

THE  
FIRST REPORT  
OF THE  
UPPER CANADA  
RELIGIOUS TRACT & BOOK SOCIETY.  
FOR THE YEAR  
1833.

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YORK, U. C.  
PRINTED BY J. REYNOLDS, 81 KING-ST.  
AT THE CORRESPONDENT OFFICE.  
1833.

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THE ANNUAL MEETING of the SOCIETY was held on the Evening of the 12th February, 1833,

*The Rev. Dr. HARRIS, President, in the Chair.*

The Meeting having been opened with prayer, the Report was read and the following Resolutions were then unanimously carried :—

I. On the motion of the *Rev. Charles Matthews, M.A.* seconded by the *Rev. James Harris,*

That the Report now read be adopted and printed.

II. On the motion of *Mr. Mark Willoughby,* Agent for the Newfoundland School Society, seconded by the *Rev. James Richardson,*

That this meeting recognizes the great importance of the distribution of Scriptural Tracts and Books throughout the Province, and the duty of giving increased support to the U. C. Religious Tract and Book Society.

III. On the motion of the *Rev. William Boulton, B.A.* seconded by the *Rev. William Rintoul, A. M.*

That while this Meeting acknowledges the gracious hand of God in any good that has yet been accomplished through the Society, it also recognizes the duty of continued dependence on Him for His blessing to prosper all its operations.

IV. On the motion of *Peter Paterson, Esq.* seconded by the *Rev. Charles Matthews, M. A.*

That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to the President and other Officers of the Society, and to the Committee, and also to *JAMES G. CHEWETT, Esq.* for his valuable labours in making the Astronomical calculations for the Almanac published by the Society.

V. On the motion of *Mr. Harvey Price,* seconded by *Mr. William Lawson,*

That the *Hon. JOHN HENRY DUNN* and *Dr. BALDWIN* be added to the Vice Presidents of the Society, and that the following Gentlemen compose the Committee for the ensuing year. (*See page 5.*)

VI. On the motion of the *Rev. A. Stewart* seconded by *Capt. Philpotts, R. E.*

That the Committee be recommended to exert themselves in promoting an increased circulation of Tracts in this Town, and the formation of Auxiliary Societies in other parts of the Province.

VII. On the motion of *C. C. Small, Esq.* seconded by the *Rev. William Rintoul, A. M.*

That the thanks of this Meeting be tendered to the *Rev. Dr. HARRIS* for his conduct in the Chair.

The Meeting was then closed with prayer.

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 1833.**

**PRESIDENT:**

The Rev. J. H. HARRIS, D. D. Principal of Upper Canada College.

**VICE PRESIDENTS:**

JESSE KETCHUM, Esq. M. P.

JOHN GAMBLE, Esq.

CHARLES C. SMALL, Esq.

Capt. PHILPOTTS, R. E.

Rev. CHAS. MATHEWS, M. A.

The Hon. JOHN H. DUNN,

Dr. BALDWIN.

**TREASURER:**

EDWARD GOLDSMITH, Esq.

**SECRETARIES:**

Rev. W. RINTOUL, A. M.

WALTER ROSE, Esq.

**DEPOSITARY:**

Mr. ROBERT CATHCART.

**COMMITTEE:**

PETER PATERSON, Esq.

Mr. JAMES LESSLIE,

Mr. JAMES HAMILTON,

Mr. JOHN ROSS,

Mr. PETER McARTHUR,

Mr. WILLIAM LAWSON,

Mr. MALCOLM McLELLAN,

Mr. JAMES HARVEY PRICE.



## REGULATIONS.

I. That this Society shall be denominated THE UPPER CANADA RELIGIOUS TRACT AND BOOK SOCIETY.

II. That this Society approves of the Principles on which the London Religious Tract Society is founded, as set forth in the Official Statement and declaration of that Society; and that it shall only circulate the Publications of that Society, or other publications of a similar character.

III. That Annual Subscribers paying Five Shillings, Currency, or more, shall be Members of the Society.

IV. That Subscribers of Five Pounds, Currency, and Ministers remitting Congregational Collections to the extent of Five Pounds, Currency, shall be Members for life.

V. That a Committee of ten Members, exclusive of the Officers of the Society, shall be annually chosen, to conduct the business of the Society;—that six who have most constantly attended the meetings of Committee throughout the year, may be re-elected for the ensuing year; and that the Committee for the time being shall be empowered to fill up any vacancies that may occur.

VI. That the Officers of the Society shall be—a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretaries, and Depositary.

VII. That Ministers of the Gospel being Members of the Society, shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Meetings of the Committee.

VIII. That all Subscribers shall be entitled to have Tracts to the value of half their Subscriptions; and that Ministers or others remitting a Collection, shall be entitled to Tracts to the value of half the Collection—on behalf of the Congregation that may have made the Collection—the same being called for any time within the twelve months.

IX. That the Committee shall meet for business at least once a quarter,

X. That this Society shall, to the utmost extent of its resources, encourage the formation of Auxiliary Societies throughout the Province.

XI. That the Annual General Meeting of this Society shall be held during the week appointed for the Meeting of the York Bible Society.

XII. That all Meetings of this Society, and of the Committee, shall be opened and closed with prayer.

SPORTA TIGER

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

VI. That the State of the Republic of China, Taiwan, is the only legitimate government of China.

the University of America Press, 1964, pp. 1-10.

the work appeared for the Ministry of the Interior of the Soviet Union.

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## REPORT, &c.

The Committee of the Upper Canada Religious Tract and Book Society make their First Annual Report, tho' not without some feelings of regret and humiliation, that more has not been done in this new field of Christian enterprize; yet with a strong sense of thankfulness to the Author of all Good that he has given the will, and the ability to set on foot, and so far to mature the design.

It is, as far as we are concerned, a new field, and if at the end of the first year of its cultivation it has not yielded all the harvest of success which the most sanguine could have wished, your Committee are fain to hope, that seed has been sown which will not altogether perish in the ground, but will produce its fruits in due season; whilst successively and manifold increasing harvests will be reaped, as the soil shall be more and more cultivated with increased exertion and by additional labourers.

We have only to trace the rise and growth of that Society, which now stands foremost in magnitude and enterprize, among the beneficent Societies of the world, (the British and Foreign Bible Society,) to see how comparatively small and feeble beginnings, may issue in the most glorious and triumphant success. So also, tho' on a somewhat smaller scale, and in a less striking proportion, the Society in whose ranks we are now ranged, the London "Religious Tract Society" has risen, and prospered in like manner. In both however of these examples, we must remember that this success has only been attained, (under God's blessing) by the unremitting care and exertions of their first projectors, and of those who have subsequently joined in the work. Whilst therefore your Committee refer to these as instances which encourage us to hope, nor to "despise the day of small things," they would also point to them as examples of active and persevering efforts, made by friends really, and practically alive to the important good, which the Societies they promoted, were calculated to effect. If similar good effects may be expected from the future operations of this infant Society, your Committee trust that the friends around them will not be wanting in similar efforts to foster it, and bring it to a maturity, not weak, and inefficient for want of proper nourishment, and care; but vigorous, and active, and of good stature, sustained by their contributions, their active services, and their prayers.

Shortly after the meeting at which this society was organized, a remittance of £40 stg. was sent to the Tract Society in London, with an order for its Tracts and Books to that amount. In answer to this application your Committee received in due time, an assortment of the Society's Publications, amounting to upwards of £66 stg. but in order that their newly formed Society might not be altogether inoperative, during the interval which must elapse, before the supply from London could be received, a temporary supply was procured from the Kingston Tract Society, to the amount of £18 8. On the receipt of which the Society was immediately put into operation, both by the sale of Tracts, and by measures being taken for their gratuitous distribution, and for lending them among the poor.

Your Committee have further to announce, that from a persuasion of the beneficial effects which might be expected to result from the publication of a *Religious Almanac*, and encouraged by the example of the American Tract Society, they undertook to compile such a work, and to publish it under the auspices of this Society; and it has now for some time been before the public, under the title of the "U. C. Christian Almanac for the year of our Lord 1833." This Almanac was compiled by the gratuitous labours of a sub-committee, appointed from the general Committee. The astronomical calculations however were made, and presented to the sub-committee, by a gentleman of this town (J. G. CHEWETT, Esq.) to whom for this kind and valuable assistance, your Committee beg to tender the most sincere thanks of the Society.

Such have been the steps taken by your Committee for providing the *materiel* of the Society's operation. With respect to the extent in which this has been made available in furthering its designs, they have in the first place to remark, that from want of experience in the somewhat intricate details of keeping an accurate account of the issues of such small publications as Tracts, they are unable to Report the actual number of publications, or of pages issued: but some idea of the circulation may be formed from the statement that the receipt of sales at the Depository, including some Almanacs, rather exceeded £63. Gratuitous issues have also been made to the amount of some few thousand pages, of which between 5 and 600 pages have been given for the use of prisoners in the jail.

With respect to the funds of the Society, the following is an abstract:

The total of receipts has amounted to - - - £110 12 3

Being £47 9 1 from subscriptions and donations, and £63 3 1 from sale of Books and Tracts, and Almanacs. The total of disbursements—including two remittances to London in part payment for Tracts, and for paper for the Almanac; bill for printing an Address; part payment of expenses of publishing the Almanac; and sundry incidental charges—amount to

# REPORT, &c.

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£101 13 0 leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £9 13 3. There also remain on hand eighteen reams of Almanac paper, which not being of the size most suitable for that purpose it will perhaps be advisable to dispose of, which will probably produce about £16.

The debts and engagements of the Society, amount to about £123 C'y. with respect to one portion of which sum, your Committee, have gratefully to acknowledge, that it was thro' the kind assistance of a gentleman distinguished for his promotion of every benevolent object, that they were enabled to make up so large a remittance as £40, in the first instance; the advance thus kindly made, forms an item of the Society's obligations, to the amount of £28 17 9 C'y. the other items of the Society's debt consists of £16 0 6 C'y. to the Kingston Tract Society for Tracts;

£18 2 0 C'y balance due for printing the Almanac,

£26 9 3 St'g. balance due to the London Society for Tracts,

£24 0 0 St'g. balance due for paper.

Converting the two last named sums into currency at the assumed premium of 9 per cent. the total debts of the Society, as before stated, will be very nearly £123 currency, the balance in the Treasurer's hands, and the proceeds from the sale of the residue of Almanac paper, will reduce this sum to something under £100 currency. As an offset to this are the expected returns from the sale of the Almanac; but although it was anticipated that the sale of this work would have covered the expence of its publication; this anticipation must fail of being fully realized, from the circumstance that several packages of the Almanac intended to be forwarded to different parts of the Province have been detained in York, in consequence of the want of those facilities of communication, which are usually afforded by the snow at this season;—as this state of things, however, has been ordered by His Providence whose 'word, fire and hail, snow and vapour are everfulfilling;' we cannot doubt that it is so ordered for the best—whilst, however, it becomes us cheerfully to acquiesce in any apparent obstacle which God may see fit to put in the way, even of what we believe to be a good work; this affords no reason why we should not proceed vigorously onwards where, the road is still open before us; and under this feeling your Committee earnestly press the state of the Society's funds as just represented, upon the consideration of its friends, and they trust the appeal thence made to them, for increased support, and co-operation will not be made in vain. The poor, and the ignorant, we have always with us; and these God intends and expects that we should relieve, and instruct; and there are few means by which we can more effectually, and successfully do the latter, than by putting in the hands of those who are perishing for lack of knowledge, plain, and scriptural, and at the same time, concise and interesting views of religion, and its effects upon those who have felt



its influence. Such views and representations the publications of our Society are peculiarly calculated to present. But, be it remembered, that a Tract Society would fall very far short of producing those beneficial effects, which should attend its establishment, were we to do no more than fill the shelves of its depository with Tracts, and then leave them to find their way thence as casual demand might call them forth. Much, very much, of the good which such a Society is calculated, under God, to effect, is to be done among those, who have not the inclination, or the means to purchase for themselves; and who must, therefore, not only be supplied gratuitously, but must be sought out, & even solicited, to a perusal of the pages thus brought to their doors. It is in this, one of the most useful branches of its operations, that the Society makes the largest demands upon its funds, and upon the personal exertions of its members. The Tracts of the Society must be dispersed abroad, among the poor, the ignorant, and the profane: and as those who stand most in need of the wholesome instruction conveyed in these Tracts, are, at the same time, those who are least likely voluntarily to seek them, a most important object of the Society must be lost, unless active measures be taken to put its works in the way of those whom they may so essentially benefit. This view of the objects of our Society is strongly recommended to the consideration of its supporters. And your Committee merely throw out the suggestion, which they trust will be improved upon, and illustrated by others in the course of the evening; that the most charitable, and *Evangelical* part of this Society's designs (for to the *poor* the *Gospel* is preached) can only be effected by the active personal interest, and trouble taken by its friends, in periodically visiting different districts, and giving, or lending such Tracts, as appear most calculated to awaken the indifferent, and alarm the profligate. It is stated in the Report of the London Tract Society for the year ending March, 1831, that from the Reports of several Societies in agricultural districts, it appeared, "that in those places where Sunday-Schools existed, and Loan Tract Societies were in active operation, very few scenes of lawless outrage were witnessed during the preceding winter;" in the course of which, it will be remembered, that the most flagrant, and desperate violations of social order were perpetrated, in different parts of the United Kingdom.

Whilst, however, your Committee thus dwell upon the advantages of this Society to the ignorant, to the careless, and to the dissolute; it is, by no means, to be supposed that its publications are exclusively suited to such characters: on the contrary, it abounds in works, adapted to every gradation of religious advancement, as well as deficiency: on its catalogue are to be found, not only warnings and denunciations against 'those that forget God;' but also encouragement to the penitent, assistance to the weak, comfort to the distressed, confirmation to the strong, and triumph-

phant views of glory for the ripe expectant of immortality; and all derived from, and conformable to those grand fundamentals of our most Holy Faith, in which "all those who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity," have ever agreed.

Your Committee will only add that these are days in which extraordinary efforts are required from those who are on the Lord's side, to counteract, and resist the powers of darkness. Infidelity in all its shapes, and guises, is making vast efforts to undermine the principles of Christianity: and though we are not immediately exposed to these attacks, the enemy of souls is too vigilant, and too malignant long to suffer any corner of the globe to be exempt from his, and his agent's machinations. We have, however, the highest encouragement to withstand these attempts; it is the assurance of inspiration that if we 'resist the devil he will flee from us.' It is ours then to be ever on the watch, to throw up every kind of entrenchment, and defence which may serve to protect us against the assaults of the evil one; and to be anxious, and active in furnishing both ourselves, and all around us with such weapons both of offence, and defence, as will alone enable us ultimately to discomfit the enemies of our salvation.

York, U. C. Feb. 1833.

NOTE.—In justification of what some complained of as an error in the calculation of the Sun's rising and setting, in the Almanac, it may be here noted, as it was omitted to be done in the Almanac itself, that the time by which the calculation is made, is *mean* and not *apparent* time. On this subject J. Pond, Esq. the Astronomer Royal, has the following Note in the Nautical Almanac for 1833:—

"My motive for inserting it was, chiefly to point out to those who construct Almanacs for the public, a discrepancy of considerable magnitude which is caused by their giving the Sun's rising and setting to apparent instead of mean time; in consequence of this, the days appear, for some time after the Winter solstice, to shorten in the morning, at the same time they are made to lengthen in the evening more than they ought to do."



# LIST

OF

## SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.

	£	s.	d.
<b>A.</b>			
Anderson, Robert G.	0	5	0
Armstrong & Beatty.	0	5	0
Armstrong, James R.	0	5	0
Arthurs, Mrs.	0	5	0
<b>B.</b>			
Boulton, Rev. William	1	0	0
Boulton, Henry John	1	0	0
Boulton, Mrs. D'Arcy	0	10	0
Burnham, Silas	0	5	0
Blake, John	0	5	0
Baltger, T.	0	5	0
Badgero, John—Donation	0	5	0
Bell, John	0	2	6
<b>C.</b>			
Colborne, His Excellency Sir John	2	0	0
Colborne, Lady	1	0	0
Collyer, Miss	0	10	0
Caldicott, I. F.	0	5	0
Cathcart, Robert	0	5	0
Carfrae, Thomas	0	5	0
Crookshanks, Hon. W.—Donation	1	0	0
Carfrae, Thomas junr.	0	10	0
Collumbus, Isaac	0	5	0
Cowan, Henry	0	2	6
Clark, George A.	0	5	0
Craig, John	0	10	0
<b>D.</b>			
Dunn, Honourable J. H.	2	0	0
Drewry, Thomas A.	0	10	0
Dunnington, George	0	5	0
<b>E.</b>			
Erskine, Thomas	0	5	0
Elliot, Christopher	0	5	0
Ewart, John	0	5	0
<b>G.</b>			
Gamble, John W.	1	0	0
Goodson, Mr.—Donation	1	0	0
Goldsmith, Mrs.	0	10	0
Goldsmith, Mr.	0	10	0
Gapper, Mr. R.	0	5	0
Goesman, John	0	10	0
Gray, John	0	2	6

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## H.

Harris, Mrs.—Donation	1	0	0
Harris, Rev. Dr.	1	0	0
Hamilton, Mrs.	0	10	0
Hamilton, Mr.	0	10	0
Harris, T. D.	0	5	0
Hawke, Robert	0	5	0
Hill, Miss	0	5	0
Howard, I. S.	0	10	0
Hartney, Mr.	0	5	0
Hay, John	0	5	0
Henderson, Edward	0	5	0
Humphrey, Paschal	0	5	0

## J.

Jones Robert	1	0	0
Johnson, George	0	2	6
Johnson, John	0	2	6

## K.

Ketchum, Jesse	1	0	0
Ketchum, Seneca	0	5	0
Keating, Michael	0	5	0
Kennedy, Duncan	0	5	0
Kanes, Mrs.	0	2	6

## L.

Lackie, David	0	10	0
Lawson, William	0	10	0
Lee, W. H.—Donation	0	5	4

## M.

Mosely, H. M.	0	10	0
Macdonald, John	0	10	0
Murchison, John N.	0	5	0
Murchison, John M.—Donation	0	5	0
Murchison, K. K.	0	2	6
McGlashan, Andrew	0	5	0
Mercer, Andrew—Donation	1	0	0
Mathews, Rev. C.	1	0	0
Mills, John	0	2	6
Macdonald, Hon. A.	0	7	0
McMahon, Edward	0	10	0
Muttlebury, Mrs.	1	0	0
McCord, Miss—proceeds of subscription Box,	0	10	0
Macdonald, A. E.	0	5	0
McArthur, Peter	0	5	0
Morrison, H.	0	5	0
McIntosh, Charles	0	5	0
McMullen, Mrs.	0	2	6

## P.

Porter, David C.	0	5	0
Paterson, Peter	0	10	0
Parsons, Mrs.	0	5	0
Phillipotts, Captain	0	10	0
Parkinson, Reuben	0	5	0
Purkiss, John	0	2	6

## LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS &amp; DONATIONS.

	R.				
Rintoul, Rev. W.	-	-	-	-	0 10 0
Richardson, James	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
Robinson, Hon. Peter	-	-	-	-	1 3 9
Rowan, Colonel	-	-	-	-	0 10 0
	S.				
Small, Mrs.	-	-	-	-	1 0 0
Small, Mrs. C.—Donation	-	-	-	-	1 0 0
Small, Charles	-	-	-	-	1 0 0
Sproule, John	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
Shaw, Mr.	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
	T.				
Thorne, Mrs.	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
Tims, Doctor	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
Taylor, Samuel E.	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
Trent, I. R.	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
Todd, Mrs.	-	-	-	-	0 1 3
	W.				
Wenham, Mrs.	-	-	-	-	0 10 0
Wenham, Joseph	-	-	-	-	0 10 0
Webb, John	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
White, Isaac	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
	Y.				
Yonge, Miss	-	-	-	-	1 0 0

Should it appear from the above List that the name of any Donor or Subscriber be omitted, the Secretaries will thank the party to notify the error.

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1832. £ s. d. | 1832.

1832.	£ s. d.	1832.	£ s. d.
Jan. 10.	To collection at the formation of the Society	April 20	By Cash paid the Hon. J. H. Dunn in part for a Bill of Exchange £40 sig.
"	" Subscriptions and Donations	"	" Kingdon Tract Society for 14,250 pages of Tracts
"	" Cash received at sundry times from the Depository for the sale of Tracts and Books.	Oct. 31	Robt. Staunton, Esq. for printing addresses, &c.
"	" E. Lesslie & Sons	Nov. 23	Bill of Exchange for £25 sig. purchased of the Bank of Upper Canada
		"	" Duncan Sinclair for fitting up shelves, &c. at the Depository
		"	" McPherson, Crane & Co. for freight, duty, &c.
		"	" Mr. Wixon in part payment for printing Almanacs
		"	" J. F. Caldicott binding do
		"	" Account book, postage, &c.
		"	" Mr. Gurnett for advertisement
			19 0
			£101 13 0
			9 13 3
			£111 6 3
			Balance in Treasurer's hands
			£111 6 3