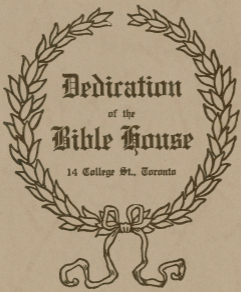


1572
Ontario
Toronto

Upper Canada Bible Society

Auxiliary of the Canadian Bible Society, which is
an Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society



Thursday, December 14th, 1911
at 8 p.m.

Programme



CHAIRMAN - N. W. HOYLES, Esq., K.C., LL.D.
President of the Upper Canada Bible Society

HYMN

Before Jehovah's awful throne,
Ye nations bow with sacred joy;
Know that the Lord is God alone;
He can create, and He destroy.

We'll crowd Thy gates with thankful
songs,
High as the Heavens our voices raise;
And earth, with her ten thousand
tongues,
Shall fill Thy courts with sounding
praise.

Wide as the world is Thy command;
Vast as eternity Thy love;
Firm as a rock Thy truth shall stand,
When rolling years shall cease to
move.

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Rev. W. O. Trueblood, B.S., Representing the Society of Friends in Canada

PRAYER

Rev. J. W. Pedley, Representing the Congregational Union of Ontario
and Quebec

DEDICATION ADDRESS

Rev. Dr. Carman, General Superintendent Methodist Church in Canada

DEDICATION PRAYER

Right Rev. Dr. Sweeny, Lord Bishop of Toronto

HYMN

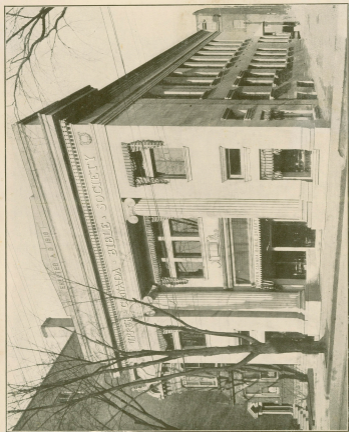
O Thou whose hand hath brought us
Unto this joyful day,
Accept our glad thanksgiving,
And listen as we pray:
And may our preparation
For this day's service be
With one accord to offer
Ourselves, O Lord, to Thee.

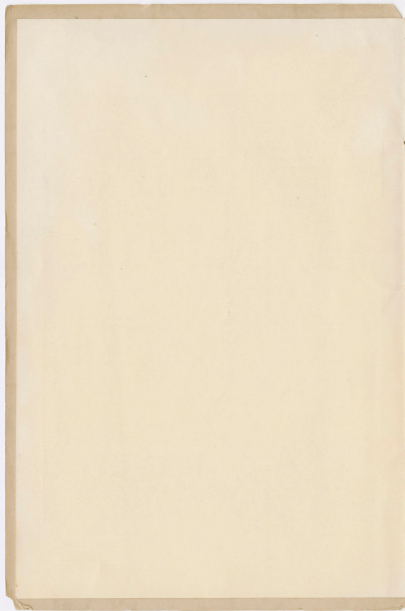
For this new house we praise Thee,
Reared by Thine own command;
For every generous bosom
And every willing hand;

And now within this building
Thy glory let us see;
For all its strength and beauty
Are nothing without Thee.

Lord God, our fathers' helper,
Our joy and hope and stay,
Grant now a gracious earnest
Of many a coming day:
Our yearning hearts Thou knowest;
We wait before Thy throne;
O come, and by Thy presence
Make this new house Thine own.

Programme continued on third page of cover





SHORT SKETCH OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY.

THE British and Foreign Bible Society—the mother of all Bible Societies—whose world-wide work lies at the foundation of every Missionary enterprise of all the Churches, was organized on the 7th of March, 1804. Though no date in the calendar of modern Christendom shines out with clearer lustre than this, yet the birth of the Bible Society, when it occurred, seems to have attracted little public attention. Men's minds were pre-occupied and distracted with events of a different order. Wars and rumors of wars abounded on all sides, and the map of the world was being constantly changed. All England and many of the other European nations were watching in feverish anxiety as Napoleon "picked up the crown of France on his sword," and massed his troops and transports, like a second Armada, for the invasion of England. Even among Christian men who sympathized with the object of the new Society, very few had vision to discern the omnipotent possibilities for good that lay before it; very few realized that a fire had been lighted, whose mighty conflagration would illuminate the world—a sapling had been planted which would grow and flourish, and spread far and wide, until to-day,

"Its broad roots coil beneath the sea,
Its branches sweep the world."

Well might Rev. George Burder, who had a seer's vision, say, "Memorable day! The British and Foreign Bible Society founded. Nations unborn will have cause to bless God for the meeting this day."

Truly the faith of the founders of the Bible Society, as they planned for the removal of the curse of Babel and the perpetuation of the miracle of Pentecost in that distracted, warlike time, only finds its parallel in the audacious faith of the early disciples who, under the shadow of the cross, without any social, educational, military, or political influence, went forth to conquer the world in the name of the Crucified.

In 1804 the Bible was printed in about *thirty-five living languages*. Through the instrumentality of this Society, and the sister Bible Societies which have grown out of it, the Bible is printed to-day in some 530 different languages. This Society prints the Bible in 432 languages.

It may add interest to this statement for us to remember, that scores of these 530 languages did not have an existence as written languages at that time, but the Missionary Translators of the Bible Societies have provided a written form for very many of these languages.

Since its foundation in 1804, the Parent Society has issued about 235,000,000 copies of the Scriptures.

UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

Although the Upper Canada Bible Society, as at present organized, has only completed the seventy-first year of its existence, it may be a fact new to many of its friends to know that it was only the successor of another Society, which was established at York, Upper Canada, eleven years before the existence of the present Society, to distribute "the Scriptures without note or comment."

In 1817 a "Bible and Prayer Book Society" was formed at York, in connection with the Church of England.

At the Annual Meeting in November, 1818, it was moved "That it appeared to be the wish of different Societies to associate themselves as Auxiliaries to the Upper Canada Bible Society for distributing the Scriptures without note or comment; to meet such a general wish, it is resolved that this Society be separated into two distinct Societies—one for the distribution of Bibles only, the other for the distribution of the Prayer-Book."—Carried.

It was then moved, "That this Society henceforth be denominated 'The Bible Society of Upper Canada.'"—Carried.

Jesse Ketchum, Esq., (so long a warm friend and benefactor of the present Society) next proposed "That friendly communication be opened with the other Bible Societies within this Province."—Carried.

Two separate Societies were formed in 1820. This separation, however, seems to have had a very discouraging effect upon the active promoters of the Bible cause, for the Society then formed does not appear to have ever gone into operation, but to have gradually died out.

On November 3rd, 1828, however, a successor to the original Society was organized at a meeting held in the Masonic Hall, under the presidency of the Hon. John Henry Dunn, Receiver-General of Upper Canada. It was called "The York Upper Canada Bible Society."

The first Anniversary Meeting of the Society was held at the "Steam-boat Hotel," on February 9th, 1830. The amount of subscriptions and donations paid during the year was £128 18s. 3d.

The Town of York was incorporated in 1834, and the name changed to the "City of Toronto;" so in the fifth Report we find the name of the Society changed from "York Auxiliary" to "City of Toronto Bible Society." In the eleventh Report for the year 1839-40, we find the name again changed to the "Upper Canada Bible Society," which title it has borne ever since. Another important change that year was the agreement between the Bible Society and the Religious Tract and Book Society as to the joint occupation of a building suitable for carrying on their work, and the joint payment of the salary of the Depository and other expenses.

THE INVENTOR OF THE SYLLABIC CHARACTERS.

A very interesting event took place in 1836. The Rev. James Evans, one of the early Methodist Missionaries to the scattered tribes of Indians in what was then known as the Hudson Bay Territories, and the inventor of the syllabic character, offered to the Board of the Bible Society at Toronto the use of the syllabic alphabet which he had invented to print the Bible for the Indians. After due consideration the Board of that day, failing to realize the advantages of Mr. Evans' invention, "disapproved" of the same. The Parent Society soon recognized the value of Mr. Evans' invention, and used it for their Indian versions.

Through the use of Mr. Evans' invention, Indians, who earnestly applied themselves to its study, although they had never been to school a day in their lives, were able in ten days to two weeks to read with fluency the Word of God in their own language. All the churches carrying on mission work in northern portions of Canada have availed themselves of Evans' invention. Though the Board of the Bible Society in Toronto in 1836 failed to realize the usefulness of Mr. Evans' invention, the late Lord Dufferin, when Governor-General of Canada, said:—"The man who invented the syllabic alphabet was one of the greatest benefactors of humanity, and more richly deserved a pension, a title, and a resting place at Westminster Abbey, than many who were buried there."

The Society has had only four Presidents during the seventy-one years of its existence. The Hon. J. H. Dunn occupied the position for sixteen years, namely, from 1828-1845; the Hon. Robert Baldwin from 1845-1859, a period of fourteen years; Hon. George W. Allan from 1859 to 1901, a period of forty-two years; and N. W. Hoyles, Esq., K.C., LL.D., (still in office) from 1901 to the present time, or a period of ten years.

During the same period we have had five Treasurers:—Peter Patterson, who held office for eleven years; Peter Freeland, for sixteen years; the Hon. William McMaster, who filled the office for thirty-one years; J. K. Macdonald, Esq., for fourteen years; and Elias Rogers, Esq., who has filled the position since 1902.

The following names appear as having served the Society as Honorary Secretaries:—Rev. James Harris, for twenty years; Hon. William McMaster, for seventeen years; W. A. Baldwin, Esq., for eleven years; James Scott Howard, Esq., for twenty-one years; Rev. Dr. Reid, for fifteen years; Dr. J. George Hodgins, for twenty-six years; Rev. J. M. Cameron, for twelve years; there were a number of other gentlemen who served for shorter periods; and as Permanent Secretaries, Rev. John Gemley, for five years; Robert Baldwin, Esq., for eleven years; John Harvie, Esq., for twenty-two years; Rev. Jesse Gibson, appointed May 1st, 1907, still in office.

GENERAL AGENTS.

No sketch of the Society would be complete without some reference to the General Agents who have done so much to impart information and to create enthusiasm concerning the work of the Society. These men went to and fro over the country in all sorts of weather and at all seasons of the year visiting the old Branches and forming new ones. The first one appointed was Rev. James (afterwards Bishop) Richardson, who was appointed in 1840, and who did a splendid work in laying foundations. He was followed by Rev. Luchlan Taylor, D.D., a Methodist minister, of honored memory. He was assisted and followed by S. B. Johnson, Esq., Rev. T. Goldsmith, Rev. Mr. Brookman and Rev. J. G. Manly.

In January, 1870, the publication of "The Bible Society Recorder," a bi-monthly magazine under the editorship of the Rev. John Gemley, Secretary, was begun and continued for many years, when it was replaced by a monthly publication entitled the "Bulletin," which in its turn was succeeded by the "Bible in the World" issued by the newly formed Canadian Bible Society.

At first the Depository was kept after the manner of the Depositories of the present branches. Then for a period of fifteen years, or from 1839 to 1854, it was kept in premises rented jointly by the Bible Society and the Tract Society, a little south of 102 Yonge Street. In 1854 the two Societies purchased the building at 102 Yonge Street, and in this carried on business until 1885. The building was then pulled down to make room for the present structure on that site, and our Society continued to occupy this jointly with the Tract Society until 1st May, 1910, when both Societies decided to lease the premises. The ground at 102 Yonge Street was given in perpetuity by the late Jesse Ketchum, to the two Societies, at a low rental, the rental to be used in the purchase of Bibles and suitable books to be presented to the scholars in the public schools of the city. In connection with this and other gifts, we would make the following extract from the report of 1858: "It is our pleasing duty here to notice the liberality of Jesse Ketchum, Esq., of Buffalo, and formerly of this city, whose acts of beneficence are not new in the community of Toronto. He has recently given us the handsome gifts of the premises on Yonge Street, occupied as the Depository of the two Societies for so many years, and other properties, the ground rent of the latter being expended annually in the purchasing of Bibles and religious books, which are to be distributed among the pupils attending the Sabbath and public day schools in Toronto and Yorkville."

For twenty-nine years the duties of Depository were discharged by Mr. James Careless. He was succeeded in December, 1868, by Mr. John Young, who acted as Depository until his death in 1904. Mr. J. M. Robertson acted

jointly with Mr. Young for a few years; then it was decided that after December 31st, 1904, each Society should employ its own staff. In 1905, Mr. George Sauer was appointed Business Manager for the Bible Society, and still holds that position.

BUILDING COMMITTEE.

No sketch of the Society's work at this time would be complete without mentioning the names of the Building Committee, who have had charge of the construction of the new Bible House. The names of that committee are:—A. M. Featherston, Esq., Chairman; N. W. Hoyles, Esq., K.C., LL.D.; Elias Rogers, Esq.; J. G. Scott, Esq.; A. M. Denovna, Esq.; Geo. Keith, Esq.; T. Mortimer, Esq.; Wm. Garside, Esq.; Grant Helliwell, Esq.; John Kent, Esq.; W. F. Chapman, Esq., B.A.; W. J. Robertson, Esq.; J. Yokes, Esq.; Edmund Burke, Esq.; E. B. Biggar, Esq.; and the Secretary, Rev. Jesse Gibson. The Society owes a deep debt of gratitude to the Chairman, A. M. Featherston, Esq., for the continued, unstiring interest which he has taken in the construction of the building.

The architects of the Bible House are Messrs. Gordon and Helliwell.

The total receipts of the Society at the close of the last financial year, December 31st, 1910, reached the large sum of \$1,630,304.96, and the total issue of Scriptures or Portions, 2,167,374.

CANADIAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

Conferences of Representatives of the various Bible Society Auxiliaries working in Canada and Newfoundland were held in Montreal in February, 1903, and in Toronto, in September, 1904, to consider the question: "Is the time ripe for a re-arrangement of Bible Society work in Canada?" As the result of these Conferences, the different Bible Society Auxiliaries in Canada and Newfoundland, by the advice of the Parent Society, united under the name of "The Canadian Bible Society, Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society," in April, 1905. The affairs of this Society are managed by a General Board, composed of members elected by the Auxiliaries; and this Board has advisory oversight of all Bible Society work in Canada and Newfoundland, without interfering with the control of any Auxiliary over its own work and its own property. This Society does not appeal for funds, except through the Auxiliaries. The headquarters of the Society are in the Bible House, Toronto. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall, Governor-General of Canada, is the patron of the Society, and the officers are: N. W. Hoyles, Esq., K.C., LL.D., President, Elias Rogers, Esq., Treasurer, and the Rev. W. B. Cooper, M.A., General Secretary. District Secretaries have been appointed in the different districts to visit the branches, Rev. W. E. Hassard, B.A., B.D., and Rev. R. J. Bowen are the District Secretaries for our Auxiliary.

OUR PRESENT FINANCIAL POSITION.

Through the kindness and foresight of the late Jesse Ketchum, Esq., and other friends, we expect to dedicate the new Bible House without any appeal to the public for assistance. The land, building and furnishings will cost about \$74,000. It is a steel-constructed, fireproof building, and in laying the foundation, provision has been made for the erection of an eight or ten storey structure at some future date. We have a mortgage of about \$35,000 on the building, but we have leased the land at 102 Yonge Street (in which we hold a half interest, less \$62.50 payable annually to the Ketchum Trust fund), and the income from this source will, in about seven and a half years, pay off the mortgage, without drawing one cent from the free contributions.

The late William Gooderham, Esq., and other friends, left us about \$15,000 to be invested, and the interest to be used for Colportage work in Canada.

Every cent contributed from year to year is used for Bible Society work in Canada and the world-wide mission work of the Parent Society.

Canada is one of the most needy mission fields in the world. There is a powerful invasion of this country by an immigrant army of about 1,000 a day for every working day in the year—about 1,200,000 in six years—speaking some 110 different languages. They bring with them their different social, political and religious ideas, and we must either Canadianize and Christianize them, or they will foregoe our institutions. One of the greatest factors in this work of Canadianizing is the Diglot Versions of the Bible (between 50 and 20 in number) issued by this Society—the English and foreign language in parallel columns—for the purpose of teaching those foreign immigrants the English language, and at the same time, sowing the seed of God's Word in their hearts. These Scriptures are circulated by our Colporteurs and Biblesmen from Newfoundland to the Yukon, and are placed freely at the disposal of all the Churches of the Dominion for Missionary purposes.

The unprecedented advance in Christian Missions in all parts of the world is taxing the resources of the Parent Society, so that it is unable to meet the ever-increasing demands without incurring an annual deficit.

Since the birth of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, the Churches of Canada have increased their missionary givings about threefold. This increase has entailed upon the Bible Societies an additional burden to provide Bibles for this advance. The sad part is that, during the same period, there has been very little, if any, advance in the gifts of the Churches in Canada towards Bible Society work. Is it wise, building to spend so much money on erecting the superstructure of missions without strengthening the foundation work of Bible translation and publication—to spend so much in hurrying reinforcements to the front, without spending a proportionate amount in arming them with "the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God?"

We would call special attention to the fact that last year the Protestant Churches raised some \$25,000,000 for Missions. In the same period the Bible Societies raised some \$2,500,000 for Missions. You can have no Missions without the Bible. Speaking the Scriptures. You can have no Scriptures without the Bible. Speaking the Bible. In other words, it costs the Bible Societies ten cents to make effective every dollar raised for Christian Missions.

We plead not that less should be given for Missions—the Churches have not done a tithe of what they ought to do, or are able to do, along Missionary lines—but for more generous, intelligent, proportionate giving towards Bible Society work.

WHAT REMAINS FOR THE BIBLE SOCIETY TO DO?

Hundreds of peoples and tribes still remain without a single Gospel in their own tongue.

In hundreds of languages imperfect translations need to be revised and unfinished Bibles need to be made complete.

The spread of education, especially in foreign countries, is raising up millions of new readers every year.

The enterprises and triumphs of Christian Missions are enabling so many new and important claims upon the Bible Society.

In all quarters of the world closed doors are opening and eager hands are stretching out to welcome the Book of God.

NAMES OF PERSONS WHOSE PORTRAITS ARE TO BE UNVEILED

N. W. HOYLES, Esq., K. C., LL. D., for twenty-six years a Director, Vice-President, and President since 1901.

REV. LACHLAN TAYLOR, D. D., General Agent, 1851—1866.

IGNATIUS COCKSHUT, Esq., Bradford, present at the first meeting of the Society. A contributor from 1829 till his death. Treasurer of the Banner Branch at Bradford.

CHARLES R. COOPER, Esq., sixteen years a Director and Vice-President.

DIRECTORS for 1911.

J. GEORGE HODGINS, Esq., LL. D., for twenty-six years Honorary Secretary

Programme



ADDRESSES OF CONGRATULATION

His Honor, John M. Gibson, K.C., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario

Rev. R. P. MacKay, D.D., Moderator of the General Assembly
of the Presbyterian Church in Canada

Rev. John MacNeil, B.A., Representing the Baptist Convention of
Ontario and Quebec

Brigadier Charles Taylor, Representing the Salvation Army

J. K. Macdonald, Esq., President of The Upper Canada Religious Tract
and Book Society

Rev. W. B. Cooper, M.A., General Secretary of the Canadian Bible
Society, and Representative of the British and Foreign
Bible Society in Canada

A. M. Featherston, Esq., Chairman of the Building Committee

Elias Rogers, Esq., Treasurer of the Upper Canada Bible Society

HYMN

Father of mercies, in Thy Word
What endless glory shines!
Forever be Thy name adored
For these celestial lines.

Divine Instructor, gracious Lord,
Be Thou forever near;
Teach me to love Thy sacred Word,
And view my Saviour there.

PRESENTATION & UNVEILING OF PORTRAIT

of N. W. Hoyles, Esq., K.C., LL.D., President of the Upper Canada
Bible Society, and other Portraits

Hon. S. H. Blake, K.C.

HYMN

God bless our native land!
May His protecting hand
Still guard our shore;
May peace her power extend,
Foe be transferred to friend,
And Britain's rights depend
On war no more.

Nor on this land alone,
But be God's mercies known
From shore to shore:

And may the nations see
That men should brothers be,
And form one family
The wide world o'er.

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King!
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the King!

CLOSING PRAYER & BENEDICTION

Rev. A. B. Chambers, D.D.

JACKSON, MOSS & CO., PRINTERS, 37 RICHMOND ST. E., TORONTO