

THE
FIFTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE QUEBEC DIOCESAN COMMITTEE
OF THE
SOCIETY
FOR
Promoting Christian Knowledge.

READ AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT QUEBEC,
JANUARY 30TH, 1834.



QUEBEC:
PRINTED AT THE QUEBEC GAZETTE OFFICE,
MOUNTAIN STREET.

1834.

MEMORANDUM

TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

DATE

SUBJECT

RE: [Illegible]

[Illegible]

APPROVED

FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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QUEBEC DIOCESAN COMMITTEE,
FOR THE YEAR 1834.

PATRON

His Excellency the Right Honorable LORD AYLMER, G. C. B.
Governor in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

PRESIDENT

The Hon. and Right Reverend CHARLES JAMES LORD BISHOP
OF QUEBEC.

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The Venerable ARCHDEACON MOUNTAIN, D. D.

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SECRETARY—The Reverend E. W. SEWELL.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY—WILLIAM M'TAVISH, Esquire.

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The Honble A. W. Cochraue,	J. G. Irvine, Esquire,
Mr. Sheriff Sewell,	William Sheppard, Esquire,
Noah Freer, Esquire,	J. B. Forsyth, Esquire,
T. Trigge, Esquire,	T. C. Aylwin, Esquire.

The Clergy of the Church of England resident in Quebec, and
the other Officers of the Committee are *ex officio* Members of the
Select Committee.

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JANUARY, 1834.

THE period which has elapsed since the last report of the proceedings of the Diocesan Committee was given to the public, embraces eighteen months; the last annual meeting of the Members of the Society having been held in the month of May, 1832—a memorable and melancholy year, in which so many of our fellow-citizens were called away from this world to the world of spirits. Although it is a subject for devout thankfulness that none of the Members of the existing Committee were carried off by the dreadful scourge by which we were visited, still we are not without our loss, a loss in which the Members of the Society at large will long ere this have sympathised. In the decease of the late Reverend Dr. Mill's the Committee were deprived of a zealous and able associate in their labours, and the Society at large of one who had always its best interests at heart.—He became the Secretary of the Committee at its original formation in 1818, and continued to execute the duties attached to that office for a period of eleven years with unabated zeal, until other occupations made it absolutely necessary that he should resign his honorable office.—His death occurred shortly after the last annual meeting; and though so long a time has elapsed the Committee have felt it their duty to take this slight notice of the event, which has taken from them a useful member, and a man deservedly esteemed by all who knew him.

It is unnecessary to notice at any length the proceedings of the Parent Society: The Report which is in the hands of

the Members resident here, shews the extent to which its grand and benevolent designs are carried forward; but it may be useful briefly to notice two or three points contained in the last Report of their proceedings to which the Committee has had access, particularly as it has not been unusual to do so on other occasions. Some idea may be formed of the exertions made by the venerable Society in supplying the spiritual wants of the people, from the information afforded therein, that the total number of Bibles, Testaments, Common Prayer-Books, and other Books and Tracts issued from their depository within the twelve months to which the Report refers, is—1,715,323, “in which number are included 121,756 Bibles and Testaments, and 165,818 Prayer-Books and Psalters.” The whole revenue for the year 1832 is above £66,000.

The Committee cannot forbear calling the attention of the Members to the Report of the Standing Committee, Appendix, No. I, which cannot fail to demonstrate the necessity of increased exertions on the part of the friends of Religion and morality, and of the call which exists for supporting Institutions which promote the interests of our Holy Faith, and defend her from the attacks of insidious and hidden enemies, or the open assaults of the infidel and blasphemer. The following short extract from that Report may serve to shew the importance of the subject which has received the serious consideration of the Society at a Special General Meeting:—“The increase of this appetite for reading in the lower classes, is considered to be strikingly shewn in the increase of the cheap periodical publications, of every kind and character, which are now circulated amongst them in all parts of the country. Pains have been taken to ascertain as far as possible the extent to which this kind of circulation has been carried, and the result of the enquiry has proved that the number issued in and from London alone, amounts to nearly *three hundred thousand copies weekly*. Of all these not one is conducted upon the principle of supporting the Established Religion of the land. Many, if not most of them, are openly addressed to the passions and prejudices of the multitude, and are constantly filled with fierce attacks upon our most sacred and venerable institutions.” It has been ascertained that Books intended for the instruction of the rising generation have in some cases, been made instruments for teaching the doctrines of Materialism, under the disguise of scientific principles.” The Committee deem it unnecessary to enter more at length into the matter of the Report, but cannot forbear re-

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commending the attentive perusal of it. Unfortunately the attacks upon Christianity are not confined to the metropolis of Great Britain: the evil has developed itself in the community in which we live; and to such an extent had the diffusion of infidel opinions arrived in this City, as in the opinion of the Committee, to call for some interference on their part. Accordingly a Special General Meeting of the Society was held on the 30th of April last, the Chief Justice in the Chair, to take into consideration what steps it would be advisable to adopt, in order to obviate if possible the evils likely to be produced, not only to Religion but to Society at large, by the introduction of principles to which we had hitherto happily been strangers; and which had already poisoned the morality and ruined the peace of many young and inexperienced persons in this community. The result of the Meeting was the appointment of a Committee, to devise and carry into execution, the most effectual method of procuring and circulating a supply of Tracts, in counteraction of infidel and blasphemous publications; who lost no time in communicating with the Parent Society, requesting through the Lord Bishop, a grant of books, calculated in the ablest manner to refute the several objections urged by infidels against the Christian Religion, which were immediately sent out by the Society. While the Committee to provide for the immediate urgency of the case, addressed a letter to the Bishop of New York, requesting the favor of him to cause a selection of works of a similar nature to be made from the Repository of the New York Tract Society. To meet the expense attending this specific object, subscriptions were entered into at the time.

Connected with the above object was another which the Committee availed themselves of the opportunity of bringing before the Public at that time, which was "to diffuse religious information and excite an interest in religious proceedings among persons in different classes of society." In furtherance of the above object, a Committee was appointed, to take immediate steps for the formation of a Library, and the establishment of a Reading Room, for the use of the different Congregations of the Church of England in this City, to be under the regulation and government of Members of our Communion. For the promotion of this most desirable object, some liberal contributions were also made, which have since been much augmented.

The Committee now proceed to give a detailed account of their operations since the last Meeting in May, 1832, and it is hoped that it will be seen that some progress has been made in the good work of diffusing a knowledge of Religious Truth. In doing so they will adopt the plan pursued on other occasions, and state first what have been done in the first branch—the distribution of Books and Tracts,

The sale of these at the Repository amounts to £222 6 5, to the public generally, and £53 19 8, to the Bishop of Quebec. Making a total of £276 6 1.

Packages of Books have been sent from the Repository to the undermentioned Clergymen:—

The Revd. Messrs. Boswell, Wood, Alexander, Deacon, Balfour, Lindsay, Doolittle, Arnold, Bethune, Christopher Jackson, Patton, Burwell, and to the District Committee of Kingston. The whole amount of these, including the Books which the Clergy in Quebec have received, for distribution or otherwise, is £34 14 5.

To the following Catechists:—

Messrs. Carr, Hamilton, Hoffman, Benson, Fuller, Tuzo, G. Heath, Lane, Woods and Knight, to the value of £38 11 5.

And Books to the value of £48 7 4 have been obtained for the use of Sunday Schools in Quebec, and other parts of the Diocese.

The Clergy residing in Quebec have supplied the Hospitals as usual with such Books as were required for the sick, and a large quantity of the Address to Godfathers and Godmothers are kept at the Cathedral, to be given to Sponsors at Baptisms. The amount is included in the Clergy's distribution account.

The stock at the Repository is very low indeed, more particularly of the Books required for Sunday Schools; this is chiefly owing to the loss of the *Helen*.—The Committee regret to state that that vessel, by which they had expected to receive Books to the value of £95 sterling, was wrecked last fall, near the entrance of Miramichi River: the vessel and cargo have been since sold. Fortunately the Books were insured, and the Committee will lose no time in instructing their agent in London to recover under the policy.

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The following is a statement of Books issued from the Repository from May, 1832, to the 25th of January, 1834 :—

Bibles.....	106
Testaments.....	68
Common Prayer Books.....	386
Bound Books and Tracts.....	5564

Total,	<u>6,124</u>
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Before entering upon the second branch of their labours, the Committee will say a few words on the subject of their accounts, which are chiefly with the Parent Society, as the payment in cash at the Repository is now rigidly exacted from all purchasers at the time when any purchase is made; a rule which has been found of much benefit, though perhaps not entirely free from objection. They have been much occupied both in arranging and in taking steps for the collection of various outstanding debts, some of which have been paid, and others, amounting in all to £17, have been cancelled from the credit book. The outstanding debts of the Committee amount at present to about £90, a great part of which the Committee still hope to be able to get in. In the month of February last, a bill upon London, for £203 7 8 Sterling, was purchased here and sent to the Secretary of the Society, the proceeds of which the Committee learn have been appropriated in the following manner :—

To the Credit of the Book account of the Quebec Diocesan Committee.....	£185	9	3
To Messrs. Rivingston on their private account ..	17	18	5
	<u>£203</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>

The balance in the Treasurer's hands is of course small, after the payment of so large a sum. It is only £262 7 4½; and out of this sum £111 13 Sterling, must immediately be taken, to discharge the Society's account for the Books sent for last Summer by order of the Committee, amounting to £95 6 6, and an outstanding debt long due to Messrs. Rivingston & Co. of London, amounting to £16 6 6. The balance in the Treasurer's hands will then amount to something very inconsiderable

The sum of £120, however, is due to the Committee by the Treasurer of the National School, for two separate loans of £60 each, made at different periods, to enable him to pay the salaries of the Master and Mistress of those establishments. The Committee have to regret, that in consequence of the low state of the School fund, no part of the sum borrowed has yet been returned, for it is obvious that their being deprived of so large a disposable fund must tend greatly to impede their operations; but they are not without hope that an aid from the Legislature, for which the School Committee have made application, will be granted, which will enable them to relieve the School of all its difficulties. Books to the value of £15 9 6 have been obtained from the Repository, for the use of the National Day School since the last Report.

It was stated in the last Report, that a communication had been made to the Secretary of the Parent Society, the object of which was respectfully to suggest to the Board the propriety of establishing a rule for the Colonies, by which subscribers to the Parent Society should be authorized, when stationed abroad, to pay their subscriptions during their residence in the Colonies to the Committee established on the spot; and be entitled to the privileges as subscribers. And persons having connected themselves with the Committees in the Colonies, might, upon removal to England, be entitled to the same privileges. An answer to that communication has been received, by which it appears that the third Rule of the Society, relating to Foreign Committees, will apply to this case. The local Members of Foreign Committees, who have been recommended according to the prescribed form, are of course expected to pay their subscriptions to the Parent Society only when they go permanently to reside in England. The Rule relating to this matter is to the following effect:—

“Rule III. Members of the Parent Society, residing within the limits of any Foreign Committee, may transfer their annual subscriptions due to the Society, to the funds of such Committee, and be supplied with Books by the Committee at cost prices, with the addition only of such a per centage for carriage as the Committee may fix.”

II. The Committee have now to lay before the public what has been done in the other branch of their labours—the Education of the Poor, in the Schools at present under their controul. It is most gratifying to the Committee to be enabled to state the flourishing condition of both Schools; indeed, at no period since their establishment have they been more ably conducted. One subject is worthy of remark, namely, the increased desire

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shown by the labouring classes to avail themselves of the blessings of education for their children. The advantages of instruction appear to be more generally seen and appreciated on their part, and these institutions begin to be regarded by them as eminently calculated to render their offspring at once useful members of Society, and sincere followers of Christ. The following extract from the account of the Public Examination, which took place at the School-house, on the 23rd of December last, gives a faithful description of the present state of the Schools:—

“The Annual Public Examination of the National Schools took place in the presence of a very respectable auditory: Lady Aylmer was pleased, as usual, to honor the occasion with her presence; and after witnessing the examination in the Female School from its commencement to its close, and a considerable portion of that in the Male Department, desired to signify her particular approbation. Her Ladyship distributed with her own hand the prizes to the first class of the Girls. His Excellency Lord Aylmer was kind enough to convey the expression of his regret that he was prevented by unavoidable business from attending. The whole appearance of both Schools was highly satisfactory, and the appearance of the Children creditable, at once to themselves and their Instructors. The Girls exhibited a quantity of needle work, in addition to the usual routine in the branches of an English education; and the manner in which the Boys of higher standing acquitted themselves in English Grammar, Geography, Geometry, and Book-keeping, was such as is probably not to be surpassed in any School in the Canadas. The number of Boys present was one hundred and twenty five; of Girls, one hundred and two.”

The whole number of children who have received instructions in these Schools since November, 1819, is 5,804; 330 children have been admitted into both Schools since May, 1832. The number of the children on the Books at present is 253, and the average daily attendance 172. The children in attendance at the Sunday School amount to 275: this number includes the children of Soldiers, and others composing the Military Congregation.

The Library attached to the Sunday School has been much increased since the last Report, at which time it contained 78 volumes: 162 volumes have been since added.—It has already been productive of much benefit to the Institution, in encouraging a more regular attendance on the part of the children; it is thought also by those who conduct the School, that an in-

creased number of children has been one of the beneficial results which may be attributed to the Library.

Though the Day School connected with the Mariners' Chapel, at Pres-de-Ville, is in no way under the controul of the Diocesan Committee, it is yet satisfactory to know that it is well attended, and that the person who conducts it gives entire satisfaction. The Sunday School is also much increased. Books have been supplied to this School from the Repository to a small amount.

The Committee forbear saying more on the subject of the Church of England Sunday Schools, of which there are now four in the City of Quebec; as the state of these Institutions, and other information connected, will no doubt be contained in the Annual Report of the Sunday School Society, with which they are in connection.

The Committee have only to state, before they conclude, that an application having been made to them some time ago, to sell a small part of the National School lot, to which, upon investigation, it was discovered they had no legal title, the Letters Patent granting the ground by some mistake not including that part; it became necessary to petition Government on the subject, which was accordingly done in July, 1832, and in consequence, a Patent has been issued in favor of the Bishop of Quebec and his successors, for this portion of the lot, so that they are now in legal possession of the whole.

The Committee in closing this Fifteenth Annual Report of their proceedings, feel assured that the information it contains of the usefulness of this Institution, will not only afford much gratification to its friends and supporters, but also acquire for it that increased and active encouragement which it may claim from every Christian, but more especially from every Member of the Established Church. It is the duty of Christians to enlighten the ignorance of their fellow creatures—to impart to others those means of Saving Grace, which it is their privilege and happiness to possess. And in no way can the generality better effect this, than by adding their mite to the funds of a Society, which has steadily, and hitherto most successfully, pursued its benevolent object—"the promotion of genuine Christianity throughout the world."

By order of the Committee,

E. W. SEWELL,
Secretary.

BOYS' SCHOOL.

COMMITTEE.

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ARCHDEACON MOUNTAIN,

REV. E. W. SEWELL,
R. SYMES, Esq.

R. SYMES, Esq. Superintendent.
MR. G. R. GRASSETT, Assistant Superintendent.
MR. DUNBAR JAMESON, Acting Librarian.

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R. SEWELL,
Miss TAYLOR.

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Davidson,
Hammond,
Hoffman,
Grassett,
F. Grassett,
Jones,

Miss Lindsay,
Mountain,
Mary Anne Mountain,
Harriet Mountain,
Napier,
Todd,
Mary Todd.

Treasurer for the School Clothing Fund,—Miss Taylor.

LIST OF
ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS
OF THE
QUEBEC COMMITTEE
OF THE
SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.
(DUE ON THE 3RD MARCH IN EACH YEAR.)

N. B.—The persons whose names are marked with an asterisk are absent from the Province, in England or elsewhere.

At £1 5s. each.

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Penn, R E
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Phillips, M
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Routh, C
Ryland, F
Sewell, M
Sewell, R

Atkins, M
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Cary, Mr
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Grassett,
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(DUE ON THE 26TH JULY, YEARLY.)

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The Lord Bishop of Quebec	1 5 0	Martin, Miss	0 10 0
Antrobus, — Esquire	0 10 0	Mills, Mrs	0 11 8
Archbold, Reverend G	0 10 0	Mountain, Mrs G	1 0 0
Ardouin, Mr	0 11 0	Mountain, Mrs M A	0 10 0
Aylwin, Mrs C F	0 5 0	* Nichol, Colonel (66th Regt)	4 5 0
Baddeley, Lieutenant R E	1 5 0	Painter, Mrs	0 10 0
Burton, J Esquire	0 10 0	* Parker, Captain	1 0 0
Campbell, Mrs J S	0 10 0	* Pemberton, Miss	0 10 0
Campbell, Mrs A	0 5 0	* Percival, Mrs	0 10 0
Campbell, Mrs C	0 5 0	Phillips, Mr John	1 0 0
* Garden, Captain	0 10 0	Phillipotts, Captain	0 11 0
Cochran, Mrs	0 11 0	Primrose, Honorable F W	1 5 0
* Coffin, Mrs	0 10 8	Reeves, Mr	1 0 0
Caulson, Mr F	0 11 8	Routh, Commissary General	1 5 0
Cowan, Mr W	0 11 0	Saxton, Miss	0 12 6
Cuthbert, Miss	0 10 0	Sewell, Miss	0 10 0
Craig, Lieutenant Colonel	0 10 0	Sheppard, Miss	0 11 8
Maitland, Honorable Colonel	0 10 0	Sheppard, W Esquire	0 11 8
Downs, Mrs	0 10 0	Sheppard, Mrs	1 5 9
* Dunn, Captain	1 5 0	Smith, Mrs C	1 0 0
* Durnford, Colonel	0 11 8	Symes, R Esquire	0 10 0
Forsyth, H G	0 11 8	Symes, Mrs R	0 10 0
George, Miss	0 11 8	Thompson, Mr	0 10 0
Gore, Manley Esquire	1 0 0	Trenain, B Esquire	0 10 0
Hale, Jeffrey Esquire	0 12 6	Trotter, Mrs	0 10 0
Hawkins, Mr A	0 11 8	* Wanton, J A Esquire	1 0 0
Holmes, Dr	0 11 8	* West, Lieut R E	0 11 8
Horseman, Dr	0 10 0	* West, Mrs	0 10 0
Irvine, Mrs	0 10 0	Wilson, Mrs W	0 11 8
Kennedy, Mrs	1 3 4	T Trigge, Esquire	0 10 0
* Lawrence, J Esq. Hartford,	1 5 0	K Chandler	0 10 0
Leslie, S W Esquire	0 11 8		