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Under the Direction of the Upper Canada Bible Society.

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1890.

#### TO THE OFFICERS OF BRANCHES.

The fiscal year of this Society terminates on the 31st March. Treasurers and Depositaries of Branch Societies are earnestly requested to forward in good time to Mr. John Young, Depositary, Bible House, Toronto, all funds in their hands, whether from contributions or sales, so as to be included in the revenue for this year.

The reports of Branches, subscription lists, etc., and any information concerning the decease of life members and directors, any change of officers or residence, or any other matter of importance, should also be forwarded to the Secretaries, so that the necessary corrections may be made, and that our Annual Report may be as complete as possible.

#### THE YEAR TO COME.

During the year on which we are entering, there is much work which ought to be done, not only at home, in the outlying districts of Ontario, in the Provinces of Quebec and Manitoba, the North-West Territories, and British Columbia, but also in Foreign Lands.

If the aims and objects for which we are associated are in any measure to be successful, the work of the Bible Society must be energetically continued and generously supported.

The annual issues of the Holy Scriptures must be increased. The Agents and Colporteurs must be encouraged and strengthened in their work. The Branches must be worked heartily, and in every way made more complete. To accomplish this, time, patience, money, and devotion will be needed.

The work must be enlarged. There are languages in which the gospel has as yet found no written expression, and new versions are urgently necessary. There are countries yet unvisited, and races among whom the Bible is unknown. There are many fields white to harvest, where the reapers are few and scattered. There is a world of work yet undone. and to stand still is really to recede.

We must preserve the spirit of Bible work. It is a spirit of hearty union among Christians in the obedience and the faith of Christ. It is a spirit of self-forgetfulness. How difficult to "keep the heart"! This is the work of every day of the new year.

### BOARD MEETINGS.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board was held on Tuesday evening, 15th October, Dr. Geikie in the chair, and was opened by the Rev. B. Bryan reading from the Scriptures, and the Rev. F. H. Duvernet leading in prayer.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A report from the Agency and Colportage Committee was read and adopted.

A letter was submitted from Mr. Geo. Buskin asking the Society to print a new edition of the Gospel of St. Matthew in the Ojibwa and English languages, as originally issued by the York Bible Society in 1831. The matter was referred to the secretaries to obtain further information.

Mr. J. K. Macdonald, Treasurer, introduced the subject of the purchase accounts of the Branches, and the large indebtedness of some of the Depositories to the U. C. Bible Society. After discussion, the matter was referred to a Special Committee for consideration, and report at a future meeting.

The schedule of Colportage list of Gratuities and Depository's Cash Statement for September were submitted, and the meeting was closed with prayer by the Rev. J. J. Hill.

The Board met on the 19th November, the President in the chair. The Rev. Dr. Potts led the opening devotional exercises. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A report from the Committee on Agency and Colportage was read and adopted.

Applications from the Victoria Industrial School at Mimico for sixty Bibles, and from the Young Women's Christian Guild for twenty-five Bibles were granted.

The usual monthly statements were submitted, and the Rev. Dr. Thomas closed the meeting with prayer.

The Directors met on the 17th December, the President in the chair. The usual devotional exercises were led by the Rev. Manly Benson. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

On motion of Warring Kennedy, Esq., seconded by Rev. Dr. Thomas, a resolution of condolence was passed in connection with the death of the Rev. John A. Williams, D.D., one of the Vice-Presidents of this Society. and it was ordered that a copy be sent to Mrs. Williams.

A report from the Agency and Colportage Committee was submitted and approved.

The Permanent Secretary reported that arrangements were being made for the distribution of prizes to the City Public Schools in accordance with the conditions of the Ketchum Bequest.

Conformably to the laws and regulations of the Society, Mr. William Wilson, of Constance, who recently donated \$50 to the funds of the Bible Society, was duly elected a Life Member.

Arrangements for collecting subscriptions in the city was left in the hands of the secretaries.

The Rev. H. Grasset Baldwin closed the meeting with prayer.

## OBITUARY.

We regret the death of the Rev. John A. Williams, D.D., one of the Vice-Presidents of this Society, which took place on the 17th December last. A resolution of condolence was unanimously passed by the Board at its meeting on the same evening, and a copy sent to the bereaved widow.

We also regret the removal of Mr. John E. Taylor, who has been a faithful Colporteur of this Society for a period extending from July, 1877, till the time of his death, which took place in this city on Sabbath, 29th December last. Mr. Taylor was one of the most successful Colporteurs ever employed by this Society, and has disposed of many thousand copies of the Scriptures. He was an earnest Christian and his end was peace.

## Bible Society Recorder.

TORONTO, 1st JANUARY, 1890.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE VEN. ARCHDEACON SCOTT AT  
THE ANNUAL MEETING, OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN  
BIBLE SOCIETY, LONDON, MAY, 1889.

I would just put before you, Christian people, as briefly as I can, certain principles which I love myself, and which I hope you will approve also. The first principle which I love is this: That the Bible is the particular gift to us of God the Holy Ghost. Just as God the Father gave us His best gift, God the Son; just as God the Son gave to us His best gift, God the Holy Ghost; so has God the Holy Ghost given to us a great gift indeed, and that is, the inspired Word, the Bible, which we hold now in our hands. And what a gift, and what a tender view it is of the Bible to remember that it is the gift of the Holy Ghost the Comforter, which He provided and inspired! He inspired this Word, and guided its authors to give us all the measure of truth which we poor sinners can possibly require.

The next principle I would present to you is this: That the special object of this great gift is to reveal to us the Father, and to reveal to us the Son. To reveal to us the Father. I think we sometimes forget that the Bible is a majestic and a wondrously perfect revelation of Almighty God. Thirty years ago I was reading the memoirs of a dear Christian lady, Miss Adelaide Newton, and, though I have forgotten everything else of hers in the book, I have never forgotten this, which was in a private letter to a friend. She says—"How delightful it is in the Word of God to study the character of God!" She adds—"I have been able to find in the Word of God descriptions of His character, which I have put under fifty-two heads. Under each of those heads I have found six subdivisions, and thus I have some different view of the character of God, taken from His Word, to occupy every week-day in the whole year." The object of the Bible is also to reveal to us God the Son. The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. In the third chapter of Genesis He is the Seed of woman; in the third chapter of Malachi He is the Sun of Righteousness; and in the last chapter of the Revelation He is the bright and morning Star. These are the objects of this great Book which has been given to us.

And, as the Bible is the gift of the Holy Ghost, so it is the great instrument by which the Holy Ghost works. He may work in other ways upon the human soul, and God grant that we may be worked upon in other ways; but His great instrument is the Word. And therefore it is that we desire to impart this Word all the world over. I never forget the word of a brother

clergyman now in Paradise; he used to say, "The Bible and prayer will do anything." And his words were very true—they came from his heart. "The Bible and prayer will do anything."

Let me next mention the personal use to which we should put the Bible, as being the great instrument by which God the Spirit works; how reverentially and gladly we should study it! I would just remind you, as a duty as well as a pleasure, what a great layman prophet God has recently raised up among us, guided by a wonderful pathway to the paradise of God, and how great a message he brought to us from God. The message was to study God's Word, and the layman prophet was General Gordon. Just look at his letters to his sister, and see the position which he gives to the Word of God. It is wonderful how he delighted in it, how he exalted it, and how he exhorted his brother men to follow the selfsame study that gave him such joy. His own Bible is among the treasures in Windsor Castle, and I do not doubt that our dear mother the Queen values that more than any other treasure that is there. It was given to the Queen by General Gordon's sister after his death—a Bible practically worn out by use. There it is, under a glass case, scored and interlined and worn out by the noble man's hand. I dare say that he had washed it with his tears many a time. Let us try to learn the lesson that wonderful man has left, and try to study the Bible more than ever.

Well, then, the Bible being what it is, how it is our duty to spread it through the world! This Society is engaged in carrying on this work. As to circulating the Bible, I want to remind you how reverentially we should do it, as a religious act, and with prayer. I heard one say that the Bible Society is only a bookselling establishment. Well, of course it is a bookselling establishment; but what a book! The gift, I say again, of God the Holy Ghost, and the instrument of God's Holy Spirit working as well. I say, let all our work be done as it has been done in the past, especially in the Society's early dawn, with a most reverential and believing and praying spirit. Do you remember, my friends, how when miracles were done what a great reverence there was, especially when any life-restoring work was being performed? At the raising of the widow's son and of Lazarus, how solemn it is! And then at the raising of Jairus' daughter, only Christ and the apostles were to be there; and there was to be silence when the life-restoring work was to be done. And we have a life-giving work to do by means of this great Society and the distribution of the Word of God. And then, carrying on the Bible Society's work in prayer, what a world-wide intercession we should be continually carrying on! Look at the wonderful work at home. It would please you to know how the workmen of Staffordshire are caring for the living Word of God. Then there is the work in France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Poland, and that wonderful Russia, and in Turkey, Egypt, and all the wondrous tribes in the cradle of our race in Central Asia, in all those regions with which Dr. Lansdell has made many of us familiar. Then come India, China, and Japan, and America, from the Esquimaux in the north to Tierra del Fuego in the south, and Australia. If we are really mingling prayer with the work of the Bible Society—if, as I think we may do, we are making the Bible Society's Report an intercessory text book—I say we shall be praying and interceding for the whole world, and ensuring a mighty blessing for the world, and doing more to hasten the kingdom of Christ than we could do in any other way.

And how grateful we should be to all the Bible Society's workers! They are workers who enable us, as an ancestor of mine said eighty years ago, to lengthen our arms and by God's mercy to bless mankind. Think of the workers to whom you ought to be so grateful, and I am sure I must not omit the President of the Society. His work is to him a great joy. Then the secretaries, with all their labour, and those good men the workers in the

Society's house; and the colporteurs everywhere, and the missionaries, who proclaim the tidings of the Book; and I must mention the Association secretaries, and the deputations. What a great deal depends upon these, and what a blessing they give to us in the country! Old Mr. Brandram, and George Edwards—I wish he would come to Lichfield again. And I love to mention the name of Mr. Wingfield—how that man lived and loved and worked for this Society! Let us thank God for all these, and, above all, let us thank God for those wonderful translators of the Word of God; what do we not owe to them? My last words shall be these: May God bless the Society's labourers, and the Society that employs them!

### BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

#### STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE FINANCE AND ISSUES OF THE YEAR 1888-9.

The Society's statistics for the year ending March 31 do not present so favourable an aspect as in recent years. This is chiefly owing to the exceptionally high figures of 1888, when the pecuniary receipts were exceptionally high, and the issues were the largest ever reported. The free income amounts to £113,870 17s. 4d., derived from annual subscriptions, donations, legacies, collections, dividends, interest and exchanges, and Free Contributions. The total is £34,936 4s. 5d. less than in the year preceding. There is a diminution in all the items, except two, but the only serious reduction is in legacies, which, while equal to the average, fall short of those of 1888 by £30,208 9s. 2d. For this the Committee were fully prepared, inasmuch as in 1888 the legacies were more than double the average, arising from the receipt of several unusually large bequests. A decline from this source, however, does not occasion the Committee unmingled regret, for, while augmentation of income from whatever quarter, is acceptable, that is the least so which implies the loss of living friends.

There is one slight increase which the Committee view with great satisfaction, viz., in the free contributions, which are the product of the remittances from the Auxiliaries. For several years these have shown a marked tendency to retrograde and although the advance is small, amounting only to £54, it indicates, the Committee hope, that the ebb has reached its lowest limit, and the tide has again begun to flow. The receipts from sales share the general decadence, but only in a small degree. They amount to £98,677 18s. 11d., of which sum the Home and the Foreign sales contribute in almost exactly similar proportion. The decrease as compared with 1888 is £3,765 6s 1d. The decline in the Home receipts is principally accounted for by the cessation of the sale of the Jubilee Bible and Testament, and by the lessened demand for the Penny Testament—the benevolent objects for which this popular edition was published having now been nearly accomplished. The lessened receipts from abroad are to a considerable extent explained by the greater activity of some Continental Bible Societies, a fact which the Committee regard with unfeigned pleasure, and which is mainly due to the stimulus which this Society has afforded. The total receipts from all sources Free Income and Sales, including £101 14s. 4d. from the Roxburgh Fund; and £5 5s. from special donations for printing the Scriptures—amount to £212,655 15s. 7d. The expenditure for the year has been £226,164 14s. 5d., an increase over 1888 of £1,441 4s. 8d., and £13,503 18s. 10d. in excess of the receipts.

Uninteresting, and to some, perhaps, unintelligible, as these financial statistics appear, there is a view of them which will be understood and appreciated by all. The Church has shown its desire that the world should possess the Bible by gifts amounting to £113,977; and the world has shown its desire for the Bible by paying £98,677 to possess it.

The issues necessarily follow the diminished receipts, and are affected by the same causes. The Home issues are :—Bibles, 641,902 ; New Testaments, 870,146 ; Portions, 275,033 ; in all, 1,787,081. The issues from foreign depôts are :—Bibles, 168,239 ; New Testaments, 613,536 ; Portions, 1,108,348 ; in all, 1,890,123 - making a grand total of 3,677,204, showing a total decrease of 528,828 copies, more than five-sixths of which consist of New Testaments.

### WORDS OF FAREWELL.

BY THE REV. JOHN SHARP, M.A., SECRETARY B. AND F. SOCIETY.

Mr. Sharp's summary of the Committee's instructions to its Agents is worthy of special attention, not only for its own sake, but as an expression of the views of the Society with reference to the duties and the policy of those engaged in the foreign field, and face to face with the problems of thought and action which await them there. He spoke as follows :—

DEAR BRETHREN IN CHRIST,—This day wherein the Committee bid you, with all their heart, God-speed in your errand to further the translation and circulation of the Bible in distant lands, is for them, and they trust also for you, "a day of gladness," "a good day" (Esther ix. 19). It is a day of answers to prayer. It is an earnest of blessings to come.

By this leave-taking the Bible Society shares in the great sending forth of labourers into the mission field in which other societies are this year, by God's goodness, permitted to rejoice more than ever before. "Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see." Prophets and kings in by-gone days saw no such accessibility in all the world for the written Word and the proclaimed Gospel as we now see. In unwonted numbers Christian men and women are going forth to preach to Jew and Gentile "the unsearchable riches of Christ." Gifts for teaching and gifts for healing are increasingly being devoted to preparing the way of the Lord. There is more of interest in, and of sympathy with, and of giving to, the great missionary enterprise. And each year sees the number of translations of God's Holy Word into the languages of the human family enlarged, the quality of previously-existing versions improved, and the tide of their diffusion throughout the world rise higher. Let these signs of God's active working around us, and of the fulfilment of His gracious promises to our race encourage you, dear brethren, as you go forth to take your part under Him in promoting the beneficent object of this Society. It was founded simply to encourage the wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures, in the full assurance that they are the inspired revelation of the will of God to all mankind, and that under the inner teaching of the Holy Spirit they are able to make "wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." It is only in the belief that your own heart's experience has convinced you of this power in Holy Scripture, that the Committee send you forth to promote the diffusion of the same Word of Life among others. Such a conviction will keep you from feeling irksome and unimportant any details of your work which are needful for the successful promotion of its high spiritual aim.

The other cardinal feature in the Society's constitution is its unrestricted catholicity of co-operation with all those who are willing to promote its sole object. The Committee ask you to cultivate large-hearted and harmonious relations with all those who are ready to aid the Society in providing copies of the simple text of the Bible, and in circulating them among mankind. In the same spirit the Committee wish you to maintain cordial sympathy with the sister Bible Societies of Scotland and America, where you meet with their representatives in the field.

In regard to religions other than Christianity with which your spheres of duty may bring you in contact the Committee would have you always remember that the aim of this Society is to diffuse truth rather than to

attack error. For you, or for those who work under your direction, to denounce or ridicule non-Christian systems of belief would be to suggest to your hearers a wrong view of the Society's spirit and aim. By this it is not meant that the lips of our Agents and colporteurs are sealed. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth will speak, and nothing can better accompany Bible circulation than that those who have felt the power and sweetness of the Divine Word should tell others what it has done for them. There is an obvious interval between this and the language of controversy.

This Society's Agents are also desired, in the prosecution of its work, to keep well within the limits of the law in the countries where they labour. It is of no small consequence to the success of its operations that its representatives should act so as to secure the confidence and goodwill of all those in authority.

With the depositaries and colporteurs who may come under your direction, the Committee trust you will cultivate a spirit of true Christian sympathy. Help them by prayer and spiritual counsel to lift their work above the level of ordinary trade, and to keep in view the all important religious issues with which it is fraught.

To hold intimate intercourse with them and others, as well as to be of real value to the Committee in questions affecting versions of the Scriptures, it is of essential importance at the outset that you should spare no pains thoroughly to master the language or languages of the country where you labour.

Leaving other matters to the more detailed instructions which will be placed in your hands on paper, the Committee will now only add a brief word or two to you each in turn respecting your appointed individual posts of duty, and commit you all in prayer to the guidance and keeping of that Heavenly Master in close fellowship with Whom they beg you ever to endeavour to walk yourselves while you labour for the welfare of others.

You, Brother Thomson, are no stranger to the responsibilities and privileges of Bible-work in a heathen land. By ten years' able and efficient labour in Japan in connection with the National Bible Society of Scotland, you have gained the confidence and esteem of many friends. Now you go forth to place your talents and experience at Christ's service in similar work in North India. You will need to enter on this enterprise in a patient and conciliatory spirit, seeking to relieve the burden which has overtaxed even the unsparing devotion of the honorary secretary for so many years of the North India Auxiliary Bible Society, the Hon. G. E. Knox, and endeavouring to unite the sympathies and labours of the various missionaries of different societies within the field of the Auxiliary in perfecting the Hindi version, and in diffusing the Scriptures among the native population. We trust that Mrs. Thomson may find interest in doing what may lie within her power in furthering the circulation of the Scriptures among the females around your home.

In sending you forth, Brother Douglas, in the hope that you will ere long reach Persia, and qualify yourself to take effective oversight of the Society's work there, the Committee trust you will avail yourself of the opportunities you will find in Berlin, and it may be at other centres, on your way out, to master the business details which are essential to the proper conduct of this Society's religious work. They ask you, when the time comes, to do your utmost to carry on the Society's work in Persia in co-operation with the missionaries labouring there, and more especially to defer, as is due to a veteran and self-denying missionary, to the guidance which the Rev. Dr. Bruce may give you in beginning your work. Keep in mind the high standard, both of scholarship and of spirituality, set by Dr. Bruce's devoted predecessor in translating the Scriptures into Persian, Henry Martyn.

In sending you to Egypt, Brother De Glanville, for a preliminary engagement, it is the earnest hope of the Committee that they will learn from

their valued and experienced Agent there, the Rev. R. H. Weakley, that you show such aptitude for the Society's work, and that you have begun it in such a spirit of self-consecration to Christ's service, that they will be able soon to enter upon a permanent engagement of your services for India or Burmah.

[From the BIBLE SOCIETY REPORTER.]

### THE TERCENTENARY OF GASPAR KAROLI'S HUNGARIAN BIBLE.

We are watching with no ordinary interest and pleasure the recent movement among Hungarian Protestants, having for its object the celebration of a tercentenary festival to the memory of Gaspar Károli, the first translator of the whole Bible into Hungarian language, dating 1590. The movement has been thought of for some time past, but it was actually set on foot at the beginning of the present year by the professor of the College of Sáros-Patak, in Upper Hungary, especially by Professor Radácsi and by Pastor Füzi of Göncz. The daily press has promptly taken up the matter, and the public mind is being prepared fully to appreciate the importance of the occasion. More recently Bishop Bertalan Kún, and on the part of the laity, Baron Vay, at this time President of the Upper House of the Hungarian Parliament, have put themselves at the head of the important movement by issuing a timely appeal, and inviting all the Hungarian bishops of the Evangelical and Reformed Churches and their flocks to unite in the common cause and to render a well-merited homage to the memory of a great and good man, who, three hundred years ago, published the whole Word of God in his native tongue, and made it accessible to the Magyar people.

Notwithstanding its manifold imperfections the Hungarians still venerate Károli's work, not less than the English do their own Authorized Version.

The appeal just alluded to commences with the following impressive words, which coming from the borderland of Protestantism cannot fail to rouse our sympathies: "Divine Providence," says the bishop, "in its unfathomable decree has allotted to our Protestant Church in Hungary many important and noble ends. Her especial task has been, in addition to the general guiding of social institutions, to become the foremost champion of freedom of conscience, of general enlightenment, and of lofty moral aims; that by such means God's kingdom may be established among us, and give us those blessings which alone are capable of making us truly happy by bestowing peace on men's hearts and sanctifying human life here on earth."

The exact grave in which Gaspar Károli's earthly remains were laid to rest is not marked; but so much is known that this devoted servant of Christ was buried in the cemetery close to the church of the townlet of Göncz, near Kassa, in Upper Hungary, where Károli preached the Gospel of Salvation for many years of his life. To atone for past neglect it is now proposed to erect a memorial in the town of Göncz, at a cost of 5,000 florins, and that a sum be raised to establish a fund to promote the objects and interests of the Reformed and Evangelical Churches of Hungary. The fund to be called "Gaspar Károli" Fund.

The date of the intended festival is not yet announced; it is hoped, however, that the time of the Pentecost of 1890 may be found most convenient. The occasion will call forth more than ordinary sympathy of all Bible-loving people, and especially of those connected with the British and Foreign Bible Society. Under the auspices of our Committee, competent translators are now engaged, under the chairmanship of Bishop Charles Szász, of Buda-pest, in revising Károli's Old Testament version; the greater part of this work, it is hoped, may be accomplished next year. Judging from the "first-fruits" already in possession of the Bible committee, the revision is proceeding most satisfactorily on the lines laid down, and when the task is brought to its completion another enduring monument will testify



to the many blessings which the British and Foreign Bible Society has conferred upon men, that God's kingdom and that of His Christ may be established upon earth. The New Hungarian Testament was revised some years ago by the Reverend Pastor Filó and his collaborators.

THEO. DUKA, M.D.

### THOUGHT AND LIFE IN SPAIN.

It was this morning on my way from my house to the Bible House (for we have a regular "Bible House" now for Spain), that I caught sight of a square amulet which a little baby had tied round its waist. That baby was no doubt dedicated to some saint whose picture had been sewn up in a little bag of cotton cloth, and hung by two cords over the shoulder so that it should be just on the middle of the back; and with that the friends and parents feel quite comfortable, believing that it is safe under the advocacy and protection of Saint Roque or Saint Barbara, or the Virgin of Sorrows. No reference whatever is made either to the Heavenly Father or to the Blessed Saviour, who have been removed so far away by all these intercessors and mediators that one fears they might as well not exist for all the people know or think about them.

Then these last weeks there has been quite an epidemic of "*Ferbenas*" or "Eves" of Saints and Virgins in Madrid. In more than half-a-dozen different districts of Madrid they have had great "fiestas" to celebrate the days of these Virgins and Saints. First there have been sumptuous services in their respective chapels and churches. High mass in the morning for several days, with a profusion of lighted candles on the altar, and the panegyric of the "subject" from the pulpit. The streets all around have been profusely decorated with green boughs, the balconies hung with all kinds of cloth, and at night illuminated with lanterns of all colours; and in some instances costly fire-works and grand processions, partly ecclesiastical, through the day, and partly of the circus troupes at night, have closed the festivities. The newspapers have given long accounts of the proceedings. Here is the way in which the *Imparcial*, one of the liberal papers of large circulation, begins its account: "The adoration (or worship) which the people of Madrid pay to the Virgin of the Dove is so ancient and so fervent that there can be few *cults* of the sacred name which have obtained such fame. When the little one is in the death throes the prayers of the Madrid mother ascend to the Virgin of the Dove for the life of the child; and around the interesting image gather the high-born ladies and the women of the lower classes—the aristocratic lady who drives up to the chapel door in her splendid carriage, and the poverty-stricken wife of the day labourer—when they hasten to offer to the Virgin the recently-born child for whose tender life they ask celestial protection.

"The devotion of Madrid brings increasing gifts to the Virgin of the Dove, and the money deposited on her altar has been more than sufficient to supply means for the construction of a temple even more sumptuous than that of the Virgin of Lourdes."

Friends at home when they toy with Roman Catholicism as it is known in Protestant countries need to come out to lands where it is seen in its painful reality.

And, indeed, how can it be otherwise? The people are unacquainted with the Bible, and grow up worshipping these "images," which they themselves call by that name, without the least idea that they are transgressing one of the commandments of the God whom they pretend to worship, but whose worship has almost totally disappeared behind that of the "images" which so abound in every place.

Surely in view of these facts our home Christians should be stirred up to more earnest work for this unfortunate people who, believing itself Christian

and baptized into the Thrice Holy Name, is still, in its immense majority, profoundly Pagan in its ideas. The light of the true Gospel has never penetrated the dense clouds of heathen darkness which envelop the souls of the people. God and Christ are little more than names; their true deities—those in whom they effectually trust and to whom they turn in their moments of dire calamity—are the “images” which they are taught to worship.

The readers of these pages and the friends of the Bible Society will be glad to know that much is being done by their agents to make known the true “Name” and the law of the Lord. And this question of the worship of images is almost always their first point in conversation, giving an opportunity of making known to the people the true law of spiritual worship.

The work is slow, for the worship of the Virgin has so entered into the very heart of the people, especially the women, that the very name “Bible” stirs up all their angriest feelings, as it has been persistently declared to them that the “Protestant Bible” is dead against the “Virgin,” the “Mother of God.” But though slow the work is real, and there are many who, if they dared, would declare themselves fully convinced of the rightness of evangelical doctrines. But social pressure is very strong, and social persecution very bitter, almost worse to bear than the old and more heroic form. It is being borne, however, and triumphantly, and the day will declare how many have accepted the one Mediator, and trusted in Him, although the courage may have been wanting to confess Him openly.

I shall not have written in vain if increased interest is awakened in this sad land.

*Mudrid.*

JOHN JAMESON.

### HOW THE BRANCH BEGAN TO GROW.

The proverb tells us that “Big oaks from little acorns grow.” This is as true of Christian usefulness as it is of noble trees. Margate Juvenile Branch is an illustration of it. The Deputation from the Parent Society to the meeting of the Margate Auxiliary in 1881 asked the chairman whether any effort had been made to reach the pupils of the private schools, so as to interest them in the work of the Bible Society. His reply was “No.” The Deputation then asked, “Can anything be done to-morrow?”

Although it was nearly ten o'clock at night, the chairman and Deputation called upon Miss Rich, of Sandringham House, who most kindly undertook to invite the principals of many of the private schools to bring their pupils to a meeting in the Foresters' Hall on the following afternoon. About three hundred assembled even upon such short notice, and a Juvenile Bible Society was organized. Miss Cowley, of Addiscombe House, consented to be the secretary of the young Association, and devoted much thought and care to its development. Every year afterwards a meeting for the young was held and the interest of the members of the Association well maintained. Miss Cowley not only encouraged the young ladies under her care to help the Society by the use of collecting cards, but invited them, in 1884, to prepare for a bazaar in its aid. This was heartily accepted by them, the proceeds realizing nearly £18.

A similar effort was made two years later, which added nearly £19 to the funds of the Juvenile Branch. The Deputation of 1881 became secretary for the district in 1885, and was able in the following year, through Miss Cowley's kind arrangement, to give separate addresses in thirteen schools, and to organize an Association in each, with officers of its own.

Shortly afterwards this Juvenile Branch lost the very valuable services of its lady secretary, by reason of Miss Cowley's departure from Margate to become a missionary to the women of India. Her sister, Miss Florence Cowley, although unable to accept the secretaryship, manifested the deepest interest in our work, encouraging the young ladies of the school to continue

the bazaar. At the close of last year it was held, and produced nearly £20, so that the three bazaars have yielded nearly £60 to the Society's treasury, in addition to the sums collected by the pupils' "cards."

It is a great regret that through Miss Florence Cowley's departure from the town the Association in Addiscombe House will cease; but the new secretaries—Mrs. Walter Hills and Miss Questead—have gained promises from lady friends to continue, and perhaps enlarge, the bazaar.

It will be a gratification to Miss Cowley, in her Indian home, to know that the juvenile work which she so carefully fostered has grown to considerable importance, for there are now over twenty of the best private schools of Margate with distinct Associations of this Society.

It will also be a pleasure to principals and pupils of these schools to know that the Bible-woman who assists Miss Cowley in her zenana work is supported, as well as supplied with Scriptures, by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

London.

JAMES THOMAS.

### CHILDREN'S WORK AT GREENWICH.

In the winter of last year the energetic lady secretary of this Auxiliary suggested that a juvenile working party might be organized to co-operate with the members of the local committee. Miss Evangeline Wimberley was asked to endeavour to interest children in the Bible Society, and to invite them to work for it. She succeeded in gaining promises of help from twelve of her young friends, who met once a fortnight; and, after singing and prayer, devoted the afternoon to needlework in anticipation of a drawing-room bazaar. The gift of some pretty and useful woollen garments by one lady friend, and of some oil paintings by another, were welcome additions to the stalls of the bazaar, which was held at Mrs. Wimberley's on July 27.

The Rev. George Elder opened the proceedings by prayer, and by a few encouraging words. The Rev. Crawford Owen manifested his sympathy by his presence; and the Rev. James Thomas gave a short address on the work of the Society.

The proceeds of the sale amounted to nearly £7.

By Mrs. Wimberley's kindness, the working party will resume its operations after the summer is past. The best thanks of the Society are hereby tendered to her and the band of juvenile workers.

J. T.

The two foregoing papers have a special interest. They refer to what children can do in the way of sharing in the Society's work, and I hope they will be read with good results. There are many places without any organization where a branch may grow as vigorously as at Margate, and there are multitudes of young people who don't know much about the Bible Society, who could work as vigorously as those at Greenwich. May these two accounts of what can be done when people are in earnest set many others to work!

### NOTES FROM THE B. & F. REPORTER.

The Society's work in Persia has hitherto been locally superintended by engaging the half-time services of the Rev. Dr. Bruce and some other missionary of the Church Missionary Society's Persian Mission. Finding his time and strength insufficient now for more than continuing his revision work on the Scriptures in Persian on behalf of the Bible Society, Dr. Bruce requested the Society to appoint its own agent for the oversight of its colporteurs, depots, &c. The Committee have appointed James Archibald Douglas, Esq., B.A., of Merton College, Oxford, to this post, and he will shortly start for Persia to enter upon his duties there. Mr. Douglas is the second son of the

Rev. Robert Douglas, Vicar of Kildgrove, Stoke-on-Kent, at one time C.M.S. Association Secretary for the Eastern District. He graduated in modern history honors at Oxford while under twenty years of age. He has since been private tutor to the son of C. R. N. Beswicke Royds, Esq., of Pvk House.

The Bishop of St. Asaph has accepted the office of a Vice-President of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and Bishop Charles Szász, of the Reformed Church in Hungary, has been nominated by the Committee, under Law xix., an Honorary Member of the Society. The Bishop is rendering the Society valuable service in revising, with the aid of a committee, the text of the old Magyar Bible which appeared in 1587, and forms the authorized version of Hungary. It was prepared by Pastor Gaspard Károlyi, and is held in much esteem.

To meet the wishes of the Society's more liberal supporters in Wales, the Society has just published a diglot Welsh-English New Testament in an entirely new form. The type is brevier, like the Testament in English and in Welsh so widely issued by the Society for Sunday Schools at the below-cost price of 4d. a copy. To avoid the weight and bulk which would have been the result if these separate English and Welsh Testaments had been combined, specially thin paper has been used in the diglot. As the translations in the two languages occupy very different space, the whole of both versions has been set up afresh to bring the corresponding verses face to face. The cost of the book for the paper, printing and binding alone has been 9d. a copy, but the price in plain bindings for schools and the poor is fixed at 6d. In better bindings and for other people the prices range from 9d. upwards.

Among new editions of the Scriptures in English, a New Testament in larger type than the popular Penny Testament has been published for 3d. in limp cloth. The Bible in ruby type can now be obtained with the marginal references added. These new books and others in new bindings, such as flexible paste grain with rounded corners and red gilt edges, will be exhibited at the Society's stall in the Ecclesiastical Art Exhibition at the Cardiff Church Congress.

On the application of the Rev. R. H. Weakley, the Society's agent for Egypt, &c., the Committee have sanctioned an effort to extend the circulation of the Scripture among the Bedouins in the peninsula of Sinai and the desert of the Isthmus. These Bedouins hold the date oases of the region in common, and are accustomed to meet in them during the two months from August 15 to October 15, to gather in and divide the ripe fruit. The party of visitors will consist of Mr. Irrsich, of Alexandria, and Colporteur Ibrahim, of Aden, on behalf of the Bible Society, accompanied by Dr. Harpur, the medical missionary of Cairo, on behalf of the Church Missionary Society. Mr. Irrsich already knows some of the Sheikhs, and is assured of a welcome in their tents, and each member of the expedition is familiar with Arabic. They start on September 4 for Suez, whence an Egyptian steamer will take them to Tor. There the hiring of camels, etc., will be facilitated by a letter to their agents in the place, kindly given by the monks of St. Catharine's Convent on Mount Sinai, who are the landlords of the Bible Society's Depot near the General Post Office in Alexandria. At Tor there is a great camp of pilgrims waiting to be conveyed to Suez *en route* for Mecca. A day or two will be spent among them, then a journey of two or three days will bring the travellers to Wadi Feirán, almost under the shadow of Mount Sinai. Their tent will be a "tent of meeting," where many will hear the Word of God, though the tribes that gather there now are not Israelites.

His Majesty the German Emperor, in sending his best thanks to the Society for the copy of the Holy Scriptures and the address recently presented to his Majesty, intimates that he has ordered the annual subscription of £25, so long contributed by the Emperor William I. to the Society in consideration of its work in furnishing the Royal Prussian Army with the Scriptures in several tongues, to continue to be paid out of the Imperial Privy Purse as

in the past. The Emperor Frederick had just given similar instructions during the short period of his rule.

The Society's stall at the Paris Exhibition has enlisted the warm advocacy of its work by *Le Figaro*. The number, September 10, printed on the second platform of the Eiffel Tower, has a leading article in which the Society's work is favourably contrasted with the Buddhist display in the Esplanade des Invalides. The show-case of Scriptures on the first floor of the space assigned to the Liberal Arts is described, and then some facts and figures are drawn from a pamphlet specially printed for the Exhibition, and comments are passed on the enormous work the Society has accomplished in eighty-five years, in translating, printing and circulating the Holy Scriptures in unheard-of languages. These statements have been received with incredulity. It has been denied that the Bible could have been translated into as many as two hundred and ninety-six languages—in fact, it has been asserted that there are not so many languages in the world! But *Le Figaro* is not to be laughed at as if it had been taken in. The Eiffel Tower number of September 16 defends itself by printing the whole two hundred and ninety-six languages by name, in which a verse of Scripture from a printed translation of at least a gospel is given in the Society's little pamphlet called "The Gospel in Many Tongues." It challenges those who do not believe the statement to visit the Society's kiosque and see the books for themselves. The readers of *Le Figaro* are not such as are likely in the usual course to come across much information respecting the Bible Society's operations. It would not be easy to ever estimate the good, in more ways than one, which these terse and sensible articles may do in arousing some to inquire for and read the wonderful Book which has enlisted such service on its behalf.

### THE BIBLE.

PORTION OF AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY WM. LEE, ESQ., MARYSVILLE, OHIO.

The Bible answers some questions of primary importance to every human soul, which cannot be answered independently of its teachings.

To every thoughtful mind, several questions of deep and abiding interest occur and recur, and by their own importance are pressed upon the mind for satisfactory answers. These questions have been stated thus: Whence came I? Where am I? What am I? Whither am I going? They demand separate answers, while at the same time they come before the mind in such relations to each other as to involve complex questions, the answers to which demand of the mind a wide scope in the contemplation of what they conjointly embrace. None of these questions can be answered, in their most important aspects, independently of the Bible.

We may explore the whole realm of human science and philosophy, and all the literature of all countries of all the centuries, since the beginning of human life, only to discover that what we want to know we cannot learn from these sources; that they cannot answer for us one of the inquiries propounded, and for the reason that these questions reach back to a first cause.

If we know the whole history of the generations of men back to the progenitors of our race, uninspired history does not tell us how they came to appear on our theatre of action.

If we knew all that science teaches of our earthly home, and its relations to the sun, the planets, the milky way, and the far-off nebulae in the heavens, there would remain unanswered the question of the origin of this scene of beauty and sublimity.

If we knew all that physiology and anatomy and mental philosophy have taught or can teach, concerning the constitution of man in his threefold nature—physical, intellectual and moral; and were informed of all that the

history of the action of men teaches concerning their capabilities and achievements; if we knew all that the zealous and inquisitive biologists of modern times can tell us of the life-principle that is in man, there would still remain the most important fact, concerning what we are, untold.

As to the question, "Whither are we going?" without the light of the Bible the only answer we could find would be, "To the grave; life is a journey to the grave."

Looking now into the Bible, the first words that meet our eyes are, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth," and a little farther on we read that God created man in his own image. Thus these declarations inform us that we came into this world, and that the world in which we live, with all its grand surroundings, came into existence through the creation of God. These declarations place before our minds a creative being as the source of the beginning of the human race, as also of their home and surroundings, immediate and remote, and they include an intimation of what man is in his mental and moral endowments.

RECEIPTS FROM BRANCHES AT THE BIBLE SOCIETY HOUSE,  
TORONTO, FROM 1st OCT. TO 31st DEC., 1889, inclusive.

	Branch	On Purchase Account.	FREE CONTRIBUTIONS.		
			U. C. R. S.	B. & F. B. S.	Sundries.
Alliston			\$44 40		
Amherst Island			2 15		
Angus		1 06	2 00		
Arkwright		4 00			
Armow		72	1 72		
Ashburn			2 30		
Avening and Creemore			4 00		
Battersea and Sunbury		8 04	1 15		
Beachville			23 65		
Beamsville		13 53			
Beaverton			3 18		
Bervie			2 35		
Bethany			10 00		(2) 20 00
Bloomfield		8 70	6 38		
Bluevale			5 67		
Brantford		226 25			
Brighton		9 27			
Brougham		2 65			
Burford			3 50		
Campbellford		2 95	6 77		
Cannington		5 40			
Castleton		4 34	1 61		
Cayuga			16 30	16 30	(1) 1 80
Cayuga South		3 56	63 10		
Chatsworth			30 00		
Cherry Valley			1 86		
Chesterfield and Ratho		10 17			
Churchill			3 00		
Claremont		5 65	5 30		
Cobocenk			4 38		
Colborne		26 80	6 46		
Coldsprings		7 00	4 70		
Coldwater			4 15		

(1) To Building Fund. (2) To Paris Auxiliary.

## RECEIPTS FROM BRANCHES—Continued.

	On Purchase Account.	FREE CONTRIBUTIONS.		
		U. C. B. S.	B. & F. B. S.	Sundries.
Columbus	Branch	1 38		
Cooksville	"	16 85		
Corbetton	"	19 15		
Corinth	"	10 07	1 40	
Dereham	"		2 08	
Desboro	"	3 23	3 35	
Deseronto	"	7 89	22 63	
Drayton	"	16 85		
Dunbarton	"		8 86	
Durham	"	7 60		
Edgar	"	2 70	4 65	
Eldon	"	1 80		
Elmira	"	27 42	40 18	
Elmvale	"	4 60	6 32	
Fenella	"	5 82	2 36	
Fenelon Falls	"	25 00		
Flinton	"		1 23	
Frankford	"	9 17	15 62	
Fullarton	"		13 00	
Galt	"		125 00	250 00.
Garafraxa	"	12 00		
Garden Island	"		3 05	
Georgetown	"		48 50	48 50
Glammis	"		2 86	
Glenmorris	"		35 85	
Goderich	"	25 82	8 00	
Gorrie	"		2 90	
Grafton	"	6 19	20 33	
Greenbank	"		5 22	
Harriston	"	12 39		
Hastings	"	13 20	48 22	
Hespeler	"		18 48	15 00
Hibbert	"		20 00	20 00
Hollin	"		8 38	
Holstein	"	2 07		
Innerkip	"		1 60	
Ivy	"		14 25	
Keswick and Medina	"	2 40	63	
Kincardine	"		6 19	
Kinmount	Depos	7 81		
Lakeside	Branch		2 19	
Lefroy and Bell Ewart	"	2 75	2 27	
Lindsay	"	62 64	39 50	
Lucknow	"		30 00	30 00.
Madoc	"	3 09	37 74	
Maple Valley	"		2 66	
Mara	"	3 00	1 70	
Meaford	"		4 28	
Melrose	"		3 75	
Midland	"	31 69		
Milford	"		5 45	
Millbrook	"		4 28	
Milton	"	5 19		
Moirs	"	1 50	7 53	
Mt. Albert	"	4 68		
Mt. Forest	"	24 35		
Mt. Pleasant, Cavan	"		13 67	
Mt. Pleasant, Brant	"		4 00	

(1) To Building Fund. (2) To Paris Auxiliary.

RECEIPTS FROM BRANCHES.—*Concluded.*

	Branch	On Purchase Account.	FREE CONTRIBUTIONS.		
			U. C. B. S.	B. & F. B. S.	Sundries.
Nanaimo	Branch	13 00			
Nanticoke	"	2 66	3 05		
Napanee	"	37 07	12 21		
Newburgh	"	10 16	4 63		
New Dundee	"	27 45			
Newmarket	"	11 45			
Newtonville	"	3 20			
Oakville	"	7 35			
Oakwood	"	12 90	1 59		
Odessa	"	1 82	2 42		
Oneida	"	4 30	26 00	26 00	
Orillia	"	120 00			
Oshawa	"	50 00			
Painswick	"		16 50		
Paris	"	28 68	30 00	30 00	(2) 30 00
Parham	"		65		
Percy	"	12 17	43 23		
Pickering	"	2 88	2 83		
Pictou	"		2 73		
Pine River and Amberley	"	50	2 00		
Pittsburgh	"		7 23		
Plattsville	"		69 95		
Pontypool	"	7 09			
Port Albert	"		1 08		
Port Colborne	"	7 00			
Port Hope	"	26 46	252 59		
Prince Albert	"		1 06		
Ridgeway	"	14 00			
Ripley	"		13 00		
Rosemont	"		3 12		
Roslin and Thomasburg	"	2 30	18 39		
Rothsay	"		5 30		
Seeley's Bay	"	3 04	87		
Shalburne	"	10 00			
Simcoe	"		60 00	22 50	
Southampton	"	24 30			
Stayner	"	12 65	3 24		
Strabane	"	6 20	1 88		
Stratford	"	23 80	100 00	100 00	
Sunderland	"		2 22		
Tamworth	"	10 13	9 77		
Tavistock	"	15 08	3 75		
Temperanceville	"	2 37			
Thornbury and Clarksburg	"		14 62		
Thornton	"		3 61		
Tilsonburg	"	15 64	4 57		
Tivert'n	"		4 06		
Tweed	"	5 11	29 75		
Underwood	"	5 70	37 32		
Verona	"	3 88			
Walton	"	6 70			
Waterdown	"	9 00			
Wellington	"		6 85		
Weston	"		23 00	23 00	
Whitechurch	"	6 00	9 00		
Wolfe Island	"		2 00		
Wolseley	"	6 80	3 25		
York (Haldimand)	"		12 00		

(1) To Building Fund. (2) To Quebec Auxiliary.