommend that steps be taken to form a Ladies' Association, to cooperate with the Committee in procuring funds, and to render assistance in promoting the objects of the Society.

Moved by the Rev. Mr. Reid, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Jennings-

4. That the following gentlemen be the Officers and Committee for the current year:—

Hons. John McMurrich, Wm. McMaster, Oliver Mowat, Robt. Spence; Messis. Robt. Baldwin, G. L. Beardmore, H. Mortimer, A. T. McCord, John McDonald, William Kerr, Dr. Clarke, John McIntosh, Robt. Lawson, P. R. Randall, John Snarr, George Hague, R. Reynolds, Robt. Wylie, Dr. Agnew, Alex. Christie, John BcBain, William R. Ross, James Fraser, and all Clergymen favorable to the objects of the Mission. Messis. William Kerr and John McIntosh, Joint Secretaries; Mr. G. L. Beardmore, Treasurer.

A collection having been taken up for the benefit of the Mission, the Doxology was sung. The benediction was then pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Topp, and the meeting separated.

### REPORT.

THE Committee of the Toronto City Mission, in meeting the subscribers on this occasion, are very grateful to be able to report a marked improvement in the position of the Society. The last Report, which covered a period of two years, referred to the fact that, owing to the removal from the City of all the officers of the Mission, it had become necessary to re-organize the Committee, while the interests of the Mission had seriously suffered from the same cause—only one Missionary being employed among the 45,000 inhabitants of Toronto, and a debt of \$350 encumbering all the movements of the Society.

We now have the pleasure of stating that by the liberality of their fellow-citizens, in response to a special appeal, the debt has been nearly paid off. The Committee were much gratified to find, among those to whom they are indebted for this result, a strong sympathy with their own desire to increase the number of Missionaries—enlarged contributions being offered for the purpose.

In January last, a second Missionary, viz., Mr. Duncan, was appointed to the Western section of the City; but circumstances have since arisen which led to his resignation, and which the Committee accepted.

Mr. Johnston, who has been so long connected with the Mission, continues his valuable services in the Eastern section of the City. The following extracts from his journal will show the nature of his labours and their result, and will be the best argument for the necessity of a City Mission:

"May 8th, 1862. A poor man in — street, who a few years ago was leading a notoriously wicked life, seemed glad to see me. 'Had it not been for your faithful visits,' said he, 'I might still have been living without God, and without hope in the world; but I am

happy to tell you that you have been instrumental in leading me, a poor, heavy laden sinner, to Jesus, the Saviour of sinners."

"May 15th and 20th. With five dollars, which Mr. Leslie, of Dundas, very kindly gave me for the poor, I afforded relief to two destitute families near the Don. It came in a good time, and was

very thankfully received."

"July 15th. In several houses near the Don, fathers and mothers told me that they were glad to see me to thank me for the good and heavenly instructions I was imparting to them through their children who attend our Sabbath School and Sabbath-day Meeting. 'I am too old and feeble,' said one woman, ' to go to any place of worship; and I cannot tell you how refreshing and comforting it is when my little grand-daughter returns from Sabbath School or Meeting, to have her sit down by my side, as she does, and tell me what she has there heard of Jesus and heaven.' 'I did not know,' said another woman, 'that your Sabbath School and Meeting were such a blessing to the neighbourhood until last winter, when we were visited with severe affliction, and expected to lose our little boy. As we drew near his bedside,' she said, 'and manifested our unutterable grief, he calmly looked up and said, 'Do not cry, for in my Sabbath School I have been told to look to Jesus, and am happy, whether I live or die.' "

"July 27th. As I was crossing the Don Bridge on my way to the Sabbath School, a respectably dressed young man met me, and taking my hand said, 'I suppose you have forgotten me.' 'No,' said I, you caused me too much trouble in my Sabbath School and Meeting several years ago for me to forget you so easily.' 'Well,' he replied, 'I did cause you much trouble, and even went so far as to say I would shoot you because you put me out of the Meeting. Nevertheless, what I heard from you one night respecting the wonderful sufferings of the Son of God for us poor sinners made such an impression upon my mind and heart, that I could find no peace until, about three years after, when tossed upon the waves of the restless ocean, and tossed upon a sick-bed too, I found peace in the precious blood of Jesus.' He gave me his address, and said he was doing a good business in Montreal as a grocer, where—as I had been the means of all

his temporal and spiritual prosperity—he would be happy to have me call upon him."

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"Aug. 23rd. I entered a house on the Kingston Road, and found that one of our Sabbath School teachers, a young woman, 18 years of age, was dangerously ill. She had attended our Sabbath School as a scholar for a number of years, and conducted herself in such a praiseworthy manner, that, at a meeting of the teachers held July 6th, 1862, she was unanimously appointed a teacher. One short month, however, was all that an All-wise Providence saw proper to allow her to teach. As she was unconscious, I did nothing at that time but pray for her. I called again on Sabbath, Aug. 25th, and found her much weaker, but quite sensible. The friends who were attending upon her told me that frequently during the past night she sang several of the beautiful hymns which she had learned at our Sabbath School and Meetings, and prayed earnestly that God would cause His choicest blessings to descend upon us all. 'Could you have heard her prayers especially for you,' they said, 'that God would long spare you to do good to others in the neighbourhood as you had done to her, you could not but be encouraged.' When I entered her room, she held out her hand to welcome me, and said, 'Oh! Mr. Johnston, I am glad to see you.' I told her I was glad to see her, too, and to hear that she was in such a happy state of mind. 'Yes,' said she, 'Jesus loves me and I love Him, and I cannot but be happy.' 'I love you, too,' she added, 'for it was you who pointed me to Jesus, and told me so much about Him; and I pray that God may bless you and make you a blessing.' I visited her frequently, and can truly say that I never saw any one so happy in the prospect of death. Just before she breathed her last on earth, I asked her how she felt. She said, 'Happy, happy.' These were her last words. She took her departure, doubtless, to the regions of eternal day."

"September 15th. 'I am glad to see you,' said a man near the Don, 'and I am always glad to see you, for you have been instrumental in doing me and my family much good. Before my children went to your Sabbath School and Meeting,' said he, 'we were living like heathens. We had no Bible, no prayer, no Sabbath. At the Sabbath School, the children received Bibles, which they read to us.

They there learned to pray, and we could not but follow their example. They there learned to go to Meeting, and took us with them; and we all now endeavour to spend our Sabbaths in the fear and service of God."

"October 7th. At a Meeting of the Teachers of our Sabbath School held to-day, it was agreed that the female teachers should take up subscriptions for a Sabbath School Library. The sum of (\$37.64) thirty-seven dollars and sixty-four cents was collected for this object. 'Will you give me something towards our Library?' said a teacher to her Roman Catholic neighbour. 'Yes,' she replied, 'here is half a dollar which you are welcome to, for your Sabbath School and Meeting have been the means of doing so much good in the neighbourhood, that I feel it a privilege to help them on.' The number of scholars in attendance upon our Sabbath School at the Don is one hundred and ten, with six male, and eleven female teachers."

"9th January, 1863. The once dirty, ragged Roman Catholic girl to whom reference has been made elsewhere, who attended the Sabbath School and Sabbath service for upwards of eleven years, has just been married to a most respectable and religious man. They were both at the meeting last Sabbath, and the contrast with her was very striking. She says she owes all that she is and hopes to be, by the blessing of God, to our Sabbath School and Meeting."

Extracts of the same character as those just narrated might be multiplied, but enough has been given to show that much good is being done. But is all being done that might be? By no means. The field is far from being fully occupied, especially as a fellow labourer employed by another agency has been withdrawn from the work. Toronto should have six or ten City Missionaries; and we trust that ere another year comes and goes, there will be some addition to the number, even if it should only be another. A great deal of the time of the Committee has been occupied with devising means for procuring funds for the Mission.

At the beginning of the year, we received with much regret an intimation from the Secretary of the Ladies' Committee that they had dissolved their organization. The death or removal of some of

their most efficient members, the inherent difficulties of collecting from house to house, and the discouragement resulting from the indebtedness of the Mission and the removal of its officers, seemed to have combined to bring about this result. The Committee, however, cannot withhold the expression of their earnest hope that now that the last of these difficulties, at all events, has been almost removed, and the position and prospects of the Mission are so much improved, they will again enjoy, in some form or other, that active co-operation of the ladies to which the Mission has been so much indebted from the beginning.

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In the absence of such aid during the past year, the Committee have been obliged to depend on the active service of a few members of their own body for the collection of funds. The results, as already stated, are on the whole encouraging; but it has been impossible to accomplish the work thoroughly; and we need much more co-operation in this labour on the part of other friends of the Mission to secure all that might be obtained for so valuable an object.

The last Report referred to the desirableness of employing "Bible women" in this City. Though the Committee have not yet seen their own way clear to the appointment of such agents, they are as deeply impressed as their predecessors with the value of their labours. They have been pleased to learn that the matter is engaging the attention of other parties in the city.

With this statement of the labours of another year, the Committee surrender their trust, hoping that each successive report will record steady progress in the work and fruit of the Toronto City Mission.

## SUBSCRIBERS TO CITY MISSION FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1863.

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Robinson, Dr.		-	-	-	2			Wilson, Andr		-	-	-	1	00	
Ross, William		-	-	-	20	0 (	0	Wardell, Mrs		-	-	-		25	
Ramsay, W.		-	-	-	]	1 5	0	Widdowson,	Mrs.	-		-		50	
Ross, J.		-	-	_		5	0	Wightman, J		-	-	-	1	00	
Richardson, J.		_		-		5	0	Wightman, J Williamson,	V.	-	-	-	1	00	
Roaf, Mrs. Joh	n		-	-	1	1 0	0	Weir, Mrs.	-	-	-	-	1	00	
R. H.	_	_		-		5		Watkin, Mrs.			-	-		50	
	_		-	-		5	0	Watson, Jas.	-	-	-	-	1	00	
10.00								Woodall, J.	W.	-	-	-	1	00	
Severs, J. W.	-	-	-	-		2 0	0	Wightman, -		-	-	-		42	
Snarr, John,	_		-	-		4 0	00	Watkin, Mrs.	N.	*	-	-		25	
Stewart, Wm.		-		-		5	50	Woodside, J.	-	-	-	-	1	0.0	
Sparrow, Geo.		-	-	-		5	50	Walker, Rob	t. & S	ons	-	-	10	00	
Staunton, S.	-	-	-	-		2	25	Wilson, G. H	[.	-	-	-	2	00	
	-	-	-	-		2	25	Walker, Mrs.	A. B.	-	-	-	1	00	
Sessions, J. D.		-	-	-		5 (	00	Warner, F.	-	-		-	1	. 00	
Smallwood, T	hos.	-	-			]	10	Wiman E.	-	-	-	-	1	. 00	
Scott, T. R.	-	-	-			5	25	W. Mrs.	-	-	-	-		25	
Sleeth, Mr.	-	-	-			9	25	Walse, Jno.	G.	-	-	-		20	
Sesson, Mrs.	-	-	-			1	00	Woodhouse,	J.	-	-	-	2	00	
	-	-	-			1	20	Willing, S.	-	-	-	-		50	
Stott, Rev. Da			-			1	00	W. R. S.	-	-	-			50	
St. Germain,	A. H.	-	-				50	Williams, H	. B.	-	-		. ]	1 00	
Strong, S. H.	-	-	-			1	00	Ware, Geo.	Т.	-	-			50	
Stewart, Robe	ert	-	-		-	1	00	Wright, G. 1	H.	-	-			25	
Stanbury & C		-	-		-		00		mes,	-	-		. !	2 00	
Smith, A. M.	-	-	-			5	00	W. J.	-	-	-			50	
Scott, T. C.		-	-		-	2	00	Withrow, Ja	10. J.	-	-			1 00	
Stewart, J.	-	-	-		-	1	50								
Shaw, John		-	-		-	1	0	Yale, Mrs.	-	-	-		-	25	
Spence, Hon.	Robt		-		-	1	00	Young, Jno		-	-		•	50	
Symington, T	hos.	-	-		-	1	00	Young, Rob	ert	-	-		-	50	

### ABSTRACT OF TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

#### RECEIPTS

RECEIPTS.		
1862.		
March 18. Cash on hand, \$ 16 00		
Collection at Annual Meeting, 1862,		
Collection made by Ladies' Auxiliary through		
Mrs. Thomas Ewart, 7 50		
Amount received from the different Collectors, 203 07 Amount collected by Messrs. Beardmore and		
McCord for "Special Appeal," 307 00		
Total Receipts up to 16th April, 1863,	\$577	71
PAYMENTS.		
Amount paid for use of Committee Room, \$ 6 00		
" Printing, 22 00		
W. A. Johnston on account of Salary 460 00		
J. Duncan, late Missionary, 66 68	554	68
Leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of.	\$ 23	03

There is still due to Mr. Johnston, up to 10th March last, \$118 14.