

BIBLE SOCIETY OF QUEBEC,

AUXILIARY TO THE

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

ANNUAL REPORT,

1825.

*Patron.*

His Excellency the GOVERNOR-IN-CHIEF.

*President.*

The Honorable JONATHAN SEWELL, Chief Justice.

*Vice-Presidents.*

Rev. Dr. HARKNESS,  
Rev. Mr. BOOTH,  
Rev. Mr. STINSON,  
Rev. Mr. WILKIE,  
A. FERGUSON, Esq.,  
CLAUD DENECHAU, Esq.

Mr. W. MILLAR, Treasurer.—Rev. GEORGE BOURNE, Secy.

*Classé - Religion & Charité*

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PRINTED

**REPORT**  
  
OF THE  
  
**QUEBEC BIBLE SOCIETY,**  
  
FOR THE YEAR  
  
**1825.**



QUEBEC :  
PRINTED BY NEILSON & COWAN, 3, MOUNTAIN STREET.

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1826.



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## CONSTITUTION

OF THE

### Quebec Bible Society.

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- T**HE designation of this Society shall be the BRITISH and FOREIGN AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY, of which the objects shall be to encourage the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, in English and in French, without note or comment, throughout this part of His Majesty's Dominions, and also to contribute Funds to assist the zealous exertions of the Parent Society in translating the Word of God, and circulating it throughout the world.
- II. That each subscriber of two dollars annually shall be a Member.
- III. That a Committee of Laymen, not exceeding twelve, one half of whom (when practicable) to be Members of the Church of England, be appointed to conduct the business of the Society. Three Members may constitute a Quorum.
- IV. The Committee shall appoint all Officers, and call special General Meetings, and shall be charged with procuring for the Society suitable patronage.
- V. The President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary, shall be considered Ex-Officio Members of the Committee.

VI. Every Clergyman or Dissenting Minister who is a Member of the Society, shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Meetings of the Committee.

VII. At the General Meetings, and Meetings of the Committee, the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President first upon the list then present; and in the absence of all the Vice-Presidents, such Member as shall be voted for that purpose, shall preside at the Meeting.

VIII. According to the Plan of the Parent Society, this Auxiliary Society, contributing the whole of its funds, necessary expenses excepted, is allowed to draw for Bibles and Testaments estimated at prime cost, to half the amount of the sum so contributed, its Members retaining the same privilege of purchasing Bibles and Testaments at reduced prices at the local Depository.

IX. The Committee shall embrace every favourable opportunity of supplying with Bibles and Testaments all Vessels lying in the Port of Quebec.

X. The Committee shall meet on the second Wednesday in the Months of May, August, November and February.



### QUEBEC BIBLE SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Quebec Bible Society auxiliary to the British and Foreign Bible Society, was held November 9th, in the Court House.

The Revd. GEORGE BOURNE, Secretary, after having stated that official duties prevented the Honorable the Chief Justice from presiding at this anniversary—moved, that the Revd. Dr. HARKNESS should be appointed Chairman of the meeting; which motion having been seconded by Mr. R. HADDAN, was unanimously adopted.

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Revd. Dr. HARKNESS, in the Chair.

The Revd. Mr. CHRISTMAS, Secretary and representative of the Montreal Bible Society, commenced with prayer, after which, the Chairman, having introduced the business of the meeting with an appropriate address, requested the Secretary to read the annual report.

The Secretary having concluded the reading of the report of the Committee for the year 1825:—

It was moved by PEREZ JONES, Esquire, of New-York, seconded by HORACE DICKINSON, Esquire, of Montreal, and resolved,

I. That the report now read be received and published in both the vernacular languages.

Upon the motion of Mr. HENDERSON, seconded by Mr. M'LEOD, it was resolved,

II. That the following Gentlemen shall be the Officers of the Society for the year ensuing.

*PRESIDENT:*

The Honorable JONATHAN SEWELL, Chief Justice.

Revd. Dr. HARKNESS,

Revd. Mr. BOOTH,

Revd. Mr. STINSON,

Revd. Mr. WILKIE,

A. FERGUSON, Esqr.

C. DENECHAU, Esqr. } Vice Presidents.

Mr. WILLIAM MILLAR, Treasurer.

Mr. BUDDEN,

„ C. CAMPBELL,

„ L. CAMPBELL,

„ FISHER,

„ R. HADDAN,

„ LANGLOIS,

Mr. McCREATH,

Dr. MORRIN,

Mr. MUSSON,

„ RAY,

„ R. SYMES,

„ THOM. } Committee.

Revd. GEORGE BOURNE, Secretary.



It was then moved by the Rev. Mr. BOURNE, seconded by Mr. McCREATH, and resolved,

III. That the thanks of this auxiliary be presented to the British and Foreign, and to the American Bible Societies; for their affectionate liberality towards this Society, for the interest which they have expressed in our prosperity; and for the co-operation which they have promised in all measures adopted to promulge in Canada the sacred oracles of God.

Upon the motion of the Revd. M. CHRISTMAS of Montreal, seconded by Mr. FISHER, it was resolved,

IV. That the thanks of this Society be respectfully presented to his Excellency the Right Honorable the EARL of DALHOUSIE, Governor in Chief, for his continued patronage to this institution, whose sole object is the dissemination of the scriptures without note or comment.

It was then moved by Mr. MILLAR, seconded by Mr. C. CAMPBELL, and resolved,

V. That the thanks of this Society be respectfully presented to the Honorable JONATHAN SEWELL, Esqr. Chief Justice, for his kind attention to the request of the Committee, and for his condescension in accepting the office of President of this auxiliary.

Upon the motion of Mr. THOM, seconded by Dr. WHITLAW of Scotland, it was resolved,

VI. That the thanks of this auxiliary be presented to the Agents at Three-Rivers, Gaspé and New-Carlisle, for their gratuitous labours in circulating the Bible—to the Revd. Messrs. BOOTH and STINSON, and the Stewards of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, and the Deacons of John's Chapel, for procuring a collection in their congregations to aid the funds—and to the Treasurer and Secretary for their services in extending this Society's usefulness and benevolence.

The Secretary acknowledged the honor thus conferred upon the persons designated in this resolution—and in

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their names expressed their determination not to relax in their efforts to advance the Society's interests.

It was next moved by the Revd. Mr. WILKIE, seconded by Mr. LANGLOIS, and resolved,

VII. That this auxiliary during the last year, having realized many beneficial results from their attempts to distribute the Bible—with a firm reliance in the promises of the great head of the Church, thank God, take courage, and by his grace will go forward.

Upon the motion of Dr. MORRIN, seconded by Mr. A. HADDAN, it was resolved.

That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the Revd. Dr. HARKNESS, the Chairman, for his obliging attention to the business of the day.

The Secretary closed the meeting with prayer for the divine blessing upon the operations of the Society.



## REPORT OF THE QUEBEC BIBLE SOCIETY

FOR THE YEAR 1825.

The Committee of the Quebec Bible Society, auxiliary to the British and Foreign Bible Society, congratulate the friends of this Institution, upon the "glad tidings" received from various Bible Societies during the last year. Such intelligence demands unfeigned gratitude to "the High and Lofty One that inhabiteth eternity," who, at the creation proclaimed, "let there be light, and there was light"—and demonstrates, that "the Lord gave the word. Great is the company of them who now publish it."

Since the last anniversary, new regions, the inhabitants of which are hungering and thirsting for evan-

gelical knowledge, and active agents to disseminate the Sacred Scriptures have been discovered: for immediately after the special meeting in May, measures were adopted to carry into effect the plans then recommended—and it is gratifying to state, that the sphere of this Society's usefulness has been considerably amplified.

At Three-Rivers, a Gentleman kindly engaged to add his influence and exertions to the glorious cause. In conformity with his request, several Bibles and Testaments, in both the vernacular languages, were consigned to him for sale at the reduced prices.

Several Bibles and Testaments also have been circulated at St. Anne la Parade, with full confidence that the demand will be increased.

At Gaspé, the Committee were providentially directed to an agent, in whom they have found a diligent co-operator—and from whom they anticipate to receive pleasing intelligence, when he shall detail the result of his labours, in dispersing the copies of the Scriptures committed to his charge.

In August last, a Friend of the Society from Baie des Chaleurs, requested that some Bibles and Testaments might be transmitted to an agent at New-Carlisle—the desire was fulfilled—twelve Testaments were immediately sold, and an additional number has been forwarded. Both these Agents write in encouraging language, respecting the good which may be achieved by the divine benediction in those districts.

The donation of twelve Testaments to the School at Lorette, was delivered by the Treasurer and Secretary, who inspected the state of the School. They experienced much satisfaction in witnessing the attention of the Teacher and the proficiency of the Pupils. Several French Bibles have subsequently been presented to Indian females of that village, for domestic use. May the seed thus sown produce a harvest of praise to the gracious Redeemer!

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An application was made for Testaments for the use of a common School at St. Paul's Bay. The Curé of the Parish also purchased some Bibles, to be presented as his own donation to those Pupils in the School, who merited the encouragement which a public reward involves—thus giving, in the most efficient mode, his testimony to the necessity of perusing the Scriptures—by exciting the spirit of emulation in the youth around him, and associating with it the fact, that the acquisition of the Bible, is the highest prize which diligence, good behaviour and progress in learning can deserve, or paternal benevolence impart.

The Committee had the honor of an interview with His Excellency the Governor in Chief; who returned an encouraging reply to the Address delivered to him, and assured the Society of his continued patronage.

In the Depository were about seventy German Bibles and Testaments, for which there was no demand. The Montreal Bible Society had also in their possession a similar number of such volumes. It was therefore resolved conjointly, as the Secretary was about to visit New-York, that he should propose to the American Bible Society to exchange those German for English Bibles and Testaments. This exchange was immediately effected by the Committee of that Society—while the liberality and despatch with which the business was arranged, enhanced the kindness which has thus furnished the Society with One hundred Bibles and Two hundred Testaments, of a size and price which were greatly wanted. In this instance, the Committee rejoice, at the cordial union which exists with the Montreal Bible Society; and they hope, that the identity of object, and mutual activity and exertion will accelerate the progress of evangelical truth, until its beams shall irradiate every cottage and school in Canada.

Deeply sympathizing with our fellow-subjects at Miramichi and its vicinity, in the unparalleled calamity

with which Divine Providence has permitted them to be visited—and remembering their spiritual necessities with their temporal wants, twenty-five English Bibles and twenty-five French Testaments have been transmitted to the Superintendent appointed to distribute the various supplies which may be furnished for their relief; that in the midst of their affliction, those houseless wanderers may be enabled to derive that cordial which the Gospel administers to the wretched, and be reminded of the essential privilege which the disconsolate enjoy, who make the God of Mercy their trust and refuge.

Some Bibles and Testaments have been gratuitously distributed; either expressly to Schools, or to heads of families in the lower orders of society, who themselves can read, or whose children are able to peruse the sacred volume—but it is to be regretted, that when the dearth is so great, the demand should be so limited. Nevertheless, as many persons realize the immense importance of sending abroad the light and the truth—it is hoped, that there will be no relaxation of effort, until the word of the Lord shall have free course and be glorified.

From the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Committee have received the strongest assurances of support, and of their interest in our prosperity and success—this kindness can be reciprocated only by efficaciously distributing the books committed to our disposal.

Having thus summarily narrated their proceedings, and the present situation of the Society—the Committee advert, with exultation, to the prosperous condition of other Institutions organized for the same august object. The British and Foreign Bible Society continue their stupendous efforts, with augmenting energy; and stretching the arms of their patronage in vast amplitude, they equally afford the spiritual nutrition

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in the Word of God to the semi-frozen Esquimaux—the sun-burnt Malayan, and to the Islanders in the Pacific,—thus exemplifying, that Christian love and Christian duty can combine all that language has disjoined, and which oceans have separated. The opening lately made for the diffusion of the Scriptures by the completion of the Chinese version, and the facilities afforded to acquire that language, through the instrumentality of the renowned Morrison, is the dawn of that day, which must, ere long, burst forth in all its resplendency upon that country, which comprises one-fifth of the whole human family—notwithstanding, against the admission of the Gospel among them, their isolated position and peculiar language, appeared to form a spiritual barricade, more impregnable than the barrier wall which defends that empire.

The progress of the Bible cause in Ireland is peculiarly exhilarating. Every scheme which can be devised has been adopted to rivet the fetters of ignorance, and to enchain the people of Erin in their doleful and protracted mental vassalage. Public debates upon the duty of all persons to study the Bible, under the divine blessing, have highly contributed to the diffusion of the Scriptures—so that the strong-holds of spiritual darkness are tottering, and the bogs and glens over which the gloom of night has long hovered, begin to feel the irradiations of that knowledge which is alone able to make men wise unto salvation.

The Paris Society pursue their course with untiring vigour. By their means, the descendants of the Huguenots are once more obtaining possession of the sacred oracles; and the other inhabitants are partially imbibing an attachment for the truth as it is in Jesus. The intelligence from that nation is very animating, and by the divine favour, the most auspicious results may justly be anticipated; as many are now “running to and fro, that knowledge may be increased,” from



the Alps to the Pyrenees, and from the Scheldt to the Mediterranean.

The situation of Greece, in reference to this cause, is highly encouraging. Evangelical truth has taken root in that country—the chains of their servile degradation have been shivered to atoms—the light of the Gospel has elevated their characters; while the increasing promulgation of the sacred volume is the strong weapon, by whose instrumentality, the Mahometan imposture will receive its death-blow, and Western Asia will again behold the Star of Bethlehem, which shall conduct them to Calvary's cross, and to the sceptre of Immanuel.

Another interesting and grand region for Biblical enterprise is South America. A moral impulse has there been given to the cause of the Gospel, which is irresistible. The public sanction, which has been announced to the circulation of the sacred volume, has opened a new and boundless district for evangelical employment; and into it, the British and Foreign, and the American Bible Societies have coalesced to enter, with all their combined zeal, activity and force—anticipating the delightful result; that from Hudson's Bay to Cape Horn, every person on this Continent shall rejoice in the effulgence of the Sun of Righteousness. The world is now in a novel state of excitement—nations which have long sat in darkness see the marvellous light; and to augment this holy commotion, the most powerful motives urge us to conjoin our efforts. We have around us a very ample field for labour. In the major part of this Province, there is as profound an ignorance, and as total a destitution of "the glorious gospel of the ever blessed God," as in the European peninsula, or on the banks of the unexplored Niger. To us Providence has committed the important office of diminishing this spiritual famine, by furnishing the hungry poor with the bread of life, that the complaint

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formerly uttered by the Prophet may no longer be applicable to this country : " my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Notwithstanding the impediments which still exist to the exertions and usefulness of this and our Sister Society, yet the obstructions are diminishing ; and although our advances may be so gradual, as to be almost imperceptible, and commensurate neither with our wishes nor attempts, yet we trust, that the good seed scattered will not all be lost ; and we will strive to approximate the standard of those loftier institutions, whose line, like that of the sun, " is gone out through all the earth, and their word to the end of the world ;" and of whom, it may now almost literally be affirmed, " there is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard."

The Committee would impress upon all the Members of this Society, the urgent necessity of union and activity in this sacred warfare. It is the strife of faith against infidelity—of hope against delusion—of love against discord—of holiness against sin—and of comfort against despair. " In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand." But as every good and perfect gift cometh down from the Father of Lights, and success flows only through the divine approbation and assistance, we should all adopt the Prophet's resolution : " For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace, until the righteous thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth." Thus may we joyously realize the arrival of that blissful period, when the language of prediction shall have become historical fact, and of the Christian church, whose domains shall circumscribe the " great multitude whom no man can number, of all nations, kindreds, and people, and tongues," it shall be triumphantly recorded : " The Lord is thine everlasting light—thy people are all righteous—and thou art a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord."

### List of Subscribers.

Alexander, Mrs.	-	-	£0	5	0	M'Creath, A. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Anderson, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	M'Donald, Captain	-	-	0	10	0
Arnold, G. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	M'Gill, Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Badenock, A. Mr.	-	-	0	5	0	M'Leod, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Baird, C.	-	-	0	5	0	M'Nider, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Booth, J. Revd.	-	-	0	10	0	M'Nider, Mrs.	-	-	0	5	0
Bourne, G. Revd.	-	-	0	10	0	M'Pherson, Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Budden, W. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Mellville, Captain	-	-	0	11	0
Cairns, R. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Millar, W. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Campbell, A. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Morrin, J. Dr.	-	-	0	10	0
Campbell, C. Mr.	-	-	1	0	0	Munn, Mrs.	-	-	0	10	0
Campbell, L. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Munn, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Carman, Mrs.	-	-	0	10	0	Murray, R. Mr.	-	-	0	5	0
Codville, Mr.	-	-	0	5	0	Musson, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Dauntou, R. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Noad, J. Mr.	-	-	0	5	0
Denechau, C. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Osborne, Miss	-	-	0	5	0
Douglas, Messrs.	-	-	0	5	0	Parker, Captain	-	-	0	10	0
Esson, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Petry, F. Mr.	-	-	0	5	0
Ferguson, A. Mr.,	-	-	0	10	0	Price, W. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Fisher, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Ray, M. Mr.	-	-	0	2	6
Frost, T. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Ross, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Frost, Major.	-	-	0	10	0	Sanders, J. Mr.	-	-	0	5	0
George, G. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Stinson, J. Rev.	-	-	0	10	0
Gibb, Mr.	-	-	0	5	0	Sutherland, D. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Glass, Mr.	-	-	0	6	3	Symes, R. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Haddan, Messrs.	-	-	0	5	0	Thom, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Harkness, Dr. Rev.	-	-	0	10	0	Torrance, B. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Henderson, G. Mr.	-	-	0	5	0	Torrance, W. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Holt, C. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Usmar, J. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0
Holt, Mrs.	-	-	0	10	0	Van Cortland, Major,	-	-	0	10	0
Hossack, W. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Van Cortland, Mrs.	-	-	0	10	0
Jenkins, Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Wilkie, D. Rev.	-	-	0	10	0
Kerr, Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Williams, R. Rev.	-	-	0	10	0
Langlois, P. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Two Friends, per Rev. Dr.	-	-	-	-	-
Levallée Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Harkness,	-	-	0	10	0
Leaycraft, Mr.	-	-	0	10	0	Collection at John's Chapel,	-	-	2	16	3
Leitch, Mrs.	-	-	0	10	0	Collection at Methodist Chapel,	-	-	2	3	9
M'Cambridge, A. Mr.	-	-	0	10	0						
											£37 9 9

#### Treasurer in Account, Dr., with Quebec Society, Cr.

1825	Amount of Subscrip-	1825.	Entry and Duty on	
Novr. 1.	tions,	£37	Bibles from London	£1 12 10
	Sales,	16	Cartage,	0 2 6
		15	Printing,	4 13 0
		2	Issuing Circulars and	
			Collecting,	1 0 6
			Books & Stationary,	1 2 6
			Postage,	1 1 0
			Delegate's Expense	
			to Montreal,	2 5 0
			Balance,	42 5 7
				£52 2 11
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Examined and approved by

J. FISHER,  
R. HADDAN,  
L. CAMPBELL, } Auditors.



