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THE
TWENTY-SIXTH REPORT
OF THE
QUEBEC
AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY,
1861.

WITH AN APPENDIX.



Clavis - Religion & Charité

THE
TWENTY - SIXTH REPORT
OF THE
QUEBEC
AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY,
1861.

PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING,

FEBRUARY 5TH, 1862.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

Subscribers of two dollars and upwards, are entitled to a copy of this Report.
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1862.

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The Committee meet REGULARLY at the Depository, on the last Monday in every month, at seven o'clock p.m.; and oftener, as business may require.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS
OF THE
QUEBEC AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

I.—The Society shall be called “The Quebec Auxiliary Bible Society;” the object of which shall be to co-operate with the British and Foreign Bible Society, in promoting the distribution of the Holy Scriptures.

II.—Conformably to the principles of the Parent Institution, the Bibles and Testaments to be circulated by this Society, shall be without note or comment, and those in the language of the United Kingdom, of the authorised version only.

III.—All persons subscribing \$2 or upwards, per annum, shall be members of the Society. Nevertheless, persons contributing less than \$2 shall be considered annual subscribers.

IV.—All persons subscribing \$20 or upwards at one time—and all Executors paying bequests of \$40 or upwards—shall be members for life of the Society.

V.—The business of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary or Secretaries, Depository, and a Committee; and five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

VI.—Ministers of the Gospel, of all denominations, who are members of the Society, shall be considered Vice-Presidents.

VII.—The Committee shall meet once a month or oftener, on some day to be fixed by themselves.

VIII.—The whole of the subscriptions and donations received by the Society shall be applied, after deducting incidental expenses, in the first place, to the purchase of such a number of Bibles and Testaments as are required for local distribution; and the surplus funds shall be remitted to the Parent Society.

IX.—The members of the Society shall be entitled to purchase Bibles and Testaments at the Depository, at the REDUCED PRICES, to the extent of five times the amount of their subscriptions, and to any further extent at the COST PRICES.

X.—All ministers of the Gospel making collections in their respective congregations in behalf of the Society, shall be entitled, on paying such collections to the Treasurer, to receive Bibles and Testaments at the REDUCED PRICES, to the extent of one half of their respective collections,—such return being claimed within one year of the remittance of the collection; and to purchase Bibles and Testaments at the COST PRICES, to any further extent. It is recommended, in all practicable cases, to supply the poor by sale, rather than by gift.

XI.—For the purpose of giving full effect to the design of the Society, the Committee shall make it their business to enquire what families or individuals are in want of Bibles and Testaments, and unable to procure them ; and it shall be the duty of the Committee to supply them at prime cost, reduced prices, or gratis, according to their circumstances.

XII.—For the still further promotion of the circulation of the Scriptures, it shall be incumbent on the Committee to encourage the formation of Branch Societies, or Bible Associations, in such districts, within the sphere of the Society, as may not deem it expedient to form Auxiliary Branches of their own—such Branch Societies, or Bible Associations, to be entitled to the same privileges from this Society, as this Society enjoys from the Parent Institution.

XIII.—A general meeting of the Society shall be held once a-year—when the accounts shall be presented, a report agreed upon, and the officers appointed for the ensuing year.

XIV.—The Committee, or any twelve members of the Society, may, at any time, call Special General Meetings thereof, not less than one week's previous notice being given to the members.

XV.—No alteration shall be made in these laws, except at a General Meeting of the Society—not less than one month's previous notice being given to the members of the alteration intended to be proposed.

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BY THE

QUEBEC AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

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TWENTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

The twenty-sixth Anniversary Meeting of the QUEBEC AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY was held in the Lecture Hall, Ste. Anne street, on Wednesday evening, the fifth of February, 1862. The chair having been taken by Dr. Blatherwick at seven o'clock, a hymn was sung; and a portion of Scripture having been read and prayer offered by the Revd. H. D. Powis, the president read a telegram from the Revd. A. A. Kemp, regretting that family illness prevented his coming with the deputation from the Montreal Auxiliary.

After a few introductory remarks by the President, during which he expressed regret at the unavoidable absence of the Revd. Mr. Kemp, and introduced the other member of the deputation from Montreal, the Revd. James Green,—the Report of the Committee was read by the Secretary.

The first resolution was moved by the Reverend D. Marsh, seconded by the Revd. E. Fessant, viz. :—

RESOLVED,—That this meeting has heard, with lively interest, the Report of the Society now presented, and recommends that it be adopted and circulated under the direction of the Committee; and that the following gentlemen be the Officers and Committee for the ensuing year, viz.—(See List.)

The second resolution was moved by the Reverend W. B. Clark, seconded by W. White, Esquire, and supported by the Revd. Leon Normandeau, viz. :—

RESOLVED,—That this meeting rejoices greatly in the long-continued and increasing success which God has granted to the labours of the British and Foreign Bible Society throughout the world, and would especially record its grateful appreciation of the important work which has been accomplished among the French Canadians of this province, by labours sustained by the Parent Society's generous assistance.

The third resolution was moved by the Rev. James Green, seconded by Robt. Middleton, Esq., viz. :—

RESOLVED,—That as the branches connected with an auxiliary constitute the most important part of the machinery employed, it is very desirable to encourage their formation and foster their working by every means in our power; and whereas among a large portion of our population such branches cannot be formed, persevering and systematic colportage is the only resource, and should be sustained with special regard to openings in Providence, in dependence on Him by whose command the Gospel is to be universally diffused.

The collection having been made, amounting to \$83.08, the doxology was pronounced by the Rev. Jas. Green.

REPORT.

ALTHOUGH your Committee are unable to report any improvement in the affairs of the Society, either as regards financial position, or issues from the Depository—the tests usually applied to measure such a Society's usefulness,—still, the work of circulating the Scriptures in its different branches, has been pursued, as far as the means at the disposal of the Committee would permit, with attending circumstances of a no less pleasing and encouraging nature than formerly.

The large territory assigned to this Auxiliary, though interspersed with some promising districts, is upon the whole a sterile field of labour ; yet, indications are not wanting to justify the hope, that, by the power of the Divine Spirit, a door may soon be opened which no man can shut, preparing the way for increased usefulness on the part of the Society, and an expansion of its present dwarfed proportions suited to the magnitude of the work in which your Committee believe it is one day destined to be engaged. In the meantime, much painstaking and prayerful cultivation of the soil is required, in humble dependence upon the Lord of the harvest for the promised increase.

TRAVELLING AGENCY.

Mr. Blyth, the travelling agent, has re-visited the branch societies and depositories during the course of the year—eastward from the Three Rivers district to the shores of the Baie des Chaleurs in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

For the convenience of the residents, the old depot at Malbaie has been closed, and a new one established at l'Ance aux Beaufile. Otherwise, no material changes have occurred ; nor have any fresh societies been organized.

The increasing importance both in wealth and population of the counties of Gaspé and Bonaventure, seems to warrant the hope of a future extension of operations in that direction, where many lovers of the Bible Society are already to be found. In those counties circumjacent to Quebec, the Society is well represented among the Protestant settlers, and possesses older and no less zealous supporters than are to be found at a greater distance.

The travelling agent eulogizes, with good reason, the hospitable treatment he experiences, and the favorable reception he almost universally meets with, which are doubtless due to an appreciation of the importance and value of the work in which he is engaged, no less than to feelings of a more personal kind. Mr. Blyth occasionally encounters difficulties and even opposition, not so much from the members of an opposite communion, as from some professors of the reformed faith who disapprove of the free circulation of God's word without note or comment.

Many good fruits have ensued from the visits of your agent in neglected places, and in some cases while acting in the double capacity of representative of both Bible and Religious Tract Societies, he has suggested the formation of sabbath schools where none had existed, which of necessity stimulates the circulation of the Scriptures. Thus, through his indirect influence for good in this way, the present and prospective aims of the Bible Society are promoted.

Mr. Blyth's own report will, as usual, be found in the appendix.

The number of branch societies now affiliated with the Quebec auxiliary is 27.

FRENCH COLPORTAGE.

The balance to the credit of the fund so generously granted by the parent society towards the circulation of French scriptures, has enabled this auxiliary to retain the services of Mr. Maillard as French colporteur during nine months of the year. His labors have embraced a few of the counties on the south side of the St. Lawrence, where a promising field is being cultivated with patience and success. In one county, a few converted Romanists have formed a congregation, which assembles as often as the services of a minister can be obtained; friends of these families, and others whose prejudices against Protestantism have materially abated, and who are by no means satisfied with their own creed, are often present at their own request. Thus are some of the first-fruits being already gathered, for several of these christians attribute their conversion to the study of those Scriptures, which the continued liberality of the British and Foreign Bible Society has enabled your committee to place within their reach.

Mr. Maillard, after travelling for three months through various parishes, says :—

“ I was received everywhere with distrust and coldness, but particularly at L—, where I sold fewest books, although the largest parish of all that I had visited.”

The Curé endeavors to hinder the people from purchasing :—

“The Curé spoke very strongly against the Bible Society and its colporteurs, and advised his parishioners ‘not to purchase books thus brought to them, even though sure of their being good ones, because it would be encouraging men whose object is to undermine the Roman Catholic faith.’”

Hostile intentions against the colporteur averted :—

“In a back concession of this parish, I met several habitants drawing wood ; and about one o’clock in the afternoon, fifteen of the same men, whom I had met in the morning, were waiting for me in a house some distance back. I offer my books, and they reply : ‘Shew your bad books.’ ‘Excuse me, gentlemen ; they are not bad books, but the Word of God in a version that your priests themselves recognize as correct.’ The books were then examined, leaf by leaf ; and they then asked me, ‘Have you only these books?’ ‘Yes, gentlemen.’ ‘Will you allow us to look at your bag?’ ‘Willingly, gentlemen ; it contains nothing but Bibles and Testaments.’ They then said, ‘It is fortunate for you that it is so ; for, if you had had any such pamphlets as were distributed here about fifteen days ago, we should have first taken and burned them, and you should have received some knocks into the bargain.’ I then shewed them that if the intention was commendable, the act would be blameable for leaguering together to defend a wrong system ; and I proved to them that Romanism is a system of iniquity. We conversed until half-past four o’clock, and these men separated, less prejudiced against Protestantism, and more enlightened about Romanism.”

The Schoolmistress’ wish :—

“The schoolmistress to whom I sold a Testament told me, ‘The little that I have read in the abridged history of the Old and New Testaments, makes me wish to have a complete copy ; and oh ! how I should like to see it in the hands of my pupils as a reading book.’”

The blacksmith’s reason for purchasing a bible :—

“‘He had heard the Bible read in the United States, and had even been offered one, which he refused ; but on reflection he remembered the good example and good counsels that had been given to him by Bible readers, and desired to read for himself.’ He appeared to me to be a man whose heart has been touched by grace, and anxious to be ‘born again.’ I had a long conversation with him, and gave him much encouragement.”

The colporteur discovers an old French Testament, 89 years of age, or thirty-one years older than the British and Foreign Bible Society itself, which appears to be much prized :—

“At —, I saw a DeSacy Testament, printed at Paris in 1772, containing on its title-page an advertisement highly recommending its perusal. I offered to exchange one of mine for it, or even to purchase it at a high price ; but I was refused, seeing that the owner preserved it as a souvenir of an old relation who had made him promise never to part with it. This old man had imported a dozen from Paris, and distributed them among the principal members of the family, with the prayer that they should never part with them.”

The colporteur speaks of his difficulties, his discouragements, and his hopes, in the following terms, viz. :—

“Colportage has been very fatiguing this winter, and is at all times difficult. One requires to speak to the heart and the feelings, and needs a special gift to render the truth palatable. Oh, how much I desire this gift! When I meet any one who feels his state as a sinner, and is seeking Jesus as his only refuge and stay, my heart overflows with joy, and I forget fatigue, rebuffs and disdain of all kinds! I think that the prince of delusions is losing ground, and that the reign of truth advances.”

On a subsequent tour, and in a different locality, Mr. Maillard was better received; he speaks thus of it, viz. :

“Generally well received everywhere; the people asking a great many questions, and requesting to hear the Word of God read. I revisited several families in ———, who seemed to me to have profited by what they had read.”

A poor widow's Testament taken from her by the priest, who refuses to restore it :

“A poor widow, especially, was much pleased at my return; her New Testament had been removed by the curé, much to her regret. ‘I was so happy,’ she said to me, ‘in reading this book; it seemed to me that God was beside me, speaking to me. I believed that this book had been written for me, but the curé came and took it from me, saying that he would give me a better, and see, it is the lives of the saints; but as for me, I like it much less than my Testament, which I demanded in vain from the curé. He always made some objection, and told me at last that I was not allowed to read it, and that it was a book for the priests, who alone could understand and explain it to the people.’ I endeavored to disabuse her of this idea, by explaining the reasons the Romish clergy have for prohibiting the people from reading the scriptures, whom they forcibly keep in ignorance. She quite laid hold of what I explained to her about free salvation through Christ. ‘Oh!’ she said, ‘if there were only people like you among us, how I should like to join myself to them. How happy I should be to hear the Word of God explained thus; our curé frightens me, he never speaks of God but as a tyrant, a severe judge, notwithstanding he is a Good Father.’ Several other families who had had their Testaments burned by the curé, asked for others, and promised never again to give them up to the priest.”

On a more recent trip, Mr. M. met with encouraging circumstances, he says :

“The people, far from avoiding religious conversations with the colporteurs, rather invite them. I am often obliged to spend two or three hours of a morning in replying to the questions of more than 25 persons assembled in a house for the purpose of getting me into a discussion. They have such false ideas of christianity that often when I speak to them of free salvation by faith in Jesus, and read for them numerous passages in the New Testament which speak of it, they think I am imposing on them, and regard our books as falsified, when I tell them that they will find it in the books of their curé.”

A pleasing incident of an unexpected welcome received by the colporteur, and a profitable evening spent, is mentioned :—

“Far back in the woods, I arrived at a small house occupied by an aged couple. The husband, taking me by the hand, said, ‘I did not expect that you would come to my house; but thank God you are now here, and I hope that you will remain all night with us.’ ‘Willingly,’ I replied; ‘but how could you desire my arrival, never having seen me before?’ ‘Not seen you, it is true, but we know you by reputation. You have sold books here which have made a great noise: I bought one from a person who wished to burn it; I never saw a book like it. The curé took it away in spite of me, but I will buy another. The curé scolded me much because my neighbours came to my house to hear it read; he call me *Father Protestant Meeting*. I regret that I gave him my book, but will have another that he shan’t get.’ We passed the evening in company with three neighbours, who came at the request of the good man of the house. I spoke to them of the evil of the human heart by nature, and the necessity of a new birth; of the great mercy of God, and the free salvation brought by our blessed and adorable Saviour to poor sinners. I could see the tears standing in the eyes of these honest people, who told me that they had never understood salvation after that fashion; and I afterwards made out that they believed there was an account opened in heaven, and all the good that they did went to their credit towards obliterating their sins, together with the treasure of indulgences, which they might in part appropriate to themselves.”

Mr. Maillard thus describes the congregation of converted Romanists already mentioned, viz. :—

“In my neighbourhood, some persons read the Bible; others speak freely on religious subjects with me. A great many come to my house to borrow religious books, which I obtained from the Quebec City Mission. Many children come also to see and hear me explain pictures to them, which I got from a friend of the truth, and also from the Religious Book and Tract Society. In September last, we had in my house a religious meeting. We numbered six Christian families. We partook of the Lord’s Supper together, and over fifty persons listened to the instructions we received from the minister. In January, we are to have another; and if all those who have requested leave should be present, the house will be too small. Three other families are anxious to join us, if, after ripe examination, they feel themselves truly convinced. Oh! how great is the ignorance of the French Canadian people! When will they know Jesus as a Saviour? Blessed be the Bible Society for the benefits it confers upon the poor people.”

Mr. Maillard succeeded in disposing of one hundred and fifteen copies of French scriptures.

THE DEPOSITORY.

The Depository still continues under the watchful and efficient superintendence of the secretary of the Religious Book and Tract Society, the Rev. David Marsh, and the supplies of such books as were

absolutely required, have been replenished by importation from the Parent Society.

Your Committee are at a loss to account for the seeming want of appreciation of the excellence of the editions published by the British and Foreign Bible Society by the public. Undoubtedly these editions compare favourably with any issued from the press, whether as to type, quality and durability, of either paper or binding, while their extremely low prices and the advantages which may be claimed by subscribers, afford unusual inducements to intending purchasers of the Holy Scriptures.

FUNDS.

Your Committee regret their inability to announce any improvement in the department of finance, and until the claims of the Bible Society are more generally recognized by the Protestant public, it is to be feared that successive Committees will have to lament its contracted means.

The income of the present year has been \$1123.77, somewhat under the average of the five preceding ones. The current expenses of the Society, comprising salaries of Travelling Agent and Depository, printing and other incidentals, are about \$950 annually; the travelling agency is to a great extent self-sustaining, and the Depository entirely so. The small surplus which remains after meeting the ordinary engagements, when not absorbed in free grants of Scriptures, and the loss on sales made by colporteurs at reduced prices, is applied to a reduction of the Society's debt.

With an improved income the Society might gradually reduce its liabilities, and finally emerge from its present embarrassed position, and the stock in trade being once clear of debt, free contributions could be sent to the Parent Society, which has acted with uniform liberality to an offspring not yet able to take care of itself, although some years past the full age of manhood. It is scarcely necessary to add that pecuniary embarrassments of any sort must inevitably operate prejudicially against the usefulness of the Auxiliary.

THE ISSUES

During the year have been 826 copies, or 361 less than the previous year, making a total of 22,146 copies issued since the formation of the Auxiliary.

The particulars are as follows, viz. :

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Cash sales at the Depository..... | 561 |
| Ladies' Association..... | 65 |
| Society's Colporteur..... | 78 |
| Branch Societies..... | 83 |
| Grants as specified underneath..... | 39 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | 826 |

THE GRANTS

Made have been,

| | |
|---|----|
| To the Wesleyan French Mission..... | 15 |
| To the Grande Ligne do | 12 |
| To the French Canadian do per Mr. Cornu.... | 8 |
| To the Ladies' Association..... | 1 |
| To the Rev. Mr. Plees for a Danish hospital patient | 1 |
| To the Rev. J. Gemley for a soldier..... | 1 |
| To the City Mission..... | 1 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total..... | 39 |

It is discouraging to chronicle a decrease in the circulation, but it may be noticed that only one French colporteur was employed by the society, which has reduced the issues in that direction, and the attention of the travelling agent was more occupied with the collection of arrears, than replenishing the supplies of the branches, which for the present suffice for ordinary requirements.

OTHER AUXILIARIES.

LADIES' ASSOCIATION.—This is a distinct organization, managed exclusively by ladies, who appoint their own committee and officers, collect and disburse their own funds. A very efficient female colporteur, Mlle. Pollet, has been employed for some time and is doing an important work, as the following report, with which your Committee has been favored by the ladies will testify, viz. :—

REPORT.

“The Committee report with thankfulness to God, that a good work has been carried on during the past year. The earnest and judicious efforts of their colporteur, Mlle. Pollet, to extend the knowledge of the Word of God, have met with an encouraging amount of success. The Holy Spirit has made that Word effectual to the “pulling down

of the strongholds of Satan," and bringing comfort and relief to the "weary and heavy laden." "Oh," said a young French Canadian woman after reading the Scriptures, "what precious words are these ! what happiness to possess them !—my friends may reproach me, but what does it matter ? Here is a Saviour ; I feel my need of Him, and He is more to me than all beside !" Such expressions have been repeatedly heard from those to whom the Book of God has been carried, and to whom it has often been read. It may be specially noticed that in many cases the Bible has been lent, with happy results—care being taken to ascertain, from time to time, that it is really read and valued. "I have only a few chapters more," said one woman who had received a copy on loan a few months before, "and then I shall have read it all through." Frequent conversations have been held with French Canadians and others about the "one thing needful," and very many of the sick and suffering have cause to remember, with gratitude, the ready sympathy and active help afforded them by the colporteur, who thus often wins her way to their hearts and homes. The Committee has also been strengthened by the addition of some active friends to their number, and would express the hope that Christian sympathy and help may be increasingly extended to this Society, that through its humble instrumentality many benighted souls may yet be made partakers of that faith that "cometh by the Word of God."

| | |
|--|----------|
| Amount received, | \$171 50 |
| Ditto by sale of Bibles, | 16 05 |
| Paid for Bibles, | 16 05 |
| One year's salary to Colporteur, | 200 00 |
| Printing notices, | 1 75 |

THE MONTREAL AUXILIARY is widening its limits, augmenting its resources, and extending its usefulness year by year ; which is no less encouraging to their Committee than to their indefatigable travelling agent, the Revd. James Green, to whose instrumentality, under God, much of the Society's success is to be attributed. Your Committee expect to welcome a deputation from the sister Auxiliary at the approaching anniversary.

The issues for the year ending December, 1861, have been copies, and the income \$

UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.—Your Committee have not been favored with any report of its proceedings for the year ending March, 1861.

KINGSTON AUXILIARY.—No report has been received. The public convention of Societies and Associations recommended, at the convention of delegates held at Kingston, in December, 1860, has not been held, owing to the want of unanimity of opinion among the Auxiliaries on the subject.

OTTAWA AUXILIARY.—No report has been received.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY

Continues its glorious career, diffusing light and knowledge wherever the Book finds its way ; and, blessed be God, it now penetrates the gloomy fastnesses of Popish delusion and intolerance on its hitherto vaunted territory, even to the gates of Rome itself. Save one State, which clings with despairing tenacity to the superstition of centuries, and has placed the "black mark of proscription upon the Bible," Italy is free to its circulation. Bigoted and despotic Austria has at length relaxed her rigorous laws against the introduction of the Scriptures. In Russia, the Synod of the Greek Church is preparing and publishing a translation of the Bible in modern Russ, and no less than 200,000 copies of the four gospels have been already circulated : other portions are being prepared, and it is expected that the whole Bible will soon be ready for delivery. This cheering circumstance, coupled with the emancipation of the serfs throughout that vast empire, and the extraordinary progress of liberal opinions, and thirst for religious and secular education among the people, are of hopeful significance.

In France, the circulation of the Bible exhibits an increase of 87,199 copies. The question of the Pope's temporal sovereignty is being discussed with fierce vehemence by the priesthood. Thus is enquiry stimulated, and in a spirit of candour many of the people desire to see what is said on the subject by the "Great Book," as they term the Bible. In the army the number of devoted Christians is increasing, and the Bible colporteurs are often materially aided in their work by officers of rank and influence.

In Spain and Portugal alone, of all European nations, stringent penal enactments forbid the entrance of the word of life.

For further details of the work on the European, American, Asiatic and African continents, reference can be had to the annexed abstract of the report of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

CONCLUSION.

As the thoughts linger in contemplation of the wondrous work in which the Parent Society is engaged, they naturally revert to the

share which belongs to this auxiliary in that great agency. Under difficulties and discouragements of a graver character than it has been the lot of your committee to encounter, other agencies in various parts of the world have patiently and energetically made their way. Shall it be said that on the free soil of Canada, where no legal prohibitions, nor personal violence can be encountered, less patient and prayerful toil characterizes the work ?

A large field is opening to effort ; the people manifest increased willingness to acquaint themselves with the truth. Until the bible has been offered to the thousands in this district who know not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, it can scarcely be affirmed that a satisfactory experiment has been made. Your committee earnestly commend the subject to the prayers of all whom the truth has enlightened ; feeling satisfied that however much need there may be of substantial aid and sympathy, there is yet greater need of such an interest in the work as the blessed Spirit alone can awaken. This spirit being awakened would result in a more thorough appreciation of the value of the Bible, and of the responsibilities which its possession involves.

The Parent Society has nobly aided its auxiliary, and thus in one sense, the relations between them are inverted ; but it cannot be expected that its generosity should continue to be taxed to the prejudice of more pressing claims upon its resources elsewhere.

Your committee conclude with the fervent prayer that the Holy Ghost may overshadow all who are engaged in the work of disseminating God's truth. That those who contribute to this object may ever find that it is " more blessed to give than to receive," and that all may increasingly love that Word which can bless us in time, and prepare us for eternity.

NOTICES.

All Branch Societies, Associations, and Depositories, are particularly requested to make out a Yearly Report of their proceedings, with list of subscribers, &c., to be sent to the Depository, Quebec, ON OR BEFORE THE TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF DECEMBER, that there may be sufficient time to prepare the Annual Report.

It is requested that when remittances are made, it may be specified whether the same are to be placed to the Purchase Account, or as Free Contributions.

It is particularly requested that Branches and Agencies will effect Insurance on their Stock. In many cases it may be made an item in the Policy which the Depository takes out on his stock in trade ; but where that cannot be done, if the stock of Bibles be of the value of \$100, a special Insurance must be effected.

The Committees of Branch Societies will please bear in mind that the Scriptures furnished them are invoiced, invariably, at cost price ; all expenses, therefore, after they leave the Quebec Depository, must be borne by the Branches.

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A P P E N D I X .

Dr.

QUEBEC AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY IN

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| | \$ | c. | \$ | c. |
|---|------|----|------|----|
| 1861.—Dec. 31. | | | | |
| To Cash paid Travelling Agent's salary | 500. | 00 | | |
| To Cash paid travelling expenses, &c..... | 136. | 03 | | |
| | | | 636. | 03 |
| To Cash paid sundry Colporteurs' salaries and expenses. | | | 363. | 84 |
| To Cash paid rent Lecture Hall for annual meeting.... | | | 15. | 00 |
| To Cash paid premium of Insurance on stock..... | | | 8. | 00 |
| To Cash paid printing Report, Circulars, & Advertising. | | | 64. | 73 |
| To Paid postage and petty disbursements..... | | | 7. | 13 |
| To Paid expenses of Depository..... | | | 202. | 25 |

1861.

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|----|
| Total | \$1296. | 98 |
| To Balance..... | 43. | 88 |

E. E.

ETY IN

ACCOUNT WITH THE TREASURER.

Cr.

c. \$ c.
 00
 03
 — 636.03
 363.84
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 202.25

| | |
|--|--------|
| 1861.—Dec. 31. | \$ c. |
| By Balance from last year..... | 129.33 |
| By Collection at annual meeting..... | 95.22 |
| By Subscriptions for 1860..... | 28.00 |
| By Cash received for books sold by Colporteurs..... | 9.58 |
| By Cash received for sales at Depository..... | 245.97 |
| By Cash from Tract Society towards Travelling Agt's salary.... | 40.00 |

BY CASH FROM BRANCHES :

PURCHASE ACCOUNT.

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Leeds..... | 5.25 |
| St. Sylvester..... | 2.45 |
| Hopetown..... | 1.13 |
| L'Ance aux Beaufils..... | 9.37 |
| Indian Cove..... | 1.80 |
| Gaspé Basin..... | 2.50 |
| Riviere aux Pins..... | 2.00 |
| New Richmond, West..... | 2.00 |
| New Carlisle..... | 33.00 |
| Broughton..... | 5.00 |
| Frampton, East..... | 0.75 |
| Frampton, West..... | 2.50 |
| Upper Ireland..... | 5.32 |
| Kennebec..... | 8.50 |
| | 81.57 |

FREE CONTRIBUTIONS.

| | |
|---|--------|
| By free contributions as per lists..... | 192.71 |
| | 274.28 |
| By Cash collections in this city, as per list of subscriptions..... | 430.72 |
| By Balance..... | 43.88 |

Total..... 1296.98

.....\$1296.98
43.88

E. E.

WM. MCLIMONT, TREASURER.

D

S U B S C R I B E R S

TO THE

Quebec Auxiliary Bible Society for 1861.

| | | | |
|--|---------|--------------------------|------|
| ST. PETER'S WARD.—\$275.55. | | P McNaughton..... | 2.00 |
| <i>Collected by Jas. Hossack and N. N.</i> | | T Mason..... | 2.00 |
| <i>Ross, Esquires.</i> | | P V Robin..... | 2.00 |
| James G Ross..... | \$10.00 | John Laird..... | 2.00 |
| John Ross..... | 10.00 | B & C..... | 2.00 |
| Thomas Fraser..... | 10.00 | A Woods..... | 2.00 |
| Lane, Gibb & Co..... | 10.00 | J R Young..... | 2.00 |
| James Hossack..... | 8.00 | D C Thomson & Co..... | 2.00 |
| Wm McLimont..... | 5.00 | E O Richard..... | 2.00 |
| O L Richardson & Son..... | 5.00 | W J Bickell..... | 2.00 |
| E & W Poston & Co..... | 5.00 | W Withall..... | 2.00 |
| Duncan Patton..... | 5.00 | John LeMesurier..... | 2.00 |
| H J Noad..... | 5.00 | Doctor Moffatt..... | 2.00 |
| James Gibb..... | 5.00 | Wm Siun..... | 2.00 |
| James Sealy..... | 5.00 | Thomas Lloyd..... | 2.00 |
| David Young..... | 5.00 | Henry Goodwin..... | 2.00 |
| Henry Fry..... | 5.00 | M G Mountain..... | 2.00 |
| Dunn & Home..... | 5.00 | S J Shaw..... | 2.00 |
| Daniel McCallum..... | 5.00 | R H Wurtele..... | 2.00 |
| N Neilson Ross..... | 4.00 | W G Wurtele..... | 1.50 |
| Robt Hamilton..... | 4.00 | W Walker..... | 1.05 |
| M Moodie..... | 4.00 | W D Campbell..... | 1.00 |
| J L Gibb..... | 4.00 | J P Bickell..... | 1.00 |
| A C Buchanan..... | 4.00 | James Oliver..... | 1.00 |
| Andrew Thomson..... | 4.00 | D A Ross..... | 1.00 |
| John C Thomson..... | 4.00 | W C Scott..... | 1.00 |
| John Thomson..... | 4.00 | Wm Cassels..... | 1.00 |
| J Greaves Clapham..... | 4.00 | Saml Newton..... | 1.00 |
| John Gilmour..... | 4.00 | Cash..... | 1.00 |
| W H Anderson..... | 4.00 | Cash..... | 1.00 |
| G B Symes..... | 4.00 | W C Henderson..... | 1.00 |
| Edward Burstall..... | 4.00 | C F Smith..... | 1.00 |
| Middleton & Dawson..... | 4.00 | Cash..... | 1.00 |
| Noel H Bowen..... | 3.00 | H C Austin..... | 1.00 |
| C W Wilson..... | 2.00 | Fraser & Sutherland..... | 1.00 |
| R Shaw & Co..... | 2.00 | D A Callam..... | 1.00 |
| J B Forsyth..... | 2.00 | D Laurie..... | 1.00 |
| McLean Stewart..... | 2.00 | Danl McPherson..... | 1.00 |
| John Paterson..... | 2.00 | H W Gibsone..... | 1.00 |
| Wm Hamilton..... | 2.00 | F Langlois..... | 1.00 |
| Robt Brodie..... | 2.00 | J McCall..... | 1.00 |
| Thomas Little..... | 2.00 | Cash..... | 1.00 |
| Langlois & Glass..... | 2.00 | James Douglas..... | 1.00 |
| Geo Hart..... | 2.00 | E C Baylee..... | 1.00 |
| James Dinning..... | 2.00 | H McBlain..... | 1.00 |
| | | A Falkenberg..... | 1.00 |

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 Joseph
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 Rev I
 Dr. B
 Rev J
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1861.

| | | | |
|--|--------|---|--------|
| Wm Dinning..... | \$1.00 | Samuel Cornell..... | \$2.00 |
| Wm Tait..... | 1.00 | Hon W C Meredith..... | 2.00 |
| H Lenfestey..... | 1.00 | Thomas Vaux..... | 2.00 |
| H G Joly..... | 1.00 | W Robertson..... | 2.00 |
| J Brock..... | 1.00 | W McWilliam..... | 2.00 |
| Weston Hunt..... | 1.00 | Jos Whitehead..... | 2.00 |
| C R O'Connor..... | 1.00 | G C Hossack..... | 2.00 |
| Wm Herring..... | 1.00 | W B Valleau..... | 2.00 |
| R H Smith..... | 1.00 | Thos Glover..... | 2.00 |
| Cash..... | 1.00 | Geo Hall..... | 2.00 |
| W W Scott..... | 1.00 | S J Shaw..... | 2.00 |
| H E Gethings..... | 1.00 | Dr Blatherwick..... | 2.00 |
| R Galt..... | 1.00 | Mrs Smith..... | 2.00 |
| Cash..... | 1.00 | Mrs Hunt..... | 2.00 |
| John Baile..... | 1.00 | A Watters..... | 1.00 |
| Captain Davidson..... | 1.00 | Jos Auld..... | 1.00 |
| R Lomas..... | 1.00 | A Telfer..... | 1.00 |
| G Crawford..... | 1.00 | G Renfrew..... | 1.00 |
| Duncan McCallum..... | 1.00 | Wm Richardson..... | 1.00 |
| Wm Wilson..... | 1.00 | JW McLeod..... | 1.00 |
| Wm Petry..... | 1.00 | Geo Johnson..... | 1.00 |
| J R Healey..... | 1.00 | Thos Norris..... | 1.00 |
| D Morgan..... | 1.00 | Thos Poston..... | 1.00 |
| Alex Fraser..... | 1.00 | P H..... | 1.00 |
| R S Cassels..... | 1.00 | Jos Louis..... | 1.00 |
| Sums under one dollar..... | 1.00 | Jas Haslett..... | 1.00 |
| <i>Collected after the Accounts were closed for 1860—\$24.</i> | | R Glover..... | 1.00 |
| J Hossack..... | \$8.00 | Mrs Webster..... | 1.00 |
| W McLimont..... | 5.00 | Mrs Gellard..... | 1.00 |
| Wm Ramsay..... | 2.00 | Sums under one dollar..... | 1.50 |
| Thomas Little..... | 2.00 | ST. ROCH'S WARD—\$20.30. | |
| Cash..... | 2.00 | <i>Collected by Wm. Hossack and Jas. Blyth.</i> | |
| D R Steuart..... | 1.00 | Wm Hossack..... | \$2.00 |
| Wm Cole..... | 1.00 | John Lemesurier..... | 2.00 |
| E H Duval..... | 1.00 | Thomas Oliver..... | 1.00 |
| J R Healey..... | 1.00 | P McEwan..... | 1.00 |
| E B Scott..... | 1.00 | Alex Crocket..... | 1.00 |
| PALACE WARD—\$100.50. | | Mrs R Neill..... | 1.00 |
| <i>Collected by the Revd. D. Marsh and D. Logie, Esq.</i> | | Matthew Miller..... | 1.00 |
| C Wurtele..... | \$5.00 | Alex Fraser..... | 1.00 |
| W H Tapp..... | 5.00 | Wm Withall..... | 1.00 |
| Lieut-Col Fitzgerald..... | 5.00 | Wm Barber..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Alford..... | 4.00 | Mrs Glass..... | 1.00 |
| John Musson..... | 4.00 | Sums under one dollar..... | 7.30 |
| Joseph Bowles..... | 4.00 | CHAMPLAIN WARD—\$21 87. | |
| H S Scott..... | 4.00 | <i>Collected by Wm. Cream and Wm. Ellis.</i> | |
| Mrs Woodley..... | 2.50 | C R Hossack..... | \$2.00 |
| Mrs W Dinning..... | 2.50 | E Jackson..... | 2.00 |
| D Logie..... | 2.00 | W Cream..... | 2.00 |
| W Russell..... | 2.00 | W Ellis..... | 2.00 |
| J & J Woodley..... | 2.00 | R Cragg..... | 2.00 |
| J S Fry..... | 2.00 | J Bowen..... | 1.00 |
| Wm Laird..... | 2.00 | H Chapman..... | 1.00 |
| D Robertson..... | 2.00 | J Campbell..... | 1.00 |
| Rev Dr Cook..... | 2.00 | Thos Duncan..... | 1.00 |
| Dr. Boswell..... | 2.00 | Sums under one dollar..... | 8.87 |
| Rev J Gemley..... | 2.00 | | |
| Wm Thom..... | 2.00 | | |

ST. FOY & NEIGHBORH'D—\$15.25.

Collected by J. Blyth.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| John Gibb..... | 4.00 |
| Mrs Gilmour..... | 2.00 |
| Jas Gibb..... | 2.00 |
| Mrs Davidson..... | 1.00 |
| P Romeril..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Falkenberg..... | 1.00 |
| Mr McDonald..... | 0.75 |
| Mrs J West..... | 0.75 |
| Mrs Fleming..... | 0.50 |
| David Craig..... | 0.50 |
| Mrs Smillie..... | 0.50 |
| Archd West..... | 0.50 |
| Sums under fifty cents..... | 0.75 |

BEAUPORT & MONTMORENCI—
\$16.00

Collected by Jas. Blyth.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Mrs Hunt..... | \$2.00 |
| G B Hall..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Anderson..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Hooper..... | 1.00 |
| G Wakeham..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Swan..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Waterson..... | 1.00 |
| Dr Douglas..... | 1.00 |
| Rev J Douglas..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Douglas..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Galbraith..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Dean..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Scrim..... | 0.50 |
| Mrs Saddler..... | 0.50 |
| Mrs Ferguson..... | 0.50 |
| Mrs Coulter..... | 0.50 |
| Mr May..... | 0.50 |
| Sums under fifty cents..... | 0.50 |

SCOTT'S BRIDGE—\$6 75.

Collected by J. Blyth.

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| Jas Gillespie..... | \$3.00 |
| Mrs Crawford..... | 1.50 |
| Alex Hossack..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Sample..... | 1.00 |
| Under fifty cents..... | 0.25 |

POINT LEVI & HADLOW—\$6.25.

Collected by J. Blyth.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| J Lambie..... | \$2.00 |
| Mrs Patton..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs Roberts..... | 1.00 |
| Thos Amiraux..... | 0.50 |
| E Dawe..... | 0.50 |
| Mrs J H Simons..... | 0.50 |
| Sums under fifty cents..... | 0.75 |

KENNEBEC—\$4.50.

Collected by Miss Armstrong and Miss Reaney.

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Rev B Shaw..... | \$1.00 |
| Wm Hughey..... | 1.00 |

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Mrs Calway..... | \$1.00 |
| Wm Cragg..... | 0.50 |
| Wm Hughes..... | 0.50 |
| Mr Ray..... | 0.50 |

HOPETOWN—\$0.50.

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| No name given..... | \$0.50 |
|--------------------|--------|

GASPE BASIN \$8.75.—(FOR 1859)

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| J Slous..... | \$2.00 |
| W B McIntosh..... | 2.00 |
| Mrs P Vautier..... | 1.30 |
| Abm Coffin..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs A Vautier..... | 1.00 |
| Captain W Baker..... | 1.00 |
| Joseph Shaw..... | 1.00 |
| Wm Clark..... | 0.50 |
| Collection at meeting..... | 0.50 |

\$10.30

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Deduct expenses at meeting... | 1.55 |
|-------------------------------|------|

\$8.75

FRAMPTON—EAST AND WEST—

\$11.71.

Collected by Miss Johnstone & Miss Sutherland.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Rev John Irvin..... | \$3.00 |
| Mrs Wilson..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs W Henderson..... | 1.00 |
| W Henderson..... | 1.00 |
| Wm Morrow..... | 1.00 |
| David Johnstone..... | 0.50 |
| Mrs McBain..... | 0.50 |
| Andw Ross..... | 0.50 |
| John Ross..... | 0.50 |
| Mrs Sutherland..... | 0.50 |
| W Bartholomew, Senr..... | 0.50 |
| Hugh Bradley..... | 0.50 |
| Wm Hazlett..... | 0.50 |
| Small sums..... | 0.71 |

STONEHAM—\$3.00.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Alex Fraser..... | \$1.00 |
| John Fraser..... | 0.50 |
| D McMurray..... | 0.50 |
| Jas McKee..... | 0.50 |
| Sums under fifty cents..... | 0.50 |

LAKE BEAUPORT—\$2.62.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| John Gosneld..... | \$0.50 |
| Archbd Simmons..... | 0.50 |
| Samuel Taylor..... | 0.50 |
| Sums under fifty cents..... | 1.12 |

INDIAN COVE—\$10.20.

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Pierre Simon..... | \$1.60 |
| A friend..... | 1.00 |
| P Huquet..... | 1.00 |
| Wm Simon..... | 1.00 |
| Enoch Lemesurier..... | 0.50 |

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H Mac
T Low
J Edw
J Nutt
J Wood
Sums

Collec

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John H
M Jigg
J Redf
Wm Hu
Z Goff
J B Mic
A McL
A friend
Alex H
R Wood
W Frase
Mrs Lar

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|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Wm McKillop..... | \$1.00 | P McKenzie..... | 0.50 |
| Alex McKillop..... | 1.00 | John Kelso..... | 0.50 |
| Wm Gardener..... | 1.00 | Joseph Cobban..... | 0.50 |
| Donald McKinnon..... | 1.00 | Wm Mourt..... | 0.50 |
| Rev J Crombie..... | 1.00 | Jas Stuart..... | 0.50 |
| John McKenzie..... | 1.00 | Alex Davidson..... | 0.50 |
| Wm Gordon..... | 0.75 | Finlay Kerr..... | 0.50 |
| Duncan Sillars..... | 0.75 | John McKinnon..... | 0.50 |
| Miss McMillan..... | 0.50 | Jas Kelso..... | 0.50 |
| Jos Johnstone..... | 0.60 | John McKenzie..... | 0.50 |
| A McKillop..... | 0.60 | Donald McKillop..... | 0.50 |
| Duncan Cook..... | 0.50 | Donald Kerr..... | 0.50 |
| Miss E Stalker..... | 0.50 | Peter Sillars..... | 0.50 |
| Wm Gillies..... | 0.50 | Sinclair Goudie..... | 0.50 |
| E Layfield..... | 0.50 | Sums under fifty cents..... | 2.39 |
| Wm Shaw..... | 0.50 | | |
| R McKenzie..... | 0.50 | | \$33.61 |
| Dugald McKenzie, Jr..... | 0.50 | Less, expenses..... | 0.07 |
| R Kane..... | 0.50 | | |
| Archbd McKillop..... | 0.50 | | \$33.54 |
| Donald McKillop..... | 0.50 | LOWER IRELAND— | \$1.33. |
| W M Baldwin..... | 0.50 | Collection at annual meeting.. | \$1.33 |

From 1875
Henry Ward.....

ISSUES OF BIBLES, Etc., AND CASH RECEIPTS OF THE QUEBEC AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY,
FROM ITS FOUNDATION IN ———, TO THE PRESENT PERIOD.

| PERIODS. | ISSUES OF BIBLES AND TESTAMENTS. | CASH RECEIPTS. |
|--|--|--|
| From ——— to January, 1853..... | 11417 | From ———, to October, 1850.....\$ |
| From January, 1853, to March, 1855..... | 1026 | From October, 1850, to April, 1853..... 589.11 |
| From March, 1855, to December, 1855..... | 1066 | From May, 1853, to April, 1855.....1541.26 |
| From January, 1856, to December, 1856..... | 1878 | From May, 1855, to December, 1855..... 657.07 |
| From January, 1857, to December, 1857..... | 1899 | From January, 1856, to December, 1856.....2789.98* |
| From January, 1858, to December, 1858..... | 1309 | From January, 1857, to December, 1857.....2392.51* |
| From January, 1859, to December, 1859..... | 1538 | From January, 1858, to December, 1858.....1142.07 |
| From January, 1860, to December, 1860..... | 1187 | From January, 1859, to December, 1859.....1497.71 |
| From January, 1861, to December, 1861..... | 826 | From January, 1860, to December, 1860.....2116.98* |
| | | From January, 1861, to December, 1861.....1123.77 |
| | 22146 | |
| | | \$13850.40 |

* Including grant of £200 sterling, from Parent Society.

QUEBEC LADIES' BIBLE ASSOCIATION.

President.

MRS. HELLMUTH.

Vice-President.

MRS. POWIS.

Treasurer.

MISS NEWTON.

Secretary.

MISS J. M. ROBERTSON.

Committee.

MRS. MARSH,
 MRS. J. RACEY,
 MRS. C. WURTELE,
 MRS. J. GILMOUR,
 MRS. MCLEOD,
 MRS. E. W. SEWELL,

MRS. COLLEY,
 MRS. COLLINS,
 MRS. LEPPER,
 MRS. GALT,
 MISS WURTELE,
 MISS PRIOR.

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

PORTNEUF BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY.

Having come to the close of another year, your Committee would beg leave to say, that in the year that is now past, they have not been so successful as in previous years.

The number of copies of the Holy Scriptures issued from this Branch during the year has been :—

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|---------|
| Sold—English Bibles..... | 5 | copies. |
| “ “ Testaments..... | 15 | “ |
| | — | |
| | 20 | |
| Previously issued..... | 78 | “ |
| | — | |

making a total of 98 copies of the precious Word of Life issued by this Branch, since its re-formation in February, 1859.

Your Committee regret very much that in consequence of the great decrease of Protestant inhabitants in this place, the subscription is very small.

Total receipts in subscriptions and donations for the year 1861,

| | |
|---|---------|
| Have been | \$13.50 |
| Collected at annual meeting..... | 2.37 |
| | — |
| Total..... | 15.87 |
| Less expenses since February, 1859..... | 1.47 |
| | — |
| Leaving a balance of..... | 14.40 |

to be sent to the Secretary at Quebec.

In conclusion, your Committee would hope that the seed they have been thus enabled to sow, although small, may take deep root, and spring up, and bring forth fruit abundantly, to the praise and glory of God.

JAMES MILLER,

Secy.-Treasr.

PORTNEUF, Dec. 17, 1861.

REPORT OF THE TRAVELLING AGENT TO THE COMMITTEE
OF THE
QUEBEC AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

DEAR SIRs,—Shortly after the annual meeting in Quebec, I visited

WEST AND EAST FRAMPTON,

And had a series of interesting meetings, a friend from the city being with me. Again in May, in company with a missionary going to Kennebec, we held two meetings in a place put up for holding meetings by the people, which had been long in contemplation, but now nearly finished. On one occasion the place was nearly filled; at the following meeting, Misses Johnstone and Sutherland were appointed to take up subscriptions, and, since then, have received \$11.71 free contributions, and \$3.25 on purchase account. I visited Frampton a second time, and held meetings on my return from the Kennebec.

RIVIERE AUX PINS.

This is indeed a fine locality. There are over thirty families located here, with one hundred children under seventeen years of age; a day-school is taught here by Mr. Lindenberg. A few interesting families, who had been for some time thinking of establishing a Sabbath-school, have now commenced one.— They have often said to me, "Oh! that we had some way of bringing up our children—many of them have never been in a place of worship." I have held meetings here, sold a number of Bibles, and have obtained twenty subscribers for the coming year. Mr. John Carter opened a Sunday-school, and I took him 1½ dozen of school Bibles and one of large type; but he has left since. However, there is now a good prospect of a Sunday-school being permanently established.

KENNEBEC.

Here I spent a short time, and received from Messrs. Reaney and Cathcart ten dollars on purchase account. Owing to an unforeseen circumstance—a change of residence by the lady collectors—the subscriptions had not been taken up.

NEW LIVERPOOL AND HADLOW.

In May I visited this neighbourhood, making sales of Bibles and taking up subscriptions.

ST. NICHOLAS AND ST. GILES.

In June I visited these places on my way to St. Sylvester, and sold a few books and received a few subscriptions. Made preparations for the annual meetings to be held in Megantic, passing through Leeds, Lambie's Mills, Lower Ireland, and Inverness.

METIS.

In July, visited Metis, calling at many houses. A public meeting was held, when Mr. Ferguson was chosen president, and Mr. Page secretary and treasurer. Collectors were appointed, but nothing has been received so far, except a remittance on purchase account—perhaps owing to the change of the minister, who was about leaving, to be replaced by a stranger.

GASPE BASIN.

Shortly after returning from Metis, I visited this branch, and calling upon the president, the Rev. Mr. De la Mare, was kindly received, as on all previous occasions, both by himself and his excellent lady and family. Received some money for the Tract Society, for books sent to Mr. De la Mare.

As I have stated before, I took from Mr. Laws all the books in his possession, very much damaged, and gave them to the Rev. Mr. Tallman, who kindly undertook to dispose of them at a low rate. I received the price of one Bible from Mr. Laws (\$2.50) and the subscription collected in 1858 (\$8.75) from Mr. Eden, the treasurer.

MALBAIE.

In August, visited here. The Bibles sent to Mr. Ross had all been sold; but instead of sending more, it was thought better to remove the depository to a more populous place a few miles distant (L'Ance aux Beaufils), and Mr. Andw. Case was chosen secretary and depository, the Bibles being sent to him. No remittance, that I know of, has been sent. The amount received on purchase account from Malbaie was \$9.37. I travelled over twenty miles on foot in this locality, and visited over forty families.

NEW RICHMOND EAST.

Was received very kindly by the dear friends here, and stayed with Mr. Jamieson, who acted with his accustomed kindness. Held a few meetings, and visited among the people. I received from Mr. Jamieson the amount of books sold, and paid it over to the Rev. Mr. Marsh at Quebec. Mr. Jamieson has taken great interest in the cause, and good is doing.

NEW RICHMOND WEST.

It is truly pleasing when men of influence take an interest in any good cause it is sure to go ahead, as in the case of the worthy president. The depository had sold nearly \$10 of books. The secretary has sent in the remittances. Held a public meeting, when the attendance was good although the night was a rainy one. I had to occupy the time myself in reading and speaking. Collectors were appointed for the year. Visited the back settlements also, and spent a few days in holding meetings.

Not being able to get up to

ESCUMINAC AND CROSS POINT,

without incurring great expense, the post-car being full, I sent reports and a letter to each. No returns have been received to my knowledge.

NEW CARLISLE.

Returning here, I held the public meeting, as had been announced. The audience were very attentive, and I felt it to be a solemn time. The meeting

was held in the court-house; underneath is the jail, from whence we could hear the maniacal ravings and shoutings of him who had two years before presided at the Bible meeting held in the same place, and who is now an inmate of the Lunatic Asylum at Beauport. At the close of the meeting, collectors were appointed. Mr. Matthew Caldwell, the secretary, has remitted and given to me \$78 for Bibles and other books sold by him during the year.

HOPETOWN.

Mr. Ross has sold Bibles to the amount of \$1.12½; I brought most of the remainder to Mr. Caldwell, as also the rest of the books from

PORT DANIEL,

where Bibles and Tract-Society books were sold, but I could not get the money.

BROUGHTON.

This branch is over fifty miles from Quebec. The people are very willing to subscribe; but farming operations having been less successful than usual, it was not easy to collect subscriptions. I received \$5 from the secretary on purchase account.

VALCARTIER.

Visited first, fourth and fifth ranges. Sold some Bibles and books, and made arrangements for subscriptions to be taken up next year.

LAKE BEAUPORT.

Received free contributions, \$2.62.

STONEHAM.

Received free contributions, \$3.00.

RIVIERE AUX PINS.

Paid many visits round here. Received \$4 on purchase account for Bibles and other books sold.

PORTNEUF.

Held the annual meeting. Was accompanied from Quebec by the Rev. Mr. Powis and Mr. Ellis. The meeting, upon the whole, was a good one.—Received free contributions, \$14.40.

ST. SYLVESTER.

The night appointed for annual meeting being stormy, but few could attend. On my return, we concluded the meeting at Mr. Fairfield's house, when the Misses Fairfield, Orr, and Woodside handed over free contributions received, \$14.25.

LEEDS.

The meeting here was also thinly attended, the night being very dark and the roads dreadful. Received from the Misses Lamb and Hume the subscriptions kindly collected by them, \$17.00.

LAMBIE'S MILLS.

The meeting being held in the forenoon, there was a goodly attendance. I was late, the roads being very heavy; but the audience were occupied with devotional exercises, conducted by the Rev. Jas. McConachy, in the interim.—This was a good meeting, the people taking an interest in the good cause. The

Misses Kinnear, Wilson, &c. had collected \$18.66. My friend who accompanied me from Quebec, Mr. Hinton, gave a good address.

LOWER IRELAND.

I was kindly accompanied by the Rev. Mr. McConachy and Mr. Hinton. The addresses were very good at the meeting. The chair was occupied by the Rev. S. Teeson. The subscriptions had not been taken up; but the collection at the close of the meeting amounted to \$2.33.

UPPER IRELAND.

The meeting here was a complete failure, and no wonder. The roads were almost impassable from the awful snow-drifts. I received \$5 from the treasurer on purchase account.

INVERNESS.

This meeting was held in the forenoon, and the attendance was good, as usual. The chair was taken by the president, Donald McKillop, Esquire, who gave an address, displaying a well-read and thoughtful mind. There are many excellent young men here, who may become useful at no distant day. The free contributions were to be sent in to Quebec.

In conclusion, I have to say that I have gone over the ground of the last two years, but have travelled more on foot than usual, so as to get at scattered places seldom or ever visited. The number of public Bible meetings held is equal to the number of branch societies and Bible associations. I have also held other meetings of a devotional character on Sabbath and week-days, when opportunity offered. I may say, with confidence, that the average attendance at the meetings has not been less than sixty-five persons. I have sold a number of Bibles, and given away six copies to poor persons, and sold a few at half price. Three families which were induced to buy were nearly destitute of any, having nothing but copies partially worn out or destroyed.

I am, dear sirs, yours faithfully,

JAMES BLYTH, *Travelling Agent.*

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ABSTRACT OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH REPORT
OF THE
British and Foreign Bible Society.
1861.

ALTHOUGH the British and Foreign Bible Society has now completed its fifty-seventh year of useful labour, the necessity for its continued operations is in no wise diminished. The events developed during the past year, especially in Continental Europe, and the events which now impend, present features and circumstances which awaken the hope that a wider range of action than ever will soon be available, and that the Bible will be borne by your Society into lands from which hitherto it has been jealously and systematically excluded. Moreover, the bold and daring speculations which have sprung up in our own country, and which are seeking to shake to the very foundation the doctrine of inspiration, and to impair national faith and reverence for our precious Bible, may convince us that there is some advantage for truth in having a Society established in our midst, which, in itself, is a standing homage to the supremacy and authority of Divine revelation.

Long has it been the privilege of your Committee to render their Annual Report with a preface of joyful thanksgiving; nor is the present less fitted than former occasions to inspire sentiments of praise in review of what has been accomplished.

FRANCE. — The year just closed has had its peculiar features and its peculiar success, and is declared by your excellent Agent, M. de Pressensé, to have been a season of great encouragement, and fraught with direct results such as it has rarely been his privilege to announce. The deep conviction implanted in the minds of many, that the days of the Papacy are numbered, and fast running out, has predisposed them to a candid and favourable consideration of that volume which Protestants accept and honour as the only authoritative rule of faith and practice. Under the influence of these and other circumstances, the circulation of the Scriptures in France exhibits an increase over the issues of the previous year, and presents a total of 87,199 copies. The total circulation effected in France by your Agency, to the present period, amounts to 4,668,103 copies, seven-eighths of which have passed into the hands of Roman Catholics.

BELGIUM.—There are few countries on the continent of Europe where Protestantism has made such marked progress within the last twenty-five years as Belgium; and the connection of Bible circulation, as a moving cause, with this gratifying state

of things has been too often mentioned in these Reports to require any additional explanation.

The past year has had its average amount of success; and, notwithstanding every difficulty, 9311 copies have been dispersed amongst the people, and the aggregate issues in Belgium now amount to 261,095 copies.

HOLLAND.—The operations of the Society in Holland have been conducted in the same earnest and judicious spirit as heretofore. The prevalence of the rationalistic leaven amongst professed Protestants, and the unmitigated hostility of the Romish hierarchy to the diffusion of the Scriptures, render the mission of your Society one of vast importance as well as of Christian obligation: it is therefore gratifying to be able to state that the circulation of the year has been carried to a higher point than usual, the issues through sales at the Dépôt, free grants, and the labours of Colporteurs, amounting to 25,223 copies.

COLOGNE.—It is with unfeigned regret that your Committee have to announce the somewhat sudden decease of their respected Agent at Cologne, Mr. N. B. Millard. After a brief but severe attack of nervous rheumatic fever, he departed this life on Sunday, March 10th, leaving a deeply afflicted widow and three children to survive him. How the Society and its work fondly lingered in his thoughts when quitting the sphere of earthly labour, may be inferred from the fact, that one of the last audible utterances of his lips was, "God bless the Bible Society."

The circulation of the Scriptures effected within the limits of the Cologne Agency during the year, reached a total of 91,521 copies.

FRANKFORT.—The operations of your Agent at Frankfort, the Rev. G. P. Davies, have not been marked by any special circumstances. The area assigned to the Agency has been enlarged by the addition of the French-speaking Cantons of Switzerland, so that now the whole of that country is placed under the supervision of Mr. Davies. The circulation of Scriptures from Frankfort has been very large, amounting in the year to 97,016 copies.

BERLIN.—Your Committee are happy to report on the continued efficiency of the Berlin Agency. That a circulation of 151,326 volumes has been secured in connection with this one section of the German field,

is a fact which must be viewed with interest and gratitude.

The efforts of past years to obtain a recognised position in Austria are familiar to most friends of the Society. The commencement of an Agency at Vienna in 1850, and the subsequent arbitrary expulsion of Mr. Millard, under the direction of the authorities, were fully explained at the time. A most promising sphere of labour was peremptorily closed, and the Austrian Government assumed the attitude of determined hostility to the free circulation of the Scriptures, even amongst her Protestant subjects. It is now a subject for devout congratulation, that the police regulations which prevented the introduction of the Scriptures into the Austrian dominions are absolutely rescinded, and the Bible may now freely enter those territories whence it has hitherto been so unwisely banished.

DENMARK.—Hitherto the circulation of the Scriptures by this Society has been confined to the New Testament. As a step in advance, the Psalms have been printed, by permission of the authorities, during the past year, to be sold separately, or appended to the New Testament.

The Report of the Agency at Copenhagen says, that 6989 copies of the New Testament were issued on behalf of the Society in 1860.

NORWAY.—The issues of Scriptures from the Dépôts at Christiania, Christianssand, Stavanger, Bergen, Dronheim, and Tromsøe, have comprised 16,581 copies.

SWEDEN.—The Agency at Stockholm have sought to fulfil both the wishes and the hopes of the Committee. Nor has the effort been in vain; for while the word of God has been borne to the poor and wretched dwellings of the destitute, to the sick-bed of the sufferer, to the cell of the degraded criminal, and offered far and wide in the busy town and at the wayside hut through the land, such a blessing has accompanied these endeavours to render the Bible the common property of all classes, that the vast circulation of 89,629 copies has been secured, exceeding the issues of the previous year, when the work had reached a point beyond which progress was scarcely anticipated.

RUSSIA.—**ST. PETERSBURG.**—Events of deep significance, both political and ecclesiastical, have taken place in Russia, which cannot fail to have an important influence on the future dissemination of Divine truth.

The friends of the Society will be happy to hear of the activity and energy now displayed, by the Synod of the Greek Church, in preparing and publishing a new translation of the Bible into Modern Russ. It is understood that the whole of the trans-

lation is already completed, but as yet only the four Gospels have been issued. Of these, probably not fewer than 200,000 copies have been circulated.

In connection with your own Agency at St. Petersburg, 17,250 copies were issued during the year 1860.

ODESSA.—It is but a discouraging and depressing account that Mr. Melville is able to furnish of operations in Southern Russia during the past year; and the issues actually reported have sunk to a point unusually low, amounting to no more than 3873 copies.

SPAIN.—Various grants of Spanish Scriptures have again been made to correspondents who have available means for their distribution.

The Committee have the satisfaction of stating that the entire Bible, according to the translation of Valera, is now printed, and will be ready for immediate circulation.

The Auxiliary at Gibraltar continues to employ such modes of circulation as are practicable, and, by a visitation of vessels frequenting the bay, many persons are induced to purchase the Scriptures.

ITALY.—Before dwelling on the incidents and success which have attended Bible circulation in this country, it may be stated that Lieutenant Graydon has resigned his Agency.

The Committee believe they have found a suitable successor in Mr. T. Bruce, who has resided for many years at Leghorn, and was previously well known to them by correspondence, and by such efforts as were practicable for the circulation of the Scriptures in Tuscany.

Mr. Bruce entered upon his duties in September last, and has visited the principal parts of his Italian field. Henceforth, Switzerland will be entirely severed from the district of the Agent having charge of Italy, and be incorporated with the Frankfurt Agency; and Malta and Italy will be united, and placed under the control of a single Agent.

TURIN.—The usual modes of action have been here maintained, securing a circulation for the year of 4098 copies.

An event, of considerable significance in its bearing on liberty of religious thought and action, as well as the circulation of the Bible, has taken place at Turin during the year. Hitherto the Scriptures circulated in Italy have been imported into the country, not printed there, inasmuch as the law of Sardinia forbade the printing of the Bible, without the previous concurrence and sanction of the Romish Archbishop. Such a condition was a practical interdict against the printing of the Scriptures on the part of Protestants. The Vaudois Church wisely judged that the time had arrived when the

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Government would be disinclined to apply and enforce the existing enactment; and consequently, a few months ago, an edition of 2000 copies of Diodati's Testament was passed through the press at Turin. As the Sardinian Government has abstained from all interference, and so allowed its own law to be regarded as obsolete in its application, it is presumed that henceforth the printing press will be free, throughout the country, for the production of God's word to any extent that may be required by the enlargement of the work.

NICE.—This place now ceases to be a portion of the Italian district, and will be added to the Agency of M. de Pressensé. Arrangements have been made for the duties of the Dépôt, and 1137 copies of the Scriptures have gone forth through various channels.

GENOA.—The same active measures as before are adopted by Mr. Betti for the circulation of the Scriptures, and 7646 copies have been disposed of over a large extent of country.

BOLOGNA.—Some Scriptures have been circulated here, and increased success is confidently anticipated. Colporteurs have laboured in the vicinity, and one has been employed in Bologna itself.

LEGHORN.—Operations here have issued in a circulation of 3438 copies.

FLORENCE.—Your Committee are thankful to state that, during the year, nearly 8000 copies of the Sacred Volume have been issued from the Dépôt at Florence. Colporteurs traverse the city without molestation, and sometimes in the private dwelling, and sometimes in the public thoroughfare, find ample success to encourage their labours.

NAPLES.—The entrance of the Scriptures into this far-famed city, was an event long to be remembered, and full of deepest interest. The eager throngs that gathered around the Bible stall in the crowded "Toledo," gave audible expression to the joy they felt, that some gleam of religious liberty had at length dawned upon their unhappy country; and the avidity with which the Sacred Volume was purchased proved the intense eagerness of multitudes to possess that heavenly treasure which had been so long withheld from them.

By the close of 1860, although the period of action had been comparatively short, 4438 copies had been sold in Naples; and the demand still continues, if not with augmented eagerness, yet with gratifying steadiness.

SICILY.—When the tide of revolution passed from Central Italy to Sicily, your late Agent, Lieut. Graydon, proceeded to Palermo, and began to arrange his plans for opening a sale of the Scriptures.

At a later period Mr. Bruce visited the

island, and now that a more orderly state of things prevails, and the people begin to realize the fact of their liberty, prospects of success are brighter. Nearly 700 copies had been sold in Sicily by the end of December.

Colporteurs are now at work, by whose agency, and by the opening of Dépôts in the principal towns, the Scriptures will be widely available in this thickly-peopled but fearfully degraded island.

The Committee are deeply grateful that they have been enabled, through the agency of the Society, to disperse 30,000 copies of the Scriptures in Italy during the past year, and to send forth at least thirty Colporteurs, who have traversed the land with a cheap and open Bible.

MALTA.—By a fresh geographical division of the work of the Society, it is proposed to curtail the range of the Malta operations. Greece will be appended to the Turkish Agency; Northern Africa, Egypt, and Syria will remain attached to Malta, and draw their supplies of Scriptures thence; but the Agency will now be incorporated with that for Italy, and be placed under the responsible control of Mr. T. Bruce. The Rev. I. Lowndes retires from his post of labour, and returns to England after a period of useful service in a work very dear to his heart.

In closing his connection with the work of the Society at Malta, Mr. Lowndes surveys the operations of the past year, and is able to report a circulation, amounting, in the whole, to nearly 14,000 copies.

GREECE.—The operations of the Society in Greece present an improved aspect as compared with former years. The newly-appointed Depository, Dr. Kalopothakes, is endeavouring by various means to extend the circulation of the Scriptures, and the issues for the past year have been 3293 copies.

EGYPT.—The circulation of the Scriptures in this country is unusually promising; it is effected almost exclusively by sale, and very much amongst the Mussulman population. There are open Dépôts at Cairo and Alexandria, eligibly situated in leading thoroughfares, and much is done to aid the good work by Christian friends who visit the Nile in search of health.

TURKEY.—Last year's Report announced the decease of Mr. B. Barker, who had for a long period directed the operations of the Society in Turkey. The Committee have been guided to the selection of a successor well competent to assume the responsible position of your representative at Constantinople. The Rev. A. Thomson, who has entered upon the duties of the office, has resided for seventeen years in the Turkish capital, as a Missionary of the Free Church of Scotland to the Jews, and, during that

period has had ample opportunities of becoming intimately acquainted with the operations of your Society in the East.

An able and satisfactory report of the Agency for the past year has been supplied by Mr. Thomson, from which it appears that the copies circulated have reached a gratifying total of 20,847, and have been widely dispersed.

Bulgaria has received the most ample supply, amounting to 8538 copies.

The issue of Turkish Scriptures has been threefold the number disposed of during the preceding year, exciting the hope that divine truth is gradually, though silently, making its way amongst Moham-medans, many of whom confidently anticipate the eclipse of their own faith, and the ultimate supremacy of Christianity.

INDIA.—It would afford your Committee unfeigned delight, could they depict in more glowing colours the operations of the Society in India. With a population so vast and so varied as that included within the limits of British India, the combined circulation of Scriptures, effected by all the Auxiliaries, amounts to little more than the comparatively insignificant number of 108,000 copies. Yet are the Committee assured that no indifference or inactivity, in relation to the work, can for a moment be alleged against those who administer the affairs of the affiliated Societies. Difficulties, however, of a serious character are to be combated and overcome, in endeavouring to secure a wider range of action for your Society. The neutral attitude still assumed by the Government in reference to the diffusion of the Gospel; the deep-rooted aversion of the natives to a religion which puts its interdiction upon the indulgence of their depraved lusts and passions; the implacable resentment towards Christianity which burns in the heart of the proud Mussulman; the utter inability of the great masses of India's population to read; the paucity of qualified labourers to go forth and scatter the seed of truth;—these and other untoward circumstances cannot fail to present formidable barriers in the way of all efforts for circulating the Bible.

CALCUTTA.—The Calcutta Auxiliary has recently celebrated its Jubilee, having been the first of the affiliated Societies planted in British India. During the half century of this Auxiliary's existence, many important plans have been adopted for the translation and dissemination of the Scriptures, issuing in the circulation of more than a million of copies.

The total circulation of the past year is stated to have been 28,485 copies.

NORTH INDIA.—ALLAHABAD.—The long

and painful period of inaction imposed upon the North-India Auxiliary has now happily passed away, and the day of labour has again returned. Furnished with an ample supply of God's word in the vernaculars of the surrounding population, the Auxiliary has resumed the same active measures for the circulation of the Scriptures as were adopted before its zealous efforts were temporarily paralyzed.

MADRAS.—The operations of the Madras Auxiliary are assuming, from year to year, an aspect of greater magnitude and importance. Proofs are given that portions of the word of God, casually borne far beyond the limits of Missionary labour, are sometimes earnestly perused, and lead the mind to a just and believing appreciation of Christianity. From the valuable and interesting communications addressed to the Auxiliary by Missionaries labouring within the Madras Presidency, it is evident that the Scriptures are in greater demand amongst the natives than formerly; and the wise precaution, now frequently adopted, of requiring a small price for the copies distributed, tests how far the professed desire for the word of God is sincere.

The circulation of the Madras Auxiliary for the past, was nearly 20,000 copies beyond the issues of the preceding year. The total distribution, including the issues by colportage, amounted to 65,939 copies.

BOMBAY.—The Auxiliary Society at Bombay, the centre of Scripture supply for Western India, cannot report any great amount of progress in the operations it directs. A circulation of 1359 copies amongst the ten millions speaking the Marathi language, and of 533 copies amongst the six millions employing the Gujerathi tongue, is a result as insignificant as it is depressing; and a total circulation of 4315 copies through the year indicates a range of action painfully limited when compared with the vastness of the field of labour.

CEYLON.—In the important island of Ceylon several Auxiliary Societies are in operation, placing, by their agency, the Scriptures of truth within the reach alike of heathen, papists, and Christian converts. In connection with the Dépôts at Colombo, Jaffna, and Kandy, 9514 copies have been circulated during the past year.

CHINA.—Christian hope again kindles for China. Resources and appliances for a great work in that populous empire have long been in a state of readiness, but the lack of opportunity has prevented that wide diffusion of the Holy Scriptures for which the contributions of British Christians have so amply provided.

SHANGHAE.—The issues at this place, though far below the ardent wishes of the

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Committee, are in advance of the number last reported, and amount for the year to 28,830 copies.

CANTON.—During the past year 6000 copies have been distributed with a considerable amount of care, for precautions were adopted to give copies to such persons only as appeared likely to read and understand the sacred contents.

HONG KONG.—The operations here, as elsewhere in China, have been limited. The issues amounted to 4385 copies.

AUSTRALIA.—The Committee have long entertained the desire to appoint a permanent resident Agent for the Australian colonies, whose time and energy should be wholly devoted to the periodical visitation of Auxiliary Societies. The subject has been matter of correspondence for a lengthened period, and the Committee, after anxious inquiry, have been led to appoint the Rev. J. K. Tucker, Incumbent of Holy Trinity, Northwich, to this important and responsible office.

SYDNEY.—The forty-fourth Report of the New South Wales Auxiliary dwells upon the recent commercial depression of the Colony, as having checked, at least temporarily, the prosperity of the Auxiliary; but affirms that the object itself has lost none of its interest and importance in the estimation of the public. The circulation has been 3378 copies, making the total issues of the Auxiliary 744,418.

MAITLAND.—The receipts of the Hunter River Auxiliary exhibit a considerable increase; and the sum of 200*l.* has been remitted as a Free Contribution to the Parent Society.

VICTORIA.—Measures are still in progress for imparting greater efficiency to the Victoria Auxiliary at Melbourne. The visitation of Branch Societies is being more systematically provided for. The sum of 170*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* has been received from the Auxiliary as Free Contribution. In addition to the foregoing remittance, 750*l.* has been paid for the purchase of Scriptures. The issues of Scriptures from Melbourne during the year have been 11,429 copies, showing an increase of 3974 on the issues of the previous year.

GEELONG.—The issues have been 1151 copies. The Auxiliary at Geelong has now circulated 15,324 Bibles and Testaments.

ADELAIDE.—The South Australian Auxiliary does not deem all its mission fulfilled when providing an adequate supply of Scriptures for the whole Colony, and it has evinced its readiness to take part in the general schemes of the Parent Society by remitting a Free Contribution of 600*l.*, in addition to 250*l.* for the purchase of Scriptures.

The issues of the Auxiliary for the year

comprised a total of 4788 copies, bringing the entire issues since the establishment of the Auxiliary to 40,055 copies.

TASMANIA.—**HOBARTON.**—The Report of the year states that the circulation of Scriptures for the year had amounted to 1056 copies.

The Committee feel bound to make special mention of the unabated liberality of the Tasmania Auxiliary, 300*l.* having been appropriated during the year as a Free Contribution, together with 100*l.* towards the Special Fund for India.

Nor must reference be omitted to one generous friend at Hobarton, Henry Hopkins, Esq., who, has recently remitted a personal Contribution of 500*l.* towards the general operations of the Society.

LAUNCESTON.—The issues reported for the year were 612 copies, making the total since the establishment of the Auxiliary 18,443.

NEW ZEALAND.—**AUCKLAND.**—It is but a brief record of Bible work in New Zealand which it is in the power of your Committee to supply. Yet is there, in the paucity of materials at command, assurance that many of the Maori race appreciate and love the Bible which they now possess in all its completeness, in their native tongue.

As an expression of gratitude for the Scriptures furnished by your Society, the Maoris at Archdeacon Maunsell's station have forwarded a Free Contribution of 12*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*

There has been received from the Auckland Auxiliary the sum of 50*l.* as a Free Contribution, in addition to 70*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* in payment for Scriptures.

The Rev. R. Burrows, of the Church Missionary Society, has remitted 40*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, a concluding payment on the distribution of 5613 copies of the Maori Testament sent to New Zealand in 1852.

SOUTH-SEA ISLANDS.—**TAHITI.**—It has been for some time in contemplation to print a fresh edition of the Tahitian Bible, and great care has been expended upon the revision of the text. The Rev. A. Chisholm having returned to this country in the autumn of last year, bringing the revised text prepared for the press, the Directors of the London Missionary Society have requested your Committee to undertake the printing of an edition of 5000 copies in the paragraph form, with the Marginal References affixed.

SAMOA.—The London Missionary Society have also requested your Committee to sanction and bear the expense of printing the entire Bible in the Samoan, with the addition of Marginal References, &c.

Both the above requests have been complied with.

TONGA.—The Committee are happy to

state, that the printing of the Tonguese Old Testament is proceeding satisfactorily, under the editorial superintendence of the Rev. Thomas West, Wesleyan Missionary.

SOUTH AFRICA.—The South-African Auxiliary is the centre of supply to a large district of country, over which numerous Branch Societies are formed, bringing the Scriptures within reach of a widely-scattered and mixed population, including natives as well as foreign settlers. The following extract supplies a brief epitome of the labours and results of the year—

“The number of books issued from the General Depository in Cape Town has been 961 English Bibles, and 887 English Testaments; 1861 Dutch Bibles, and 1924 Dutch Testaments; and 157 Bibles and Testaments in foreign languages; in all, 5780 volumes, being a circulation equal to that of any former year. The total receipts have been 1033*l.* 19*s.* 3½*d.*, viz. Free Contributions, 447*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*; for the sale of Scriptures, 559*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*; being somewhat in advance of any preceding year.”

GRAHAM'S TOWN.—The circulation effected in the course of the year amounted to 2362 copies, and the Auxiliary has remitted 375*l.* for the payment of Scriptures.

MOUNT COKE.—The Rev. J. W. Appleyard, who has devoted so much labour and zeal to the preparation of the Kafir translation, has returned to England with a revised copy of the entire Scriptures, for the purpose of carrying an edition through the press in the paragraph form, and with chapter-headings. At the request of the Wesleyan Missionary Society the Committee have undertaken to print 5000 copies; and it affords them great satisfaction to anticipate the speedy completion of a uniform Kafir Bible.

WEST AFRICA.—The Yoruba translation has been increased by the addition of the Epistles to the Corinthians, Galatians and Ephesians. At the request of the Church Missionary Society, your Committee have undertaken to print the above Epistles. It is hoped that the Yoruba translation will soon be so far advanced as to admit of printing the complete New Testament.

In the Gà or Accra translation, the following books of Scripture have been printed for the first time during the past year, or are now passing through the press: Exodus, Leviticus, the Psalms, and Proverbs.

In the Otji language, the book of Genesis, the Epistle to the Romans, and the General Epistles of John, are now being printed for the first time. Other parts are in the course of preparation.

At the request of the Church Missionary Society, the Committee have prepared an edition of the first seven chapters of St. Matthew in the Nupe, being the commence-

ment of an entire new translation in a language spoken over a vast extent of country.

SOUTH AMERICA.—The Agency of Mr. R. Corfield has been prosecuted through another year with great vigour, and the word of God has been borne by him to remote provinces in the interior of the country, across the Andes and down to the shores of the Pacific.

The immense extent of country traversed by Mr. Corfield, during the year, may be partially understood by tracing his steps from Buenos Ayres to Rosario, thence to Parana the capital of the Argentine Republic, Sa. Fé, Corrientes, Ascension, the capital of Paraguay, and back to Rosario. Starting afresh from the same point, your Agent then proceeds to Cordova, Tucuman, Santiago, Salta, across the Andes to the port of Cobija in Bolivia, thence by steamer to Valparaiso, taking another pass over the Andes, which enabled him to visit Mendoza, returning once more to Rosario and back to Buenos Ayres.

Men of various nationalities, French, Swiss, Italians, Germans, Hungarians, and Portuguese, were met and supplied with the Scriptures. At each place of importance some days were spent in the sale of the word of God, and in endeavouring favourably to influence the inhabitants, and to provide means for subsequent operations.

Mr. Corfield will now superintend the Society's work over the whole South-American continent, and during the present year will visit Peru, &c., for the purpose of taking up the operations which were opened by Mr. Duffield, whose Agency is closed.

WEST INDIES.—The Committee have had much correspondence with their Auxiliaries in Jamaica and the other West-India Islands. In almost every locality a greater interest is manifested in the general operations of the Society, and for many years there has not been so large a demand for the Scriptures, especially in Jamaica, where the revival influence has been widely felt.

UNITED STATES. — NEW YORK.—The Committee rejoice at the growing prosperity which marks the operations of the American Bible Society. The last Report announces an amount of income and circulation surpassing any point previously attained, giving assurance that in the Christian community there is no diminished veneration for the Holy Scriptures as the divinely appointed rule of faith and practice, nor failing zeal in the work of their dissemination. The issues were 753,772.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.—TORONTO.—The Upper Canada Auxiliary Bible Society can announce that its operations have resumed the vigour and comprehensiveness

by which they were previously distinguished.

The circulation for the year was 27,037 copies. This shows an increase, as compared with the previous year, to the extent of 7666 copies, and brings the entire circulation of the Auxiliary to the large total of 373,467.

The following sums have been received during the year which closed March 30th: Free Contribution, 533*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*; Purchase Account, 1404*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.**

KINGSTON.—The renewal of Colportage has given an impetus to the issues of this Auxiliary, which have reached a total for the year of 3290 copies.

MONTREAL.—The general operations of the Montreal Auxiliary are satisfactory and progressive. The issues have been 12,816, showing an increase, as compared with the previous year, of 1300 copies, and bringing the total circulation of the Auxiliary to 247,984.

QUEBEC.—In reporting issues, the following remarks are presented:—

“The entire number of copies issued is 1187, which may appear insignificant for the extent of the field occupied; but its peculiar nature would, under the existing state of things, preclude the hope of any very great progressive increase in the annual circulation. The entire issues of the Auxiliary to the present time are 21,320 copies.”

NEW BRUNSWICK.—**ST. JOHN.**—The Auxiliary for the Colony of New Brunswick continues to prosper. Free Contributions have been received from the Auxiliary and its Branches (inclusive of payments on account of legacies) amounting to 395*l.* 5*s.*; † and 1474 copies of Scripture have been forwarded to St. John.

FREDERICTON.—The circulation effected by the Auxiliary for the past year was 1600 copies. A Colporteur materially aided the distribution, visiting, during the summer, 800 families scattered over a wide district, 45 of whom were found entirely destitute of the Scriptures.

NOVA SCOTIA.—**HALIFAX.**—The sum of 205*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* has been received for the purchase of Scriptures, in addition to 200*l.* for General Purposes. The Dépôt has been supplied with 2506 copies.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—**CHARLOTTE TOWN.**—The correspondence from the Auxiliary in this island informs your Committee, that the issues for the year were 2068 copies, and of this number, 1060 had been sold through the zealous efforts

* Since this date, further remittances have been received, comprising 550*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* as Free Contribution, and 700*l.* on Purchase Account.

† Further remittances, comprising 301*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, have been received since the accounts of the year were closed.

of a Colporteur in the short space of fifteen weeks.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—**ST. JOHN'S.**—The circulation of the year was 1830 copies, making the total issues of the Auxiliary 18,903. The Parent Society has received 87*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* in payment for supplies of Scriptures, and 182*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* for General Purposes.

DOMESTIC.—The past year, no less than its predecessors, has witnessed the removal by death of some earnest and long-tried friends of the Society. The Bishops of Worcester and Madras, and Lord Lilford, whose names were on the list of Vice-Presidents, have finished their earthly course.

The following Prelates, on the invitation of your Committee, have signified the pleasure it affords them, to have their names placed on the list of Vice-Presidents of the Society:—The Right Reverends the Bishops of Carlisle, Rochester, Sierra Leone, Antigua, and Waiapu.

FUNDS.—The prosperous state of the Finances is once more a subject for devout congratulation. The Receipts from ordinary sources have reached the sum of 167,164*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* To this amount must be added 777*l.* 8*s.* for Special Funds, thus bringing the entire Receipts to a GRAND TOTAL of 167,941*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*

A large increase is thus apparent as compared with the previous year, the excess on the total income being 3805*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*, and on the ordinary income 5143*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*

The sum applicable to the GENERAL PURPOSES of the Society is 84,254*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*

The Receipts for the sale of Scriptures have produced the sum of 82,909*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*

The EXPENDITURE of the Society has amounted to 165,462*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* Omitting payments amounting to 5646*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, made on behalf of the Jubilee, China and India Funds, the ordinary expenditure has been 13,804*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* below that of the preceding year, and is more than covered by the year's receipts.

ISSUES.—From the 1st of April 1860 to the 30th of March 1861, the copies circulated have amounted to 1,787,398; being less by 130,499 than in the previous twelve months. Your Committee see no ground of discouragement in this circumstance, as special and exceptional causes contributed to swell the issues announced in the last Report.

The Issues of the Society now present a total of THIRTY-NINE MILLIONS, THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIX COPIES.

The labours of the District Secretaries have been not less numerous and arduous in the past than in preceding years; and although difficulties have been occasionally

encountered, and public attention is drawn to an infinite variety of religious and benevolent schemes, yet results, both in contribution for general objects, and the circulation of the Scriptures in all parts of the kingdom, may be accepted as sufficient proof of the growing appreciation and usefulness of the Society.

The Committee again solicit the attention of their friends and subscribers to that important class of Agents for circulating the Scriptures in the Metropolis, known under the familiar designation of "Bible Women." At the present time there are 152 of these agents employed. The Bible Society has been, and continues to be, identified with this organization, as far as the circulation of the Scriptures is concerned, but no farther. During the past year the Bible Women in London disposed of many thousand copies of the Scriptures amongst classes which, to a very great extent, were beyond the reach of the ordinary means by which the Society is enabled to effect its work; and this circulation was attained, not by the easy method of gift, but by sale, the very poorest of the population being willing, when brought under kind and persuasive influence, to pay for the Bible or Testament by small weekly instalments.

SCOTLAND.—As in former years, grants of Scripture have been made to poor localities, under the direction of the Rev. W. Swan of Edinburgh.

IRELAND.—The HIBERNIAN BIBLE SOCIETY, while prosecuting its own distinctive work, continues to evince unabated interest in the operations of your larger and more comprehensive Society; and, as another proof of earnest desire to have some share in the circulation of the Scriptures beyond the limited range which Ireland affords, has again remitted 500*l.* in aid of your funds for disseminating the word of God in other lands.

The SUNDAY-SCHOOL SOCIETY FOR IRELAND derives annually from your Society a large amount of gratuitous assistance; and the Committee have voted, during the year, in free grants, 16,500 Bibles and 13,000 Testaments, allowing at the same time the privilege of purchasing other supplies at cost price.

CONCLUSION.—In whatever direction your Committee look, they see much to encourage—much to recompense past labour—much to incite to renewed energy and devotedness. They believe that the object of the Society is of unrivalled importance; that it meets a want the world over, which no other

organization can supply. The Society is the Society of one Book; it draws together in loving concord those who, whatever their ecclesiastical diversities, have undoubted faith in the divine inspiration of the Scriptures, and believe that the Sacred Volume may be safely trusted anywhere and everywhere, inasmuch as the Divine Spirit is able to unfold its revelation of grace and mercy to the soul of the reader, even without the intervention of human instrumentality.

The Committee feel that it is incumbent upon them to infuse fresh life and activity into their labours, now that the Bible is challenged to substantiate its claims in a new struggle; and men who should stand in the foremost rank to assert and vindicate, by voice and pen, the immutable authority of inspired truth, are girding on the armour of a vain philosophy, to prove that the Bible owes its sacredness to the weakness of superstition, rather than to the convictions of an enlightened faith. Your Committee must content themselves with the declaration of their solemn and unqualified adherence to the Divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Bible. Take these away, and the object of the Society would be stripped of every claim which now wins the sympathy and zeal of so many hearts. All the motive power which impels to this noble enterprise would be paralyzed; the grand point of agreement, which is felt to be stronger than a thousand minor diversities, would be at an end; and the Society would fall in pieces by a natural decay, and pass into oblivion. But a more worthy destiny awaits both the Book and the Society. The Bible has outlived many a bold and reckless assault; it has been unscathed by the arrows of sarcasm and the shafts of infidelity; one army of its assailants after another has passed away; and so will it be in coming struggles. The stars of science have not put out this glorious orb of truth; there is no flaw or spot on its bright disc; it still shines with undimmed lustre, widening the range of its blessed illumination, and destined to fill the world with its light when all the dark shadows of error have disappeared. The old Bible is the Bible for all times, for all lands, for all hearts,—ever young, ever potent, ever victorious. "THE VOICE SAID, CRY; AND HE SAID, WHAT SHALL I CRY? ALL FLESH IS GRASS, AND ALL THE GOODNESS THEREOF IS AS THE FLOWER OF THE FIELD; THE GRASS WITHERETH, THE FLOWER FADETH, BUT THE WORD OF OUR GOD SHALL STAND FOR EVER."