



Published under Direction of the Upper Canada Bible Society.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, JANUARY, 1870.

No. 1.

OBJECTS AND WORK OF THE UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

In issuing the first number of the *Ontario Bible Recorder*, we think it desirable to give our readers a summary sketch of the scope and objects of the Upper Canada Bible Society work in this Province. In a succeeding number we hope to give a brief *resumé* of the history and operations of the Society during the forty years of its existence in this Province.

1. The Upper Canada Bible Society was originally founded with a two-fold object in view:—First, to co-operate as an auxiliary to the British and Foreign Bible Society in raising money in this Province for the great objects of the Society, and secondly, to promote in every way in its power the circulation of the blessed book, “without note or comment” among all classes of the community. This two-fold object has, we think, been faithfully and steadily kept in view by the successive Boards of Directors at Toronto.

2. As an auxiliary to the venerable parent Society in London, the Upper Canada Society has, through the exertions of its active and energetic travelling agents, and the Christian liberality of its branches, been able to transmit to the home Society large sums of money to aid in the circulation of the Holy Scriptures in various parts of the world. It has also sent to the parent Society from time to time, a sufficient sum of money to purchase, with a view to their circulation in this Province, nearly 700,000 copies of the Bibles, Testaments, etc., which have issued from the press of the British and

Foreign Bible Society. None other have been sold by the Upper Canada Society for the last twenty years or upwards.

3. In regard to our own special work in this Province, the operations of the Upper Canada Bible Society may be considered under two general heads: First, its home work,—and secondly, its work of a missionary character. The home work has been carried on, under the supervision of the Secretaries, by means of its central depository, its travelling agents and its Branch Societies. The missionary features of its work are maintained by means of the labours of its colporteurs, or by its contributions (in money or Bibles and Testaments) towards the promotion of Bible work in the remote districts, or other special fields of labour. These contributions have been given by the Society, either directly in carrying on the work itself, or through the medium of such kindred societies as had special facilities for its promotion. Another feature of this department of labour, we trust the Board of Directors at Toronto will bring into prominence if not efficiently promote during the coming year, and that is, the employment of Bible women and kindred agencies, for the reading and circulation of the blessed book, in the by-ways and neglected districts of our cities and larger towns.

4. The extent of the operations of the Society, in the three-fold aspect of its home work, to which reference has been made, as well as that of its missionary work, may be best gathered from the pages of its successive annual reports. It may be sufficient, however, to state here that there are now in connection with the Society two large auxiliaries, (London and Kingston, embracing 110 branches) and 255 separate branches, making a total of 365 Branch Societies, which require the visits of our agents. The receipts, during the forty years of the Society's operations in Upper Canada, have been in the aggregate about \$400,000, (last year \$25,700) and the circulation during the same time has reached nearly 700,000 copies of the Scriptures in various forms, (last year 33,000). For the efficient promotion of its general work, in connection with the branches, it employs two indefatigable travelling agents, (hitherto three) who form new and visit the old branches,—besides four or five colporteurs, who labour diligently in carrying the Word of Life to the homes of the destitute emigrants in the outlying districts of our Province. In the direction, management and careful supervision of the whole of our general work, the Society is aided by a large and influential Board of Directors, two honorary, and one permanent Secretary, the Depository and his assistants. Meetings of the Board are held monthly, or oftener, at which matters of more or less special interest in connection with the general work of the Society, are carefully considered and discussed,—as well as the various reports, returns and correspondence, which have been the subject of the action of the Secretaries or other officials during the intervals of the meetings. The correspondence, which has of late years been increasing in interest and importance, has been somewhat greater during the past year than for-

merly, indicating an active interest in the well being of the Society and its work.

5. The increasing labours of the travelling agents of the Society, (almost now beyond their power to accomplish) in founding new branches and in visiting and stimulating the friends in the branches already formed, by holding meetings and by taking counsel with them, has been, with the Divine blessing, productive of immense good to the cause. The facts, relating to Bible effort in our own and other lands, which they have been enabled to communicate to the meetings, the zeal, and life, and spirit, which they and the active friends in the branches, have thrown into the work in the various localities, have kept alive that love and devotion to the great purpose of the Society—that of spreading abroad “the light of the knowledge of the glorious gospel of the Blessed God” which has long been characteristic of our common evangelical Christianity. It has also kept open another of those noble channels of Christian benevolence, of which the humble and devoted servants of Christ, in our own and other lands, feel it a privilege to avail themselves as a blessed means for united effort in spreading abroad the Gospel, or “Good news,” and in hastening on the coming of His glorious kingdom.

6. The continuous labours of four or five colporteurs, who are kept constantly travelling by the Society in the new and remote townships of the outlying counties of the Province, have brought Christian light and comfort to many a distant settler's dwelling. Their visits from house to house in these remote localities have been abundantly owned and blessed of God.

7. The last feature of our Bible Society work to which we will refer, is one which we regard with special interest. It is also one which can be best and most effectively carried on by the central Society itself—having a knowledge of the wants and necessities of the whole work, and especially of that more neglected part of it to which we refer. In a diverse population like ours, with representatives of different nationalities, and with various peculiarities of industrial pursuits, there will always be found knots here and there of settlers whose national origins differ (more in the aggregate, however, than individually) from the masses of population around them. Thus we have a sprinkling of French, German, and Gaelic settlements in the country among which Branch Societies have not yet been formed, and among which, chiefly from their isolation, little interest in the Bible Society is felt. There are also remote sections of the country frequented only at certain seasons of the year by large gangs of men engaged in lumbering operations. This is especially the case up the Ottawa River, in the lake regions in the rear of Port Hope, Cobourg, and Belleville, and in the northern parts of the County of Simcoe. To look after the spiritual interests of these men, thus separated from their families and exposed to the special temptations incident to their unsettled life, is a work to which the Bible Society through the agency of its colporteurs or Bible readers is peculiarly adapted. To send these unobtrusive Christian

labourers, accustomed as they are to rough life in the remote settlements, to talk to and read with these lumberers, in their intervals of rest,—at night, on stormy days, and on Sundays, is an object which the Upper Canada Bible Society has felt itself called upon to engage in, either directly or through other agency, and to appropriate from time to time from the free contributions to the Society, such sums as will most effectively promote this desirable object. (See page 8.) In regard to the German, French, and Gaelic settlements, the Society has always felt itself under peculiar obligation to provide, whenever cases of Bible destitution among them are brought under its notice by the agents or other friends. In the direction of Bible distribution by means of Bible women and Bible readers in cities and large towns, we hope to see during the coming year, a vigorous effort made either directly through the agency of the Society itself, or in co-operation with the such religious bodies as may be disposed to employ suitable labourers in this neglected but most desirable and important field of Bible effort. (See page 17.)

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#### THE BIBLE SOCIETY RECORDER.

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The accompanying Draft of Report submitted by the Committee appointed to consider the question of the publication of a *Bible Society Recorder*, was submitted to the Board of Directors at its Quarterly Meeting, October 12th, 1869, and unanimously approved. It fully and distinctly presents the objects contemplated in its dissemination:—

*Draft Report of the Sub-Committee appointed to consider the subject of the publication of a Bible Society Recorder:—*

1. That a *Bible Society Recorder* for Upper Canada shall be issued every second month, under the authority of the Board of Directors, and that the Secretary, the Rev. John Gemley, be the editor of the *Recorder*.

2. That this journal shall contain a summary of intelligence relating to the operations of the Bible Society in this Province, as well as in other parts of British America, the Mother Country and elsewhere; extracts from the reports of auxiliaries, branches, agents and colporteurs; notices and circulars issued by the Board, the Secretaries or the Agents; acknowledgments of remittances from branches, &c., and such items of general information, in regard to the promotion of Bible work throughout the world, as may be of interest to the subscribers to the society. The Annual Report of the Board shall be inserted in a double number of the journal, and its publication in its present form discontinued.

3. That the tender of Messrs. Hunter, Rose & Co. for printing 5,000 copies of the *Bible Society Recorder* be accepted, and that the Secretaries take the necessary steps to have the journal issued as soon as possible, under the following regulations, viz:—

- (1) A copy shall be sent, gratuitously, to every officer and member of the Board of Directors, and of the London and Kingston auxiliaries.
- (3) That three copies shall be sent to the parent, and kindred societies in England, the United States and Canada, and copies to each of the branches—the proportion to be determined by the total amount of the subscription to the Society by each of the branches.

## APPOINTMENT OF PERMANENT SECRETARY.

CIRCULAR TO THE AUXILIARIES AND BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETIES IN ONTARIO.

UPPER CANADA BIBLE HOUSE,  
Toronto, January, 1870.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Although you have, no doubt, already learned, through the public press or otherwise, of the unanimous appointment by the Board of Directors of the Upper Canada Bible Society of the Reverend John Gemley as their Permanent Secretary, yet we deem it desirable thus officially to notify you of his appointment, and of his having entered upon the duties of that office. We have also much pleasure in appending to this circular, copies of some of the testimonials transmitted to the Board in behalf of Mr. Gemley. Of the forty letters of recommendation received, we select only one of each class, which may be regarded as a representative from each of the various Evangelical bodies in the Province.

It would scarcely be necessary for the Honorary Secretaries, in connection with these very strong and decided expressions of opinion on the part of so many highly esteemed and excellent Christian ministers, to add any word of their own in commendation of their new colleague. They would, however, state that the Rev. Mr. Gemley has for the last twenty-eight years been an influential member of the Wesleyan Conference in Canada, and has during that time held various important positions in that body. He is an able platform speaker, and a gentleman of decided business capacity. Since his appointment the Board has had abundant evidence of the wisdom of its choice, as he has discharged his duties with great energy, ability and zeal.

With a view to collect and diffuse more widely among the friends of the Bible in this Province information in regard to the gratifying progress of the cause in our own and other lands, as well as to afford Mr. Gemley additional facilities for the more efficient performance of his duties, the Board of Directors have decided to publish, under Mr. Gemley's editorship, a bi-monthly *Bible Recorder*. This periodical in his hands will, the Board trusts, prove a most useful auxiliary in the extension and consolidation of the Bible work in this Province.

It may be gratifying to you to know that the Board have arranged that neither the appointment of Mr. Gemley nor the publication of the *Bible Recorder* shall involve any additional expense in the management of the Society's affairs over that which has been incurred during the last few years. The retirement of the third travelling agent, and discontinuance to the branches of the *Monthly Reporter* of the British and Foreign Bible Society will enable the Board to accomplish these important changes without any additional charge on the Society's funds.

We are,

Dear Brethren,

Most truly and sincerely yours,

(Signed,)

J. GEORGE HODGINS,

GEORGE HAGUE,

*Honorary Secretaries of the U. C. Bible Society.*

## COPIES OF TESTIMONIALS TO REV. JOHN GEMLEY.

*(From the Rev. P. Gray, Minister of the Canada Presbyterian Church, Kingston.)*

Having been informed by the Rev. John Gemley that he is an applicant for the office of Permanent Secretary to the Upper Canada Bible Society, and that he is expected to present testimonials of fitness to the Board of Directors, I desire to submit my testimony on his behalf, and to recommend him to the Board as one eminently qualified, in my opinion, to discharge efficiently the duties of the important office he seeks.

In doing so, it gives me unfeigned pleasure thus to express my confidence in the

character and abilities of an esteemed friend, and at the same time to serve, as I believe, the best interests of a society, whose high and sacred objects should make it impossible for recommendations of this kind to be other than the expression of conscientious conviction.

For three years together, the intercourse between Mr. Gemley and myself was close, and always of a pleasing kind. In the committee and public meetings of our religious societies, in our brotherly ministerial conferences, and on numberless occasions of various kinds—among the rest in my hour of trial and sorrow—we have met, and I learned so to think of him that I can now say, I believe that if he should be appointed Secretary, the Directors and well-wishers of the Bible Society will find in him a capable and worthy servant of the Master, and qualified beyond many for the performance of the duties of the office.

*(From the Rev. William Morley Punshon, M. A., President of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference in Canada.)*

The Rev. John Gemley has apprised me of his application to be appointed Secretary to the Upper Canada Bible Society. I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to my opinion of Mr. Gemley's eminent fitness for the office. He possesses, in my judgment, a combination of qualifications rarely found together, to wit: An agreeable presence, some popular power over an audience, a good address, great courtesy, considerable business tact, as evinced by his successful management for some years past of one of the Connexional Funds of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Canada, and moreover, a catholic spirit which would raise him above partizanship into sympathy with the catholicity of the society itself.

In the interest of the Institution, I very cordially wish Mr. Gemley may succeed. Praying Divine direction as to the issue of a movement so important.

*(From the Rev. Wm. Stewart, B. A., Pastor, Bond St. Baptist Church, Toronto, Corresponding-Secretary of the Upper Canada Religious Tract Society (addressed to Mr. Gemley.)*

Understanding that you are at present an applicant for the Secretaryship of the Upper Canada Bible Society, I have much pleasure in stating, from an acquaintance derived from our three years residence together, that I believe you to be eminently qualified for the duties of the position. You would bring to it not merely the talent required for the speedy and effective dispatch of the office work, but also abilities as a platform speaker that are possessed by very few.

Having been fellow-member of the branch Society's Committee in Brantford, I know that you have been ever ready to aid the Bible work to the best of your ability.

I sincerely trust, therefore, that the Directors of the Society may be successful in securing your services for the vacant office.

*(From Rev. James Usher, M. A., Rector of Grace Church, Brantford.)*

The Rev. John Gemley, for three years minister of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, of this town, has been intimately known to me during the above period as a christian minister of considerable ability, earnestness and energy; highly respected and loved by members of the several churches in the place as well as by his own people. A man of Catholic spirit and comprehensive views, he is, I think, peculiarly adapted to take a leading and responsible position in connection with the Upper Canada Bible Society. In my capacity of President of the Brantford Board of the Society, I had full opportunity of knowing the necessity of confiding the interests of the Bible Society to persons of broad Evangelical views, thoroughly sound in doctrine, christian in spirit, and void of any tinge of sectarianism.

In these respects, as in some others, which it is unnecessary to name in this testimonial, I have satisfaction in recommending my friend and brother John Gemley, as suited to advocate the claims of the Upper Canada Bible Society.

*(From President, Secretary and six other members of the Board of Directors of the London Auxiliary Bible Society.)*

We, the undersigned members of the Committee of the London Auxiliary Bible Society, having learned that a resident Secretary is soon to be appointed for the U. C. B. Society, would cordially recommend the Rev. John Gemley as a proper person to fill that important office.

His gentlemanly bearing, engaging manners, financial business abilities, his readiness and eloquence in the pulpit and on the platform, eminently qualify him to do the work of the Society, with the confidence of its friends in every part of the Province. He is a man of large hearted catholicity, and possesses, in a high degree, the candour necessary for the faithful performance of such a work.

*(From the Kingston Auxiliary Bible Society.)*

The Rev. John Gemley, who was, for three years, a member of this auxiliary, having intimated to the Committee that he was a candidate for the recently created office of permanent Secretary of the Upper Canada Bible Society, and having expressed his desire that the Committee might be pleased to furnish him with a testimonial as to qualifications, &c., for the office in question, the subject was brought before the Committee, at a meeting held on the 6th instant, when it was unanimously

“Resolved,—That a suitable testimonial be prepared and signed by the Chairman and Secretary, in favor of the Rev. John Gemley, a former member of this Committee.”

The undersigned, on the authority and direction above quoted, beg most respectfully to state that, from their knowledge of the Rev. Mr. Gemley, and from the information which they have deemed it desirable to obtain, they have reason to believe that Mr. Gemley is well qualified to perform, in an efficient and satisfactory manner, the several duties which would be assigned to the permanent Secretary. He would, we think, ably and successfully advocate the claims of the Society, and be quite “competent to conduct the correspondence of the Society, supervise the financial operations of branches, together with the work of travelling agents and colporteurs, and extend the influence of the Society.” We have, moreover much pleasure in bearing testimony to the efficient aid given by Mr. Gemley to this Society during his residence in this city.

*(From Rev. Wm. McClure, ex-President of the Methodist New Connexion Church.)*

I have pleasure in stating, that I have known the Rev. John Gemley for a number of years past, and have every reason to believe that, as a correspondent, public speaker and otherwise, he is well qualified for the office of Secretary to the Upper Canada Bible Society.

*(From the Rev. John Wood, Pastor of the Congregational Church, Brantford, and Editor of the Canadian Independent Magazine.)*

Having enjoyed the pleasure of an intimate personal acquaintance with the Rev. John Gemley during the three years of his residence in this place, and having frequently listened to him with great delight upon the platform of religious meetings and elsewhere, I am in a position to testify with much confidence, both as to his excellent speaking talent and his administrative ability; and I have, therefore, no doubt, that if he should receive the appointment, he would make a very effective Secretary to the Upper Canada Bible Society.

*(From Rev. Thomas Griffith, Primitive Methodist Church.)*

I have known and been associated with the Rev. John Gemley in Brantford his last field of labour, and can bear the most unqualified testimony of his integrity and honour both as a man and minister of the Gospel, and deem him well qualified to fill the position of Secretary to the Bible Society, or to advocate its claims.

*(From Rev. J. B. Mouat, Professor Queen's University.)*

I became acquainted with the Rev. John Gemley while he resided in Kingston during the three years ending in 1836. From what I then saw and heard of him, I should judge him to be a man of active and diligent habits; and as he also possesses affable manners and popular gifts as a speaker, I should suppose him to be well qualified for the Office of Secretary, to the Upper Canada Bible Society.

*(From the Rev. Dr. Taylor, ex-Travelling Agent of the Upper Canada Bible Society.)*

As the Board of Directors of the Bible Society has decided to appoint a permanent Secretary, who shall be a salaried officer, I have much pleasure in recommending the Rev. John Gemley as a person well qualified in my judgment to discharge the duties of that important office.

Financial ability, good administrative talent and facility in correspondence, added to his success as a pulpit and platform speaker, combine in fitting Mr. Gemley for the discharge of the duties of Secretary of the Bible Society. It may not be improper for me to state that, from my acquaintance with the work of the Society in this Province, for the last eighteen years, during ten or twelve of which I was one of its agents; I may perhaps lay claim to some knowledge of the qualifications necessary to fill such an office with efficiency. It is, therefore, in view of these facts, that I cordially recommend Mr. Gemley to the Board for appointment as Secretary.

## Canadian and Domestic.

In this section we include general intelligence from all Bible Societies throughout the Dominion, as well as the information belonging to the Domestic Department (also Canadian) which is limited to the Auxiliaries and Branches of our own—the U. C. Bible Society. We prefer presenting under one heading, the operations of the Bible Society in every part of our united country; and hope to be privileged with frequent opportunities of giving to our readers *good news* from the sister provinces.

Our Domestic Department does not possess the extent or variety which, (as in the agency of some other societies) would enable us to present more thrilling and attractive details. But the monotony of labour, such as is endured by our able and gifted agents, and by our toiling and faithful colporteurs, is often the most severe though not always the most highly valued. Yet, as some of the extracts below prove, our country is comparatively new, and we have even at this date, destitute portions demanding our attention and liberality.

“PARRY SOUND, Oct. 27th, 1869.

“REV. JOHN GEMLEY,

“Secretary U. C. B. Society, Toronto.

“MY DEAR SIR,—Please accept my personal thanks for the kindness and promptness with which you have brought before your Board, the felt and expressed wants of this Parry Sound District.

“I have also been requested to convey through you to the Board of Directors, the thanks of our newly constituted Committee, as well as the thanks of the Parry Sound people, for the very kind manner in which they have granted us our request. We feel ourselves especially indebted to them for the liberal grant they propose making, for the support of a Colporteur. Be assured it is not money unwisely spent, but will, I am sure, prove of immense value to this entire section of country.

“I regret to say that at present, I am the only Protestant Minister on this side of Bracebridge, a distance of 60 miles, and that beyond this, towards the Nipissing County, no Missionary has ever yet travelled; consequently there are hundreds of persons who, from their first entrance to their forest home, have never yet had it in their power to attend a religious service of any kind whatever, nor have they ever been able to welcome at their homes one who shall talk to them of spiritual things; with this task of admonitory counsel, and absence of spiritual advise and encouragement, you will readily understand that their spiritual state is deplorable in the extreme.

“Our present purpose is to meet as far as possible this necessity, by sending our Colporteur to every family thus previously neglected.

“As far as he can do it, within the time specified in your letter, he is to go to every house between this and the Maganetawan (90 miles) on the one hand, and to Bracebridge on the other. To go beyond the Maganetawan towards Nipissing, would (within the two or three months) be, I fear, an impossibility. He will leave as soon as practicable, or rather as soon as a suitable man can be secured.

“I am, yours very truly,

“C. A. HANSON,

“Secretary.”



By the following extract we learn that a Colporteur has been secured for the Parry Sound Branch. The writer says:—"He is an earnest, unassuming, devoted man of God, and will, I have no doubt, be a successful Colporteur. He is, if possible, to visit every settler, and every lumbering shanty within Lake Nipissing on the north, and Bracebridge on the east. His task, you will thus see, will be an exceedingly arduous one, an immense tract of very wild country, no roads, isolated settlers. He is to commence his work as soon as practicable. He will often, in his journeys, be compelled to camp out at night, and for miles have nothing to guide him but blazed trees through an unbroken forest; fortunately, however, he is a man well acquainted with 'bush life' and its hardships, and his intense love of the Bible will sustain him. Any directions you may have with reference to his work, I shall be glad to receive and transmit."

### COLPORTAGE AND THE UPPER OTTAWA.

We had the pleasure of attending the recent anniversary of the Ottawa Auxiliary, and, in common with the large congregation then present, were deeply interested in the able report of the gifted Secretary, the Rev. R. Gavin. The subjoined reference to colportage labour on the Upper Ottawa is of a character to call for insertion in this first number of our bi-monthly:—

"We have had, in the course of the year, three colporteurs at work. In the latter part of last winter, their labours were greatly hindered by the unusual quantity of snow that fell, and by the difficulty in some remote sections of obtaining, owing to the prevalent scarcity, the necessary subsistence for their horses. This latter hinderance was continued through spring and the beginning of summer, and was felt all the more from the extraordinary rains which they had then to encounter. Interruptions from other unavoidable causes they have also experienced.

"They visited seven shanties in the County of Lanark, many on the Gatineau, 46 on the Upper Ottawa, containing 1,070 men. In all these they disposed of 431 copies of the Scriptures. In some, the demand was far greater than in others. In one, containing 36 men, Mr. Day sold at once 30 copies. In nearly all, portions of Scripture were read, and the Divine blessing implored. Speaking generally, the colporteurs were very kindly received by the men, and what they said for their instruction was attentively listened to. Altogether, they have put in circulation 2,621 volumes; nearly one half of which were of the entire Scriptures.

"Fifty copies were in French, eight in German, two in Gaelic, and two in Chinese. Their gratuitous distribution was to the value of \$43.

"In the course of their work, they met with a few cases of clamant spiritual destitution. Some houses called Protestant they found without the word of God. A settlement of twenty-five families in the Calabogle district Mr. McKenzie speaks of as never having been visited, so far as he could ascertain, by any Christian missionary whatever, and the people seemed pleased to have it so.

"On the other hand, our colporteurs' reports for the past year contain some new and encouraging features. One is the frequency with which they have been asked to read and pray as they have passed along from house to house in the remote regions. Another is the palpable spiritual results of their work. A Roman Catholic, or rather one who has till lately been such said, "I have learned more of the love of God in Jesus Christ during the last month than in all the previous years of my life;" and in further conversation showed that that learning had been to purpose. Two or three years ago one of our la-

hourers circulated some French scriptures among the *habitants* on the Neche River. A colporteur from the French Canadian Missionary Society afterwards followed and left some more. These books were kept and read; and, last winter, of a sudden, a considerable number avowed the convictions they had been acquiring. At present there are twenty-nine or thirty families who have separated themselves from Rome. They have public worship every Lord's Day, numerously attended, in the Protestant Schoolroom which they have provided, and they are taken steps to secure without delay a suitable and permanent house of prayer.

"On the whole it seems to us that colportage has the stamp of heaven upon it. We must persevere with it and extend it."

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### NEW BRANCHES AND DEPOSITORIES.

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A new Branch and Depository have been formed at Parry Sound, and a Colporteur employed for the winter months. See letter of the Secretary of this Branch on another page.

The officers of this new Branch are W. Beatty, Esq., M.P.P., President; Rev. C. A. Hanson, Secretary; George Slade, Treasurer; Thos. McMurray, Depository.

At Bracebridge, the Depository has been re-opened and the Branch re-organized.

Officers—Thos. Myers, President and Depository; James Cleriken, Secretary.

We had hoped ere this to have established one or more Branches in the Red River Settlement.

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### MEETINGS OF AUXILIARIES.

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#### KINGSTON.

The annual meeting of the Kingston Auxiliary was held in the Ontario Hall, on Tuesday, 18th inst. The large hall was filled. The Rev. R. V. Rogers in the chair, made an excellent speech. Report read by the Secretary, the Venerable Dr. Mair. Addresses by the Rev. Mr. Graffey, Baptist Church, Kingston, and Rev. John Gemley, of Toronto.

#### OTTAWA.

This Auxiliary held its anniversary on Wednesday evening, 19th inst., in the Presbyterian Church, Bank street. W. Hay, Esq., President, in the chair. His Excellency the Governor-General authorized the President of the Society to express his regret at being unable to occupy, as requested, the chair on that occasion, as he had frequently done in Australia, when Governor of that colony. An admirable report was read by the Secretary, the Rev. R. Gavin. The speakers were the Hon. Mr. Morris, Minister of Inland Revenue, and the Hon. Mr. Aikins, Secretary of State, and P. Le Sueur, Esq., the Revs. Messrs. Moore, Johnson, Gemley, Thompson, Pollard and Gordon. The meeting was large and enthusiastic. The Ottawa Citizen very kindly furnishes a full report of this meeting.

#### MONTREAL.

At the time of going to press, we can only say that the meeting was held in the Wesleyan Church, Great St. James Street, on Wednesday evening,

the 26th inst. The spacious edifice was filled to overflowing. The Hon. James Ferrier, Senator, President, in the chair. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. James Green, Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Rev. Canon Bond, of Montreal, and Rev. W. Morley Punshon, M.A., of Toronto.

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### BRANCHES.

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Space will not permit us to give particulars of some of the large and productive meetings attended by the Agents and by the Secretary. But we must here acknowledge our thanks to the local press for kindly and valuable notice of many of the Branch anniversaries throughout the country.

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## British and Foreign.

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Our readers are too familiar with the character and value of the English *Monthly Reporter*, whose visits they have welcomed for so many years past, to render any notice commendatory on our part necessary; but we are required to assure them that our attempt to furnish a Canadian publication of a similar description will not leave them in ignorance of the gratifying intelligence with which the *Reporter* is always replete. The Annual Report of the B. and F. B. Society for the past year is one of unparalleled excellence, both as a literary production, and as a record of the most important and cheering events which have ever occurred in the history of that magnificent institution. Among these are the opening of the New Bible House, London, and the new and unexpected field of operations presented in the altered condition of Spain. We will freely and uniformly appropriate, for the edification and encouragement of our readers, whatever in the pages of the *Annual Report* and the *Monthly Reporter*, we may assume will be profitable to their meditations. These selections, together with the Canadian and Domestic Intelligence, —Miscellaneous Items— and extracts from the *American Bible Record* will, we hope, furnish suitable material for our young journal, and make the *Bi-Monthly Bible Recorder* a welcome and useful visitor to all our friends.

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### REPORT OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, 1869.

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The beauty and excellence of the *introduction* to this report is such as to render it impossible for us to curtail any portion of it without marring its symmetry. We therefore give it entire :—

“Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.” Human weakness and Divine efficiency are two great facts or principles, the recognition of which must underlie all Christian work. It is most deeply true, that every purpose and project conceived or attempted by human agency for the furtherance of the Truth and Kingdom of our Lord and Master, must depend for successful issue upon Divine co-operation and Divine blessing. The most elaborately-constructed institutions, and the most carefully-selected

means, combined with the loftiest talents, and with labour that never wearies in its self-denying exertions, will accomplish nothing that is effectual or permanent in relation to the spiritual triumphs of religion in the world if the human element alone prevails—if reliance be placed simply and exclusively upon an arm of flesh, and all gracious influence and power from on High be withheld. In the building of the Church as a whole,—that vast spiritual edifice which has been so many centuries in the course of construction, and in which so many busy workmen have been engaged, depositing “gold, silver and precious stones;” the toil and energy, the skill and vigilance of the under builders will be labour in vain and strength spent for nought, unless the great Master Builder take the work in hand; and then the glorious structure, fitly framed together, and deriving from His Spirit vitality, strength, and beauty in every part, “groweth unto an Holy Temple in the Lord.” The principle applies with all its force to a Society like yours. Broad and seemingly strong as may be its foundation, increasing in the magnitude of its proportions, rising higher and higher in its superstructure, “unless the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.” The wisest counsels, the most prudent contrivances, the most zealous services will be of no avail unless He deign to vouchsafe His blessing and render His Word a mighty power in the earth to demolish the strongholds of sin and Satan.

But there is a subordinate and more material application of the passage of Scripture, just quoted, which carries a special significance to the minds of your Committee on the present occasion. This Anniversary is coincident with a note-worthy epoch in the Society’s History, and rises above the level of an ordinary Anniversary, by reason of the associations with which it is identified. Three years since, within a few weeks, the first stone of the new Bible House was laid, with fitting ceremonial, by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and an enterprise was commenced of very deep interest and grave responsibility. It is needless to recapitulate all the preliminary circumstances connected with this important step. It is well known that it did not originate in any alternative that might have been avoided, or in any restless craving to raise a more conspicuous and imposing edifice than that in which the Society was so long content to dwell. It was a simple and absolute necessity which the Committee had to face, and to deal with in the best manner attainable. The period during which the building has been gradually advancing towards completion, has cast upon the gentlemen composing the Building Committee a very large amount of most anxious and laborious duty. It has not been an easy thing to strike a happy medium between tastes and opinions somewhat conflicting, but they have conscientiously endeavoured to make the new Bible House a structure worthy of the Society which it represents, and worthy of the grand object at which the Society aims. The building is not for man, but for God,—dedicated to the Divine Glory, and to be henceforth employed as the great storehouse whence copies of the Holy Scriptures shall go forth in all the multiplied languages of the human race, and to every part of the habitable globe. It is with sincere satisfaction that the Committee now report that the great undertaking has reached its final stage, and that the Society occupies the spot where for generations to come, long after the builders have gone to rest, its operations will be conducted—and may it not be hoped, conducted with growing success and richer tokens of the Divine blessing, so that in truth, and not in figure merely, the glory of the latter house shall eclipse the glory of the former. From first to last your Committee have been impressed with the conviction that “Unless the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it,” and His help and direction have been invariably invoked; and there are circumstances, to which brief allusion may be allowed, which cannot fail to demand an explicit and grateful recognition of the Divine goodness and mercy that have been experienced throughout. It should be stated that during the progress of the work, and amidst the many dangers inseparable from it, there has been no loss of life, and scarcely an accident of any sort entailing serious personal injury. It may also be men-

tioned, that the total expenditure will fall within the data on which the estimated cost was calculated,—a result for hearty congratulation, and almost without a parallel in buildings of such magnitude, in the execution of which the shrewdest foresight is often baffled by unexpected and costly contingencies. And it may be yet further observed, that the prompt and generous liberality of the friends of the Society has furnished funds which, with a slight addition, will cover the entire outlay. Every charge legitimately appertaining to the erection has been met by the Building Fund. There are still some outstanding liabilities to be provided for, but the Committee have confidence that the desire they expressed in their original appeal, that the ordinary resources of the Society should not be taxed with any portion of the cost, will be fulfilled, and that the noble structure now finished will become the freehold inheritance of the British and Foreign Bible Society for ever, without the entail of the smallest amount of debt. Surely these are circumstances which prove that God has not withheld His blessing, and they demand a reverent and grateful acknowledgment of His co-operation and favour.

It seemed, therefore, most appropriate that there should be a special commemoration of the event—a service of inauguration—taking formal possession by solemn acts of devotion and thanksgiving. Hence the request made to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, to preach a commemorative sermon in St. Paul's Cathedral, an arrangement in which the Dean and Chapter most cordially concurred; and now, as that service is a matter of fact and history, it is scarcely necessary to record that the request of the Committee was very cordially entertained by the Archbishop of Canterbury, to whom the Society is thus laid under a fresh debt of obligation.

It was, moreover, determined that a service of a more simple and strictly devotional character should be held in the new premises, to hallow and set apart for God's glory the very spot where the important deliberations of the Society are henceforth to be held and its operations directed. That service was held yesterday, (May 4), and was conducted by old and valued friends of the Society, whose fervent intercessions at the Throne of Grace, and words of counsel and congratulation, will have an abiding impression upon the hearts of those whose privilege it was to be present. Suitable addresses were delivered by the Rev. T. Binney, the Rev. C. Kemble, and the Rev. Dr. Cumming. The devotions of the assembly were read by the Rev. W. Cadman, the Rev. J. C. Harrison, and the Rev. W. G. Lewis.

It may be added here, that the Committee presented a copy of the Bible to each of the workmen who had been employed for any length of time in the erection of the new premises, and whose demeanour throughout, it is only just to remark, was most creditable to themselves.

The occasion being altogether one of rare and exceptional interest, the Committee thought that it would afford the Society's Agents, who are labouring on the continent of Europe, an inexpressible satisfaction to be present and share the joy of this festive season. The invitation was necessarily limited, but there are upon the platform this morning men whose names hold an honoured place in the history of the Society:—M. de Pressense, who for thirty-six years has rendered faithful and diligent service in France, much to the benefit of his native country; Mr. E. Millard, of Vienna, who with great courage and perseverance has established your operations in almost every centre of the Austrian Empire; the Rev. G. P. Davies, who is the able superintendent of the Cologne and Frankfort districts of your German agency, and the Rev. Dr. Simon, who is stationed at Berlin; Mr. T. Bracc, who has charge of your Italian work; Mr. Kirkpatrick, to whom the Belgian agency is entrusted; Mr. Van der Bom, who directs your operations in Holland; and, lastly, the Rev. J. Plenge, who is proving himself an efficient labourer in the Kingdom of Denmark.

Of the ordinary operations of the Parent Society during the past year, we present the following in reference to

## FRANCE AND THE ARMY.

One of the most interesting aspects of your work in France relates to the military, and every year it is assuming larger proportions. During the past year, 7,790 copies found purchasers amongst officers and privates to whom the colporteurs had gained access. The copies thus acquired are very widely dispersed, and become the means of creating a desire for the Scriptures in advance of the visit of the colporteurs. M. de Pressense says:—

“One fact which is very frequently communicated to me, when the colporteurs are furnishing reports of their work from house to house, will naturally form an excellent introduction to what I have still to say relative to the work among the military. This fact is as follows: that in numbers of houses both in our towns and villages, the moment a colporteur makes his appearance with the Scriptures in his hands, in one place an aged father or an aged mother, or some uncle or aunt, in another place perhaps a brother or a sister or a cousin, at once produces a New Testament, received as a present from a son, a brother or a cousin, occupying perhaps the post of quarter-master, sergeant, or corporal, or private soldier in one regiment or another, and the exhibition of the volume is usually accompanied by the words, ‘You may be sure that we read this good Book, as we have been recommended to do by our friend, to whom, as he tells us, the reading of it has done so much good.’”

The complete Bibles are usually purchased by officers, of whom many evince a real interest in the Book, and in the disinterested labours of the Colporteurs. The men in the ranks, whose means are very limited, are obliged to content themselves with a New Testament. The operations in the great military camps are of special value, and are thus described:—

The colporteur who visits the camp of S—, writes as follows:—The Lord has granted me much encouragement during February, and more particularly among officers. While in one of the *cafés* which are frequented by the officers, the other day, as soon as I had laid out my books on one of the tables, the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment came up to me, and taking a chair, sat down opposite to me, and in a very friendly tone asked me a number of questions. In the first place, he asked me what Society it was that employed me? What was its real object in seeking to distribute the Scriptures? How the Society obtained the funds necessary to meet its expenses? All this was asked in a tone of kindly interest, and after each of my replies he exclaimed, “Bravo! bravo! This is indeed true Christianity, or, I should say these gentlemen must really be excellent Christians.” While we were thus conversing, the lieutenant-colonel carefully examined all the volumes which I had placed upon the table, and bought a German Bible of Luther, for the purpose, as he said, of comparing it with one of Ostervald’s translation, which he had purchased of me some time previously. He asked me to get him a pair of scissors to cut out the two title pages which contained the name of Luther, in order that he might take the volume home and use it without the risk of scandalizing his family, all the members of which are Roman Catholics. While taking out the title-page of the New Testament, I reminded him that he was also taking away the list of the books, with the number of the chapters, but to this he replied that he did not require any such list, for that he knew by heart nearly the whole of the Bible in French. The other officers who were in the room, appeared to take much interest in the proceedings of their lieutenant-colonel, and on his leaving, several of them came up to me for the purpose of thoroughly examining my copies, and of asking a host of questions of me. One captain, who had not heard what I had been stating about the Bible Society, remarked, “It is doubtless the Holy Father who gives you a good allowance on the sales which you effect for him.” “Sir,” was my reply, “the Pope does not trouble himself about distributing the Scriptures, but it does trouble him very much to see them distributed by the Bible Societies,” and on this I furnished some details respecting the Society

by which I was employed. "Indeed, if that is the case," exclaimed the captain, "I, too, will buy a Bible of you." He thereupon took up one of the large Bibles of Ostervald, which he placed under his arm, paid the price, and went away, evidently pleased with his purchase.

The colporteur adds, "I could relate a number of equally gratifying occurrences, all proving the valuable assistance which is rendered us by our good friends the officers."

Our colporteur who is employed in the very important camp of C—, recently sent me the following details:—

"Notwithstanding the severe order of the General, which forbids the entrance into the camp of any civilian, be he who he may, he has made an *exception in my favour*. This being so, I went the other day to the colonel of the — regiment of the line, to ask his permission to go into the tent frequented by the officers to take coffee and to smoke, for the purpose of offering my Bibles to them. The colonel very graciously granted my request, and I have had reason to bless the Lord for it, for after a long conversation with the gentlemen who were in the tent, which conversation was entirely about the Scriptures, and during which all of them treated me with an extraordinary amount of amiability and friendliness, the greater part of them bought a bible, at the same time giving expression to their admiration of the work carried on by the Bible Society."

I may add, that the colporteur in the camp of C— assures me, and the same is done by the Colporteur in the camp of S—, that it is truly delightful to watch the gratifying progress which the distribution of the Word of God is making among the numerous soldiers, both officers and privates, with whom they come in contact.

Many of the soldiers are very imperfect readers, and the colporteurs frequently devote the evening to their instruction, in a mode which leads the mind direct to the truths of the Scripture:—

"I will here simply mention a very interesting peculiarity of the work now carrying on by those of our colporteurs, who are specially entrusted with the dissemination of the Scriptures among the men in the French army. Those of our friends who concentrate their efforts on the the three or four camps in which our various regiments are successively stationed for a longer or shorter period of time, have hit upon the excellent and Christian idea, after having spent the whole of the day with their wallet or their backs, in visiting the soldiers in their tents, of inviting to their lodgings in the immediate vicinity of the camps, those who may be unable to read (the number of whom among the recruits from the country districts is indeed very considerable), and are desirous of being taught. These invitations have been so eagerly accepted, that every evening our friends are surrounded by thirty, forty and at times even fifty pupils, engaged in spelling the verses of the New Testament, the only reading book which is used. These exercises are frequently interrupted by a familiar but earnest explanation by the presiding teacher of some verse or other which has been previously spelled through, and which happens to contain some fundamental truth or some practical lesson. So far from being offended or repulsed by such an exceptional method of instruction, the greater number of the pupils evidently like it, and are constantly giving evidence of their wish to become more thoroughly acquainted with matters relating to religion, by accompanying their amateur school-master on the Sunday, to the Protestant services which are held in the neighbourhood of the camps. And to this I would at once add, that more significant and infinitely more gladdening results have flowed from these meetings, which may be suitably designated Bible meetings, and they have been made the means of conversion to some of those who have attended them. The number of these, I admit, is not very large; but it is large enough, nevertheless, to assure us that the blessing of the Lord will rest with still greater abundance on the humble efforts to which He has already been pleased to vouchsafe so much encouragement."

## JOHN BOCKETT, ESQ., TREASURER, B. &amp; F. BIBLE SOCIETY.

Resignation of John Bockett, Esq., as Treasurer of the B. & F. B. Society, and the appointment of his successor. The last number of the B. & F. B. Society *Reporter* says:—"It is with deep regret that the Committee announce the resignation by John Bockett, Esq., of the office of Treasurer, which he has held during the last eight years. Reluctant as they were to relinquish his valuable services, they yet felt that they ought not to lay a burden upon him which he was no longer able to bear with comfort to himself. They, therefore, took steps to relieve him of all responsibility, and invited Joseph Hoare, Esq., to allow himself to be nominated as Mr. Bockett's successor." Mr. Hoare's unanimous appointment to this important office is noted in the same number of the *Reporter*.

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## American.

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The *American Bible Society Record*—published monthly, and regularly received at our office—is now specially valuable from the interesting intelligence which, from time to time, we may be permitted to transfer to our pages. Emulating the B. and F. Bible Society, the A. Bible Society has done nobly and well in the glorious cause of Bible circulation. She has largely contributed to the distribution of the precious word in the many languages of the peoples of the globe. While the B. and F. Bible Society has, during the years of her untiring activities, given millions of copies of the sacred scriptures, the American Bible Society has also given her millions. The numbers by the older society, to the date of last report, is over 57 millions, those of the younger 25 millions; unitedly making 82 millions, by these two Christian institutions, in whose history we find the exponent and the origin of much of the piety and generosity of the two great protestant nations of the world. In the pages of the *Record* we behold evidence not only of that unflagging energy which marks the honour of true patriotism—directed now especially to the new line of action presented in the countries recently opened up by the Pacific Railroad—but in it we can read the journal of labours extending to other and foreign climes, to whose shores and tribes nothing but the most disinterested benevolence could impel the Christians of America to direct their efforts.

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### RESIGNATION OF ONE OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

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"The members and friends of the Society will share the deep regret with which we announce the resignation of William J. R. Taylor, D.D., one of its Corresponding Secretaries, who terminated his official relations to us on the first of January inst. His labours will be held in grateful remembrance by all who have been associated with him, and by the multitudes of correspondents to whom he has been endeared by his earnest spirit and his general manners."—*American Bible Record*.



## FATHER HYACINTHE IN NEW YORK.

The following words were uttered by this remarkable man in his lecture at the Academy of Music in New York. They are worth considering :—

“The foundation of your people is the Bible, the book that speaks of God, the living word of Jesus Christ. In the admirable manifesto of your President, there shines through his words the Christian faith. A belief in Jesus is at the back of the nation. May Jesus Christ protect your country and develop it. When I return, I shall tell Europe that I have found here liberty associated with Christianity, and have been among a people who do not think that to be free they must be parted from God.” (Great applause).

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## Miscellaneous.

### THE BIBLE.

BY THE LATE THE HON. D'ARCY M'GEE.

In his eloquent lecture on the “Mental Outfit of the New Dominion,” the late the Hon. D'Arcy McGee paid the following noble tribute to the value of the Bible:

“There is always as a corrective to diseased imaginations the Book of books itself—the Bible. I do not speak of its perusal as a religious duty incumbent on all Christians; it is not my place to inculcate religious duties; but I speak of it here as a family book mainly; and I say that it is well for our New Dominion that within the reach of every one who has learned to read, lies this one book, the rarest and most unequalled as to matter, the cheapest of books as to cost, the most readable as to arrangement. If we wish our younger generation to catch the inspiration of the highest eloquence, where else will they find it? If we wish to teach them lessons of patriotism, can we show it to them under nobler forms than in that of the maiden deliverer who smote the tyrant in the valley? or in the grief of Esdras as he poured the foreign king his wine at Susa? or in the sadness beyond the solace of song, which bowed down the exiles by the waters of Babylon? Every species of composition, and the highest kind in each species, is found in these wondrous two Testaments. We have the epic of Job; the idyl of Ruth; the elegies of Jeremiah; the sermons of the greater and lesser prophets; the legislation of Moses; the parables of the gospel; the travels of St. Paul; the first chapters of the history of the Church. Not only as the spiritual correction of all vicious reading, but as the highest of histories, the truest of philosophies, and the most eloquent utterance of human organs, the Bible should be read for the young, and by the young, at all convenient seasons.”

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## Bible Women.

Godly, prudent, Christian women have a sphere of action in reference to the enlightenment and elevation of their sex for which they alone are well adapted. The duties of the Bible woman are among the important chronicled events of Bible Society operations in England and in the United States. In our own country a commencement has been made. In this and in other cities and towns encouraging results have been realized. We hope to be

favoured with such Canadian intelligence for future numbers, as will justify us in devoting a page to this valuable department of Christian enterprise.

From the following extract we see what female exertions is doing in other lands:—

“A BIBLE WOMAN IN INDIA.—The *Bible woman* has been fully employed in the Bangalore Pettah during the year, and with good effect. She visits both Christian and heathen families, and thus reads and explains the Bible to about forty persons every week. This is the only instruction that the women in some families obtain. This year one baptism has been the result of these readings, and there are two or three persons whom we may call serious inquirers; but the amount of good done can only be known to the Searcher of hearts.

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## Children and the Bible.

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### THE BOY WHO COULD READ.

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Sometimes an old man will stretch forth a trembling hand to the missionary and ask for a tract.

“Can you read?” asks the Missionary.

“No, Sir; I never learnt to read. My eyes are dim with age, and I am hopelessly stupid; so it is no use trying to learn now.”

“Then I am sorry I cannot give you a book,” rejoins the missionary; “I must keep the books for those who can use them.”

“But my grandson can read,” quickly returns the old man; and the grandson, who was too small to be seen above the crowd, is put forward and made to confront the missionary.

“Here, make a salam to the Sahib,” (make a bow to the gentleman,) says the old man, fearful lest the little fellow should forget his manners and forfeit the coveted book.

“Can you read my little friend?”

“Yes, Sahib, the Gooroo Mohashoy of our village has taught me.”

“Let me hear you read;” and the missionary places the open page before him.

The boy begins in a loud tone, and reads, with a little hesitation, perhaps, but very fairly for his years. The old man’s face is lighted up with pride as he marks the effect this display of learning has on the admiring crowd of rustics that are listening to his grandson.

The missionary pats the little fellow on the head, and lets him have the tract, and the old man retires saying—

“Salam, Sabib; when we get home I’ll make him read it to me.”—*Scenes among which we labour.*

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## Bible Society Recorder.

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### WORK OF THE AGENTS.

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Summary of the labours of Agents for the months of November and December.

No. of Branches visited 70.

These two months, especially November, always uninviting, were remarkably so this year. Travelling was hard and discouraging. Both agents have on several occasions, after journeying over distressing roads and through

pitiless storms, met the discouraging announcement that the weather was too severe for the people to "turn out." On the other hand, many of their annual meetings have been very productive and cheering. A future number will furnish more detailed statements from the agents themselves.

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### A NOBLE EXAMPLE.

We cannot withhold the accompanying interesting extract, taken from the November report of the Rev. T. Goldsmith:—"At Petrolia we had a full house and finances up to the mark, \$164.28. The President, J. H. Fairbank, gave us a per centage on his commission profits on oil, which amounted to \$67."

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### LABOURS OF THE COLPORTEURS.

The reports of four Colporteurs for November and December furnish the following summary:—

No. of visits made 2,95<sup>2</sup> Miles travelled 1,717. Bibles sold 365. Testaments sold 553. Total 918. Bibles bestowed 31. Testaments 36. Total 67. Total distributed 955. Amount of sales \$261.37. Amount of gifts \$10.56. The same inconvenience was experienced by the Colporteurs as by the agents in travelling. The testimony is uniform as to the hardships endured in the dreary November. The reports of our Colporteurs may be expected to furnish items of interest and encouragement. In this respect our readers and supporters may hope to be gratified in subsequent pages of the RECORDER.

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### LOCAL REPORTS.

We have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of printed local reports from the Brantford, Brampton and Elora Branches—each flourishing. Brantford is specially so. Its receipts for next year will, we are informed by the agent, the Rev. W. Brookman, exceed the handsome givings of last year, being nearly \$900. We could wish that other sections of the field, not inferior in resources, would be stimulated by their noble example.

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### THE SOCIETY'S CABINET OF BIBLES IN MANY TONGUES.

We are indebted to our intelligent and indefatigable Depository, Mr. John Young, for the interesting exhibit of our BIBLE CABINET now furnished, and for that careful revision of proof necessary to secure accuracy therein. We are satisfied that the list presented will be read with pleasure.

It may not be generally known to the subscribers to the Upper Canada Bible Society throughout the Province, that there stands on exhibition in the Board Room of the Society in Toronto, a large show case containing copies of the Scriptures in *one hundred and seventeen* different languages and dialects, published chiefly by the British and Foreign Bible Society. These are not mere specimen pages, but complete Bibles, or Testaments, as the case may be; and they are "open Bibles," so that natives of nearly every country under the sun, standing before the glazed doors of the case, may read, "every man in his own tongue wherein he was born, of the wonderful works of God."

These do not by any means comprise the whole number of Bibles published by that Society, as the latest report contains a list of 185 languages or dialects

in which the translation, printing, or distribution, in whole or in part, has been promoted by it. The collection comprises, however, the most important or most interesting of all that the society has published, and is well worthy of inspection by those who may have the opportunity.

For the sake of those who have not such an opportunity the following list is presented :—

Of the whole Bible there are copies in the following languages :—Amharic, Arabic, Bohemian, Canarese, Chinese, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, Flemish, French, Gaelic, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Irish, (two versions), Italian, Latin, Lithuanian, Malayalim, Mongolian, Norwegian, Oriya, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Rarotongan, Singhalese, Spanish, Swedish, Syriac, Tahitian, Tamil, Turkish, Turko-Greek and Welsh—38 in all.

Of the New Testament :—Albanian, Armenian, (four dialects), Basque, Bengali, Bikaner, Breton, Bulgarian, Carshun, Cashmere, Catalan, Cree, Creolese, Dyak, Enghadine, Esquimaux, Esthonian (two dialects), Ethiopian, Feejeean, Greek (ancient and modern), Greenlandish, Gujeratee, Harotee, Hebrew, Hindui, Hungarian, Wendish, Kunkuna, Laponese, Lettish, Malagasy, Malay, Maltese, Manchoo, Manks, Mongolian, Mooltan, Maori (New Zealand), Ojibway, Pali, Persian, Russian, Samoan, Samogitian, Slavonic, Surinam-Negro, Syriac, Tartar, Teloo goo, Tongan, Wallachian and Wendish—55 in all.

Of portions of the Old or New Testaments :—Accra, Aneiteum, Berber, Caffre, Chippawa, Coptic, Cree, Cutchee, Hausa, Hindustani, Judaeo-Arabic, Judaeo-Persic, Karelian, Kurdish, Marathi, Mic-mac, Mohawk, Musulmani-Bengali, Nepalese, Otji, Punjabee, Sanscrit, Sechuano, Sesuto, Sirenian, Syro-Chaldaic and Yoruba—27 in all.

The sum of the above is 120, but as three of the languages are repeated in different lists, there remains 117 distinct languages or dialects as aforesaid.

We may also arrange the different languages in their geographical order, as under :—

#### I. EUROPEAN.—

- (1) British Isles, five languages and dialects—English, Welsh, Gaelic, Manx, Irish (two versions).
- (2) Southern Europe, sixteen languages and dialects—Greek (Ancient and Modern), Turco-Greek, Wallachian, Bulgarian, Albanian, Maltese, Latin, Italian, Enghadine, Spanish, Catalan, Portuguese, French, Basque, Breton.
- (3) Central and Northern Europe, thirteen languages and dialects—Hungarian, Bohemian, Wendish, (two dialects), Lithuanian, Polish, German, Flemish, Dutch, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Laponese.
- (4) European-Russia, nine languages and dialects—Esthonian (two dialects) Lettish, Finnish, Russian, Slavonic, Samogitian, Karelian, Sirenian.

Total European languages 43.

#### II. ASIATIC.—

- (1) Western Asia, sixteen languages and dialects—Hebrew, Syriac, Carshun, Syro-Chaldaic, Arabic, Judaeo-Arabic, Armenian (4 dialects), Kurdish, Turkish, Tartar, Persian (2 versions), Judaeo-Persic.
- (2) Eastern Asia, six languages and dialects—Chinese, Manchoo, Mongolian (two versions), Malay, Dyak.
- (3) India, twenty-two languages and dialects—Bengali, Bikaner, Canarese, Cashmere, Cutchee, Gujeratee, Harotee, Hindui, Hindustani, Kunkuna, Malayalim, Marathi, Mooltan, Musulmani-Bengali, Nepalese, Oriya, Pali, Punjabee, Sanscrit, Singhalese, Tamil, Teloo goo.

Total Asiatic languages 44.

## III. AFRICAN.—

Twelve languages and dialects—Accra (or Ga), Amharic, Berber, Caffre, Coptic, Ethiopic, Hausa, Malagasy, Otyi, Sechuano, Sesuto, Yoruba.

## IV. POLYNESIAN.—

Seven languages and dialects—Aneiteum, Feejeean, New Zealand, Rarotongan, Samoan, Tahitian, Tongan.

## V. AMERICAN.—

Ten languages and dialects: (1) Native languages—Cree, (two versions), Esquimaux, Greenlandish, Mic-mac, Mohawk, Ojibway (or Chippawa), two versions.

(2) Corrupt Dialects—Creolesc, Surinam-Negro.

Of course the alphabets used are nearly as varied as the dialects, and from the well-known Roman characters used by ourselves and the majority of European nations, to the singular hieroglyphics in which most of the Asiatic, and some of the African languages are printed, there are all degrees of legibility to English eyes; and they are likewise of all ages, from the Hebrew, Sanscrit, or Greek, which count by thousands of years, to that invented by missionaries, for hitherto unwritten tongues, in our own day.

It is probably needless to add that the Upper Canada Bible Society does not keep the Bible for sale in *all* of these languages. A list of what are kept for sale is appended to the Annual Report of the Society; yet it may be useful to give here a list of the latter, for the purpose of comparison with the more extended catalogue of *specimens* already given.

Scriptures kept in stock for sale at the Depository of the U. C. Bible Society, Toronto, in the following *twenty-three* languages:—

ANCIENT.—Greek, Latin.

ORIENTAL.—Hebrew, Arabic, Judæo-Arabic, Syriac, Syro-Chaldaic, Chinese.

MODERN EUROPEAN.—English, Welsh, Gaelic, Irish (two versions—one in Roman and one in native characters), Welsh, French (three versions, Ostervald's and Martin's for Protestants, and De Sacy's for Roman Catholics,) Spanish, Italian, Greek, Polish, Russian, German, Danish and Norwegian, Swedish.

AMERICAN INDIAN.—Ojibway (or Chippawa.)

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### OUR FRONTISPIECE.

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The open Bible—than which nothing more appropriate could have been selected. The following professional description of the design will, we doubt not, be read with interest:—

“It represents the inspired Book, supported on a gothic lectern or desk, over which the light of Heaven falls. Within the vesica piscis of Albert Durer, bearing upon its margin the following inscription from the sacred volume itself:—‘Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.’ The surrounding lettering is of a mixed style of church text, surmounted with appropriate scroll work and symbols, celestial crown, lamp of learning, aureole and trefoils typical of the Trinity.”

Few duties are more difficult than the selection of a suitable frontispiece for a religious periodical, one that will commend itself to the taste and judgment of an educated people. We can only hope that in this we have been successful.

Engraved on wood by Mr. C. F. Damoreau of this city, from a design for the “*Bible Recorder*,” by Mr. J. Ellis, jr., also of Toronto.

## Remittances.

RECEIPTS AT THE BIBLE HOUSE, TORONTO, FROM AUXILIARY AND  
BRANCH SOCIETIES, FROM 1ST APRIL TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1869.

	On purchase account.	Free to U. C. B. Society.	Free to B. & F. B. S.		Free to Montreal Aux.
			General.	Spain.	
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
<i>April.</i>					
Lakeside Branch B. S. ....		17 00	17 00		
Kendall " .....	5 00				
Hawkesville " .....		10 73		21 46	
Campbell's Cross Branch B. S. ....		24 00	24 00		12 00
Ancaster " .....		40 00			
Pickering Centre " .....	28 00			30 00	
Mitchell " .....				50 00	
Flesherton " .....	5 00				
South Monaghan " .....	15 00				
Fenella " .....		11 00			
Laskey " .....		16 55			
Meaford " .....	16 46	70 00			
Mt. Pleasant (Cavan) " .....		8 00	8 00		8 90
Guelph, (member of Mr. Torrance's congregation).....		15 00		*25 00	
<i>May.</i>					
Newmarket Branch B. S. ....	72 46				
Erin " .....	7 24	16 95	16 95		
Simcoe " .....	80 06				
Mitchell " .....	13 81				
Trowbridge " .....	7 00				
Crediton " .....	20 00				
Brampton " .....	14 00	50 00	50 00		
Richmond Hill " .....		30 00	60 00		
Thorold " .....	25 71				
Waterdown " .....	11 65				
<i>June.</i>					
Simcoe Branch B. S. ....	6 30				
Glenallan " .....	2 80				
Port Elgin " .....	40 00				
Jarvis " .....		27 09	27 09		
Arthur " .....	20 62				
Lucknow " .....	22 21			33 79	
<i>July.</i>					
Manvers Branch B. S. ....	6 36				
St. Williams, " .....			80 00		
Hanover " .....	30 61				
Durham " .....	8 38			15 00	
Pictou " .....	100 00				
Listowel " .....		10 00			
Fullarton " .....	7 42				
West Essa " .....		20 00			
Streetsville " .....		33 20			
Barrie " .....	45 80	30 00	30 00		
Simcoe " .....		50 00	50 00		
<i>August</i>					
Listowel Branch B. S. ....	26 68				
Bradford " .....	14 17	29 00	29 00		

\* For France.

	On Purchase account.	Free to U. C. B. Society.	Free to B. F. & B. S.		Free to Montreal Aux.
			General.	Spain.	
<i>August—Continued.</i>					
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Bond Head B. S.		28 78			
Owen Sound "	42 00				
Eugenia "	4 37				
Richmond Hill "	12 42				
Ore "		10 00	10 00		
<i>September.</i>					
Newmarket Branch B. S.	15 00				
Aurora "		66 21	66 21		
West Essa "	2 87				
Thornbury "	3 66				
Wellington Square Branch B. S.	27 01				
<i>October.</i>					
Wellington Square Branch B. S.			33 70		
Montreal Auxiliary	92 44				
Ingersoll Branch B. S.	51 82				
Lynedoch "	16 97				
Hornby "	5 75				
Drummondville "	50 07	30 00	25 00		
B. Chadwick, Esq.			5 00		
Clifton Branch B. S.	30 94				
<i>November.</i>					
Crediton Branch B. S.	20 00				
Thornhill "	6 52				
East Oxford "	7 14				
St. Thomas "	37 10	25 00	75 00		
London Auxiliary	684 00				
North Plympton Branch		20 00	20 00		
Florence "		9 58	16 71		
Blenheim "		9 54	9 54		
Melbourne "		21 40	29 20		
Appin "		14 60	24 35		
Wardsville "			17 00		
Bothwell "			20 00		
Chatham "		50 00	150 00		
London, N. W. "		35 90	35 90		
Mosa "		15 87	31 67		
London, N. E. "		11 50			
Nissouri, West "		10 00			
Wyoming (Mrs. Draper)		0 96			
Forest Branch		9 58			
Dresden "		7 67			
Windsor "		14 30		9 54	
Wallaceburgh Branch		17 25			
East Tilbury "		11 44			
Morpeth "		17 16			
Aylmer "		15 52			
Brantford Branch B. S.	189 24				
Nairn "	4 00	22 93	12 00	*10 00	
Georgetown "	40 61	22 99	45 99		22 91
Hagarville "		14 25	14 25		
Brooklin "	12 60				
Fullarton "	6 77				
Fonthill "	5 31		63 69		

\* For Erromanga.

	On Purchase account.	Free to U. C. B. Society.	Free to B. F. & B. S.		Free to Montreal Aux.
			General.	Spain.	
<i>December.</i>	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Brampton Branch B. S. ....	32 20				
Vittoria " .....		35 00	35 00		
Port Dover " .....	5 79	44 00			
Oneida " .....		20 00	20 00		
South Cayuga " .....		40 00	40 00		
Lloydtown " .....	24 60	18 00	18 00		
Mt. Pleasant (Mohawk) Branch B. S. ....		16 20		20 00	
St. Ann's (Lincoln) " .....	19 18				
Simcoe " .....	71 76	25 00	25 00		
Beverley " .....		45 26	45 26		
Ingersoll " .....	32 30				
Peterborough " .....	90 88				
Mitchell " .....	13 80				
Culloden " .....	25 04	15 00	25 00		
Belleville " .....	209 67				
Beachville " .....		10 20	10 25		
Embroy " .....		52 66	52 66		
Otterville " .....	19 40				
East Oxford " .....		8 25		16 60	
" " " .....				†8 25	
Cummins ville " .....		25 00	25 00		
Waterdown " .....		24 12	24 13		
Nassagaweya " .....		20 00	35 00		
Campbell's Cross " .....		28 67	28 67	28 66	
Cheltenham " .....		21 50	22 50		
Woodbridge and Pinegrove " .....	4 44	28 91	20 00	22 00	
North Etobicoke " .....		6 98	20 00	40 00	
Carlisle (two Sabbath scholars) .....				2 10	
Hillsburgh Branch B. S. ....	14 92				
Port Hope " .....		70 00		100 00	
Woodstock " .....	21 25				
Exeter " .....	41 00				
Grimsby " .....	17 45				

† For China.

## Upper Canada Bible Society Communications.

1. All Communications relating to the *Bible Recorder* to be addressed to "The Rev JOHN GEMLEY, Bible House, Toronto."

2. All Reports, Letters and other communications, from Branches, Agents, Colporteurs, and other parties, relating to the Bible Society work, and designed for the Board of Directors or for the Secretaries, to be addressed to "The Secretaries of the Upper Canada Bible Society, Toronto."

3. All orders for Bibles and Testaments, from Branches, etc., and all remittances on Depository Purchase Account, to be sent to "Mr. JOHN YOUNG, Bible Society Depository, Toronto." Money letters should be registered.

\* Parties desirous of communicating with the Bible Society, Toronto, on any of the matters indicated above, will greatly oblige the Secretaries by adhering to the foregoing regulations. Separate communications relating to any of the three subjects named, can, when necessary, be enclosed in one envelope, as it will be a great convenience to the Secretaries not to have the matters classified above mixed together in one communication. They should be kept quite separate.