THE

THIRTY-FIRST

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Officers-1875.

Kingston Anxiliary Bible Society

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

JANUARY, 1875.

WITH APPENDICES.

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Jarvis, G. S. Hobart, A. Madalister, P. Gago, George

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WILLIAM BAILIE, PRINTER.

1875.

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Che Kingston Anxiliary Bible Society.

Officers-1875.

PRESIDENT:

REV. F. W. DOBBS.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

REV. J. B. MOWAT, N. McLEOD, Esq., Dr. MAIR, REV. R. V. ROGERS.

TREASURER:

DR. SKINNER.

SECRETARY:

R. V. ROGERS, JR.

COMMITTEE:

Ministers of the Gospel, Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, Rev. G. D. Ferguson, Rev. Prof. Mackerras, A. Chown, H. Cunningham, George Robertson, B. Robertson, Major Wilson, S. Gaw, G. M. Macdonnell, John Duff, Dr. Jarvis, G. S. Hobart, A. Macalister, R. Gage, George Chaffey, Jr., R. M. Rose, D. Fraser, Jas. Lawson, M. Gage, and the President and Secretary of each Branch.

REPORT.*

Gradually, yet surely, that day is drawing nigh when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the land as the waters now cover the sea. In these latter days the voice of God has again proclaimed "Let there be light!" and the dark thunder clouds of wickedness and vice, the thick mists of ignorance and superstition, and the shadows of prejudice and indifference are vanishing away before the beams of the Son of Righteousness as reflected from that Book which He has given to man to be a lamp unto his

feet and a light unto his paths.

Already the Italian reads the Book of God's Truth in the Eternal City, beneath the very shadow of the Vatican; the Greek turns over its sacred pages amid the ruins of Athens, on Mar's Hill; it blesses the Armenian merchant, and calms the fierce Malay; it is carried up the broad rivers to the teaming millions of China, and across the snowy plains and ice-clad hills to the scattered denizens of frozen Siberia; it draws tears from the eyes of those who breathe the spicy breezes of Ceylon's Isle; the African in his wild woods rejoices in its simple stories; the wandering child of Ishmael reads it beside his cooling fountains, beneath his shady palms; it has nerved the Malagasy for a faithful martyrdom, and it now rejoices his soul in the hour of his peace; the Hindoo yields to its spell beside Gunga's sacred stream, and no longer casts her babe to the foul river-god, but takes it to Him who said "of such is the Kingdom of Heaven;" and the daughters of Judah on the slopes of Olivet, on the banks of Kedron, within Salem's walls, weep over the story of the sufferings of Jesus for themselves and for their children.

^{*}This Report was read at the annual meeting held on 2nd February, 1875.

The advent of another year makes it incumbent upon your Committee to tell to the citizens of Kingston and the people of the neighbourhood, what this Auxiliary has done during the past twelve months in the great work of circulating that blessed volume which tells of the laws of God, the words of Jesus, the works of the Holy Ghost. We humbly acknowledge that we are among the least of our Master's servants engaged in this duty, still we have been working, and we trust that our labour will be accepted on the last great day by the gracious Lord and Master, who refused not the gift of the widow's mite, nor the service of the humble woman who ministered to him while he traversed this vale of tears.

Before, however, we consider our own humble efforts, let us glance at the mighty deeds done by others; and

first, at that noble institution

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY,

Now in its seventy-first year, but Moses-like with "eye not dim, nor natural force abated." In the abstract of the Report read at the Anniversary held on 5th May, 1875, the Committee commenced by saying that it was with feelings of gladness that they told that day of a larger sum received, and a larger one expended than in any previous year of the Society's history, adding, that they saw in that fact a continuance of the Saviour's appeal, "Give ye them to eat." Turning to the operations of that year, the Report began with France. During the past year 49 colporteurs were employed, and they sold 48,327 copies, a number which exceeded the sales of 54 men in the previous year. The total circulation of the year in France was 87,400, a falling off of 11,000 as compared with 1873. The chief difficulties had been the unwillingness of many of the prefets to give authorization for colportage, but notwithstanding that, 12 fresh departments had been entered. In Belgium the circulation of the year was 16,000. Colportage had been for the first time extended to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The work of colportage was carried on chiefly in the rural districts, considerable expense being incurred in visiting remote places. The stagnation of trade in Holland had interfered with Bible circulation, which amounted to 26,700 copies, against 30,000 the year before. In Germany the

work was impeded by the Ultramontane party on the one hand and the social and democratic party on the other. As regarded the former there were not wanting proofs that the old persecuting spirit still exists. The total circulation in Germany was 461,188 copies, being 10 per cent. in advance of 1873. There were 64 colporteurs. While one of them was at Baden-Baden last summer the Emperor came to his stall, and said, with a friendly nod. "The Empress will come by-and-by, and make some purchases; I daresay you reckon myself as one of your best customers." His Majesty contributes 25l. annually to the Society, and 45l. besides for supplies of the Scriptures to the army. During the year 55,000 copies had been supplied to the Prussian troops. The difficulties of Christian work in Austria had long been such as to depress the hearts of those who had been engaged in it, and the spirit of opposition had been often manifested in a practical form. An illustration of this was afforded last year, when the body of a colporteur was found in a mutilated state in a mountainous district, there being good reason to believe that he fell a victim to the fanatical hatred of the people. Signs of encouragement in Austria were not lacking. A hall had been recently opened in Vienna for Bible reading on Sunday, and in giving permission the Commissioner of Police said, "For so good a work, I could wish that fifty halls were open-Full licence for colportage had been granted in certain provinces of Austria proper. The Austrian agencies circulated in the year 115,415 copies. Those agencies included Poland. The Society's depot at Warsaw was called by the priests "the Antichristian shop," the cause of that being that a number of Jews went there to purchase the Bible shortly before the Jewish day of atone-The Italian agencies of the Society operates from Venice to Algiers, being superintended from Rome, where the Society's depot continued open. Malta and the North African coast afford little encouragement. In North Italy many incidents have occurred which show the progress of truth. The total circulation connected with Italy was 38,750 copies. In afflicted Spain the circulation had fallen from 77,000 to 50,000. 18 colporteurs were employed during the year. Portugal somewhat counterbalanced the diminished circulation of Spain. The circulation had risen from 5,000 to 8,300, and the abatement of opposition was accompanied by an increase demand for the Scriptures. An opening had been recently made for working in Madeira. Proceeding to the north of Europe, the Report went on to say, that the ciculation in Denmark had risen from 23,000 to 25,000 and that in Sweden from 87,000 to 100,700. Almost every family in Sweden possesses a copy of the Bible, but that is no reason why it should be grudged to the children and domestic servants. In Norway the people are so scattered that many live thirty miles from any church, and the colporteurs have great difficulty in reaching many parts of the interior. In consequence of a difficulty as regarded printing, the circulation at Christiana had fallen from 40,000 to 25,000. The area of Russia is so vast that it is necessary to have two distinct agencies, the seat of one being St. Petersburg, and that of the other Odessa. The circulation by the former had risen from 127,000 to 181,000. During the visit of the Emperor of Russia to England last year, the Committee presented to his Majesty a copy of the holy Scriptures in modern Russ, and and the gift was very graciously acknowledged. similar present was made in the latter part of the year, when the Empress was here. At Moscow an agency had been opened, and 58,000 copies sold within twelve months. The Valley of the Volga had been explored during the year for the purpose of Bible circulation, and inquiries had been set on foot as to the best means of supplying the exiles in Siberia with the Scriptures. In the south the circulation had risen from 80,000 to 600,000. In Turkey the retrogressive policy of the Government had not put a stop to the work of the Society, but the circulation had fallen from 41,000 to 34,000. There were many hopeful signs in Egypt in connection with a reform movement among the Copts and other native Christians, which had quickened the desire for the Scriptures. On the west coast of Africa the task of preparing revised versions of the Scriptures in the Basuto and Caffre languages had been diligently prosecuted. A new edition of a version of a translation of the Word of God was being prepared in one language under the superintendance of Dr. Moffat. The total circulation of the year in India was 216,340 copies, more than one-half of which were issued from the depôt at

Madras. In China the circulation of the year was 74,000 copies. Many Chinamen having become Christians in Australia have after returning to their native country, assisted in the spreading of the Gospel. At Yeddo, in Japan, the Bible has been circulated among many native youths belonging to the higher classes of society, and the new Christian converts are diligent in searching the Scriptures. Australia and New Zealand, like other British colonies, are rather helpers in the work of the society than recipients of its aid. The Bible had, however, been supplied to the free-passage emigrants from this country; and it had also been circulated among the aborigines of Australia. In Polynesia, the society worked hand in hand with the missionaries. South America had received attention, and the religious awakening of Chili gave promise of an opening for work on the Pacific coast. The main opening at the present time on that vast continent was in Brazil. The circulation in Mexico had risen from 16,000 to 25,000. Its income during the year was £222,191 5s. 6d. stg.; the total expenditure, £217,390 13s. 1d. stg. issues for the year were 2,619,427 copies of Bibles, Testa. ments and portions. The total issues now amount to 73,750,538 copies.

The American Bible Society has now an income of nearly \$700,000, and its issues are over 1,200,000, of

which 270,000 are issued in foreign lands.

The Upper Canada Bible Society in its 35th Annual Report acknowledges an income of nearly \$32,000, and states its issues to be 35,710. Owing to the superabundance of snow there was a falling off both in its receipts and issues.

The Ottawa Bible Society circulates 5,592 copies, and

has an income of \$6,763.

As to ourselves, we have endeavoured, since our last Report, to cultivate the field committed to our care; we have been scattering the seed, and trust that the Lord of the harvest, who never suffers any work done for Him to be in vain, will soon grant an abundant return. Deputations, last year after the anniversary meeting, visited and held meetings at Bath, Pittsburgh, Odessa and Wilton, and during the present winter, Gananoque, Barriefield, Portsmouth, Glenvale, Elginburgh and Collinsby have already been visited and in each place a meeting has been

held with considerable success, organizations perfected and collectors appointed. Owing to the changeableness of the weather last winter, and other causes, it was found impossible to hold meetings at Harrowsmith, Sydenham, Murvale, Milburn, Woodburn, Elginburgh, Westbrooke, Collinsby, Wolfe Island, Garden Island and Amherst Island, as had been proposed, but we hope for better success in all these places during the present winter, and that the people may be awakened to a sense of the obligation resting upon them of spreading abroad God's Holy Book, so that all may know Him, from the least even to the greatest, and in every place incense may be offered unto Him with a pure offering.

FINANCIAL.

The total receipts of our Society during the past year were \$1,020.70, of this \$168.60 was collected in the City of Kingston, and as yet only in three of the wards have the collections been taken up. The Ladies' Association collected \$147.58 in Kingston in addition to the forementioned sum.

The sum of \$498.87 has been remitted by this Auxiliary to the British and Foreign Bible Societies as a free grant, a slight token of the love borne to our venerable and God-honoured parent. And debts due to this Auxiliary by Branches now affiliated with the Upper Canada Bible Society, to the amount of \$187.54, have been given to that Society, and a letter of thanks therefor has been received.

The cash in the Treasurer's hands is \$242.33. There is due us by the Branches \$131.10.

The present stock in the Depository is of the value of \$460.29, on which is due \$104.57.

ISSUES.

Mr. Edward Stacey is still in charge of the Depository. He reports that during the year 1874, 454 Bibles, 305 Testaments and 4 parts were issued or sold, representing a value of \$202.02. Free grants of 48 Bibles have been made, 24 to the Young Men's Christian Association, and the same number to the General Hospital.

The Branches surrendered to the Upper Canada Bible Society do not now obtain their stock from us, and the

inhabitants of the surrounding country within our field seem to prefer purchasing the Scriptures in the City to doing so at the depots in the villages roundabout, hence our Branches now issue but few books, and the sales at the Depository exceed those of the year 1873 by 167 copies.

This Society, since its formation, has issued 88,927 copies of that Word which can alone make man wise unto salvation. Who can calculate the good that has

sprung from this seed sown?

COLPORTAGE.

The expectation expressed by the Committee in their last report that during 1874 they would be able "to send forth a messenger bearing the precious seed into such localities in our neighbourhood as still are in want of the Book of Books," unfortunately was not realised. The only colportage work that we have to report has been done by the Ladies' Bible Association. They employed Mr. Jack for four months in Bible selling and Bible reading. He sold 120 Bibles and 17 Testaments. His field of labour is mentioned in the Ladies' Report.

OUR BRANCHES.

First among these stands the Kingston Ladies' Bible Association. We have received their 25th Annual Report, in which a brief review is taken of their past

history. The report says:-

"The chief object which lay before them, on entering upon their work, was to circulate the Bible throughout the City. Without desiring to congratulate themselves on having fulfilled their duty, they feel that they may humbly thank God that so little remains to be done of the special work assumed by them."

"Partly by the agency which they have been permitted to employ, and partly in consequence of the progress of the country in education, few families in Kingston now remain unsupplied with the Holy Scriptures. This fact, in some measure, has induced them of late to employ an agent for four or six months of each year, to visit the suburbs and surrounding parts of the City."

The Treasurer's statement shews the receipts for 1874 to have been \$147.58, the expenditure \$162.76, and the

balance on hand \$53.82. Since the formation of their Association 18,300 volumes of the Scriptures have been circulated by them. We cordially re-echo their prayer, that "looking unto Jesus they may press forward in the path of duty before them." We have received from them a grant of \$48.84 for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

GANANOQUE.

Under the presidency of that venerable friend of the cause, Rev. H. Gordon, the people of this village have bestirred themselves during the past year, and have forwarded to our Treasury, as a free grant, \$50. The last public meeting, however, was not as well attended as might have been expected.

GLENVALE.

The collectors appointed in 1873 duly gathered in their harvest and returned unto our garner \$24,20. May they not grow weary in well doing.

BARRIEFIELD.

But one collector made any return: the day of small things must not however be despised. Judging from the last public meeting, the interest in the Bible cause is spreading here.

BATTERSEA.

The collectors for last year returned \$9.60: may they collect still more during the present year for the supply of souls hungering for the bread of eternal life.

CATARAQUI

Has sent to the Treasurer \$18.85, which when laid out in Bibles may rejoice the heart of many a weary and heavy-laden child of Adam.

ODESSA.

Although the deputation in 1874 had but a small audience to listen to their appeals, still the collectors appointed gathered together and sent to this Auxiliary \$13.05

PITTSBURGH.

At the meeting in April last the collection was \$3.36.

PORTSMOUTH

Has sent in \$33.10.

Of Bath* and Wilton the Committee have nothing to report, except that they were visited by deputations and a public meeting was held in each place.

In conclusion, we would pray that we may go forward to the work of each succeeding year with more heartfelt thanks, giving, in fuller assurance of faith, with more earnest prayer and more abounding liberality, till the day dawns when the written Word shall be translated into every tongue, treasured in every home, read by every eye, and when the Word Incarnate, who is enshrined within it. shall live and reign in every heart. Even now "the landscape of Divine Truth stands out to view in all the bold outline of God's revealed will, sparkling in the sunshine of His grace, and radient with the promises of his love, but its beauty is hidden until the eyes of the blind are anointed, and its varied features produce no emotions of joy until the souls of the dead are quickened. And here lies the difference between man's work and God's work. We can give the Book, but we cannot bend the will. We can unfold the mind of God, out we cannot unveil the heart of man. We can provide bread sufficient for the food of countless multitudes, but we cannot give the appetite by which alone it is relished, or produce that assimilating process through which the soul is nourished by it unto everlasting life."

Rend the Heavens, O Lord, and come down in the power of Thy spirit to a world lying in wickedness. Touch the mountains of its ungodliness, that they may smoke with the incense of thy grace. Come from the four winds and breathe upon the slain that they may live. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped, then shall the lame man leap as an hart and the tongue of the dumb sing, renewed hearts shall reflect with joy the beauty of holiness, and a ransomed people adorn the doctrine of their Saviour

God.

^{*}See Appendix.

APPENDIX A.

HENRY SKINNER, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE KINGSTON AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

CR.

By paid Rent City Hall "expense of deputation. "printing and advertisin Depositary's salary, & Free Grant U. C. B. S. "B. & F. B. Balance	ng	Draft	 	 	 	\$ 5 9 37 80 206 439 242	00 70 52 37 00 78 33
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	DR						
To Cash on hand			 	 	 	388	10
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APPENDIX B.

ONTARIO WARD.

Collected by A. Macalister and R. Gage.

A. Bamford. \$1 00 J. F. Baker 1 00 B. M. Britton 1 00 Folger Bros 1 00 D. Fraser 2 00 R. Gage 2 00 C. F. Gildersleeve 1 00	Geo. Robertson & Son. \$15 00 Thos. Robertson. 1 00 B. Robertson. 1 00 I. Simpson. 1 00 Dr. Stewart. 1 00 R. Tossell. 1 00 O. Yates, M.D. 1 00
J. P. Gildersleeve. 1 00 A. Macalister 5 00 J. M. Machar 2 00	\$38 00

ST. LAWRENCE WARD.

Collected by G. S. Hobart and Dr. Jarvis.

Wm. Bailie \$1	00 T. McMahon\$1	00
Wm. Begg & Co 1	00 McKelvey & Birch 1	00
E. S. Boyden 1	00 Thos. Moore 1	00
Chown & Cunningham 5	00 James Moore 1	00
S. Chown & Son 1	00 J. G. Macdonald 1	00
J. E. Clark 1	00 G. M. Macdonell	00
Wm. Corbett 1	00 G. Offord	00
W. J. Dick 1	00 E. Rose	
J. Dunbar 1	00 J. Richmond 1	00
A. G. Flett 1	00 A. Ross 1	00
M. Gage 1	00 Thos. Seale	00
H. Foot	00 Felix Shaw 1	00
John Fraser 2	00 E. Stacey 1	00
G. S. Hobart 1	00 T. L. Snook 1	00
J. G. King 1	00 Geo. Thompson	00
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John McIntyre 1		75
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Cook Bros. J. Harkes, Mrs. C.	arson, G. Peacock, J. Johnston,	
Bailie Bros., Cash. J. Devana.	- Walker, - Purdy, J. Reid,	
- Graham Carson. D. McI	ntosh, — Baxter, 50c. each 11	00
Sums under 50c	5	00
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VICTORIA WARD.

Collected by Rev. Dr. Snodgrass and Rev. Prof. Ferguson.

W. W. Barker \$2 00 Rev. F. W. Mirkpatrick 2 50				\$58	85
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R. W. Barker	W. A. Brailey 1	. 00	W. G. Kidd	. 1	
	R. W. Barker\$2	00	Rev. F. W. Kirkpatrick		

No returns have been received from the Collectors appointed for Cataraqui, Frontenac, Rideau and Sydenham Wards.

PORTSMOUTH.

Collected By Rev. F. W. Dobbs and Major Wilson.

W. Baker	1	00 Mrs. McLeod	1	00
E. Baiden	1	00 Dr. Mair	2	00
Rev. C. E. Cartwright	2	00 Mr. Mooney	0	60
A. Cameron	1	00 Mr. Mudie	0	75
G. Chaffey & Bro	5	00 J. Schroder	1	00
Wm. Culcheth	1	00 Mrs. Straubenzie	1	00
J. R. Dickson, M. D	1	00 A. M. S	1	00
		00 Thos. Painter		
		00 Major Wilson		
T. McCammon				
J. Funnell, Mr. Carter, Mrs. W	Ta	lkem, a Friend, 50 cents each	2	00

APPENDIX C.

MEETINGS OF BRANCHES.

Amherst Island.—Meeting held 18th May, about 50 present. Addresses by Rev. Mr. Leitch, Mr. Mason, and the Rev Prof. Mowat. The following office bearers were elected: President, John Weller; Secretary, W. H. Moutray; Treasurer, Thos. Polley; Committee, Messrs. Preston, Filson, Fleming, Nelson, Tiegwell and Finlay. Ten young ladies were appointed collectors.

Barriefield.—Meeting held in School House on 12th January. Between 60 and 70 present. G. M. McDonnell, Esq., in the chair. Addresses by the chairman, D. Fraser, Rev. F. W. Kirkpatrick and the Secretary. Collection at meeting \$2.65. Collectors appointed, Mrs. Watt, Misses George, Hinds, Sherman and Knapp.

Bath.—Meeting held on 17th May, about 30 present. Addresses by the Deputation, the Rev. Messrs. Mowat and McKay. Office bearers elected, President, Rev. E. S. Shorey; Secretary, Dr. Kenedy, Treasurer, Frank Priest; Committee, Dr. Price, J. Belfour and G. Rouse. Sales during the past year at depository, \$7.26; subscriptions, \$19.01; collection at annual meeting, 3.13; free grant to Kingston Auxiliary, \$20. In all respects a considerable improvement when compared with the previous year.

Collinsby.— Meeting held on 29th of January, about 40 present. Addresses by Rev. F. W. Dobbs, and A. Chown, Esq. Collection at meeting \$3.72. Committee appointed, the Rev. Mr. Lidstone, Mr. Barney Wartman and Miss Everitt.

Elginburgh.—On the 20th January, Rev. Mr. Porter, M. Gage, and the Secretary held a meeting in the Primitive Methodist Church in this village. Some 30 or 40 present. Misses S. Stagg, E. Jackson, Guess and Meachern were appointed Collectors, and fair returns are anticipated.

Gananoque.—Meeting held on the 14th of October. Rev. Mr. Gordon in the chair. Deputation consisted of Rev. Mr. Grafftey and Dr. Skinner. The attendance was not large. Free grant to Kingston Auxiliary \$50.

Glenvale.—Meeting held in W. M. Church January 19th, Rev. J. Gallagher presided and opened the meeting. Addresses by the Deputation, Rev. Prof. Ferguson, Rev. D. Ross and the Secretary, attendance 30. Officers: Rev. J. Gallagher, President; J. C. Davidson, Secretary-Treasurer; Misses M. Carruthers, E. Topliffe, A. Clarke, J. Lawson, E. Bennington and A. McRae, Collectors.

Odessa.—Meeting on 17th March. Attendance between 60 and 70. Addresses by Rev. Mr. Kines, Drs. Booth and Meecham, and the deputation, Rev. Prof. Mowat and A. Chown.

Portsmouth.—Meeting on 18th January. Rev. Mr. Dobbs in the Chair. Addresses by the Rev. C. E. Cartwright and the deputation, Rev. Dr. Snodgrass and the Rev. R. V. Rogers. Attendance about 40. Collection at meeting \$5.