

THE

FOURTH REPORT

OF THE

York Auxiliary

BIBLE SOCIETY:

For the Year 1832.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

York:

**PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY, AT THE COLONIAL ADVOCATE OFFICE.
PETER BAXTER, PRINTER.**

1833.



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OFFICE BEARERS OF THE
British and Foreign Bible Society.

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OFFICERS OF THE
York Auxiliary Bible Society.

PATRON:

HIS EXCELLENCY, SIR JOHN COLBORNE.

PRESIDENT:

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VICE-PRESIDENTS:

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DR. MORRISON,
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CAPT. PHILLIPS,
REV. WM. RINTOUL**

TREASURER:

PETER PATTERSON, ESQUIRE.

SECRETARIES:

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DEPOSITARY:

Mr. ROBERT CATHCART.

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**Messrs. J. R. Armstrong,
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H. M. Mosley,
James Lesslie,
John Ross,
Malcom M'Lellan,
Ed. Henderson, Senr.
Hugh Carfrae,
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John Hogg, Yonge Street,
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**Messrs. James Ross, York Township,
James Mitchel, Yonge Street,
John Cummer. do.
Timothy Parson,
Colin Drummond,
George Nicol,
Walter Rose,
Bernard Turquand,
J. Tolfree,
T. F. Caldicott,
Wm. Lawson.**

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

British and Foreign Bible Society.

I. The designation of this Society shall be the **BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY**, of which the sole object shall be to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scripture, without Note or Comment: the only Copies in the Languages of the United Kingdom, to be circulated by the Society, shall be the authorised Version.

II. This Society shall add its endeavours to those employed by other Societies, for circulating the Scriptures though the British Dominions; and as also, according to its ability, extend its influence to other countries, whether Christian, Mahometan, or Pagan.

III. Each Subscriber of One Guinea annually shall be a Member.

IV. Each Subscriber of Ten Guineas at one time shall be a Member for Life.

V. Each Subscriber of Five Guineas annually shall be a Governor.

VI. Each Subscriber of Fifty Pounds at one time, or who shall, by one additional payment, increase his original Subscription to Fifty Pounds, shall be a Governor for Life.

VII. Governors shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Meetings of the Committee.

VIII. An Executor, paying a bequest of Fifty Pounds, shall be a Member for Life: or of One Hundred Pounds, a Governor for Life.

IX. A Committee shall be appointed to Conduct the business of the Society, consisting of Thirty-six Laymen, Six of whom shall be Foreigners, resident in London or its vicinity; half the remainder shall be members of the Church of England, and the other half members of other denominations of Christians. Twenty-seven of the above number, who shall have most frequently attended, shall be eligible for re-election for the ensuing year.

The Committee shall appoint all Officers, except the Treasurer, and call Special General Meetings, and shall be charged with procuring for the Society suitable patronage, both British and Foreign.

X. Each Member of the Society shall be entitled, under the direction of the Committee, to purchase Bibles and Testaments at the Society's prices, which shall be as low as possible.

XI. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held on the first Wednesday in May, when the Treasurer and Committee shall be

chosen, the Accounts presented, and the Proceedings of the foregoing year reported,

XII. The President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, shall be considered, *ex officio*, Members of the Committee.

XIII. Every Clergyman or Dissenting Minister, who is a Member of the Society, shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Meetings of the Committee.

XIV. The Secretaries, for the time being, shall be considered as Members of the Committee; but no other person deriving any emolument from the Society shall have that privilege.

XV. At the General Meetings, and Meetings of the Committee, the President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President first upon the list then present; and in the absence of all the Vice-Presidents the Treasurer; and in his absence, such Member as shall be voted for that purpose,—shall preside at the Meeting.

XVI. The Committee shall meet on the first Monday in every Month, or oftener, if necessary.

XVII. The Committee shall have the power of nominating such persons as have rendered essential services to the Society, either MEMBERS FOR LIFE, OR GOVERNORS FOR LIFE.

XVIII. The Committee shall also have the power of nominating HONORARY MEMBERS from among Foreigners who have promoted the object of the Society.

XIX. The whole of the Minutes of every General Meeting shall be signed by the Chairman.

Laws and Regulations

OF THE

YORK AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

RULE 1st.—This Society shall be denominated, the York, U. C. Auxiliary Bible Society—having the same object in view as the British and Foreign Bible Society, viz:—the circulation of the Bible without note or comment—to act in concert with the Parent Society, or separately as circumstances may require.

RULE 2nd.—The Society shall consist of all who are disposed to promote the object of the institution, without regard to difference of religious sentiments.

RULE 3rd.—Every subscriber of five shillings annually shall be considered a member as long as he pays his subscription.

RULE 4th.—A subscriber of five pounds, shall be a member for life. Donations of any amount, small or great will be thankfully received.

RULE 5th.—The business of the Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, two Secretaries, a Committee of twenty-seven of its own members, and a depositary, of its Bibles. Nine of the Committee shall go out annually—and five shall be a quorum. Ministers of all denominations, who subscribe, shall be stated members of Committee.

RULE 6th.—The Committee shall meet on the second Mondays of February, May, August and November, or when called by the chairman, or any three of the committee.

RULE 7th.—The Society shall meet annually, on the second week in February, in York. The day and hour to be fixed by the committee and advertised—at which meeting the committee shall give an account of their transactions and funds.

RULE 8th.—Every subscriber of one pound five shillings annually shall be entitled to purchase Bibles and Testaments, to the amount of five pounds, at the reduced prices of the Society.

RULE 9th.—The Committee shall be empowered to sell the scriptures, or to give them gratis when they find well authenticated claims. They are to purchase from the Parent Society to supply their wants, and if there are any overplus funds to spare, to remit the same to the Parent Society, for the purpose of supplying other nations with the pure word of God.

RULE 10th.—No alterations shall be made in these laws, but at a General Meeting of the Society.

FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YORK, U. C. AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY—held in St. ANDREW'S CHURCH, 11th Feb. 1833.

The Hon. JOHN HENRY DUNN, PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR.

The Rev. CHARLES MATTHEWS opened the Meeting by prayer.

The PRESIDENT addressed the Meeting.

The Rev. ALEXR. STEWART, Secretary read the report.

1st. Moved by the Rev. WM. RINTOUL—seconded by HARVEY PRICE, Esq.—

That the report now read be approved of and printed under the direction of the Committee.

2nd. Moved by Dr. HARRIS—seconded by Mr. STEWART—

That this Society acknowledge with much gratitude the continued support and co-operation of the Parent Society.

3rd. Moved by the Rev. J. RICHARDSON—seconded by the Rev. A. BELL—

That this Meeting rejoice in what has been done for the Chippawa Indians—Recommend the further prosecution of the work—and give thanks to those who have contributed to the Indian translation, by labour, or means.

4th. Moved by the Rev. A. STEWART, Secretary,—seconded by Mr. LAWSON—

That the measure of success which has attended the operations of this, and the Parent Society for the past year, calls for thanksgiving to God—While the rapidly increasing population of this Province demands from Christians increased activity in circulating the Holy Scriptures, and increased dependence on God for a more abundant blessing.

5th. Moved by the Rev. Mr. IRVINE—seconded by the Rev. JAMES HARRIS, Secretary—

That this meeting, under a deep impression of the importance and value of the services, of those who have been active of the Branch Societies, tender them their grateful thanks, while they recommend a continuance of their exertions, and invite the friends of truth to form Branch Societies wherever practicable.

6th. Moved by the Rev. CHARLES MATTHEWS—seconded by the Rev. Mr. SUMMERSIDES—

That the cordial thanks of this meeting be given to His Excellency SIR JOHN COLBORNE, &c. &c. &c. for his continued patronage and exertion—and that this meeting concur in a heart felt wish, and prayer to Almighty God, that His Excellency may soon be restored to his family and the Province.

7th. Moved by Dr. BALDWIN, V. P.—seconded by Mr. PETER JONES—

That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Hon. JOHN HENRY DUNN, President, for his unwearied attention to the affairs of this Society.

8th. Moved by the Rev. Mr. BARRY—seconded by the Rev. GEO. Barclay—

That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Vice Presidents—Treasurer—Secretaries—Depositary, and Committee for their gratuitous services during the past year.

9th. Moved by C. C. SMALL, Esq. V. P.—seconded by Mr. LAWSON—

That the following persons compose the committee with power to fill up vacancies, and add to their number if necessary.—See list of the Committee.

10th. Moved by the Rev. WM. RINTOUL—seconded by the Rev. CHARLES MATTHEWS—

That this meeting hails the Ladies Association lately formed as an effective instrument for supplying the wants of the Scriptures in the Town, and as a valuable auxiliary for promoting the general objects of this Society.

11th. Moved by the Rev. WM. BOULTON—seconded by CAPT. PHILPOTS—

That the Rev. CHARLES MATTHEWS and the Rev. WM. RINTOUL be added to the Vice Presidents.

12th. Moved by JAS. E. SMALL, Esq. V. P. seconded by PETER PATERSON, Esq. Treasurer—

That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Trustees of St. Andrew's Church, for the use of the Church.

13th. Moved, &c. That a subscription be now opened, to be applied to the general purposes of the Society—or to the Indian translation, as the Subscribers direct—Meeting closed with prayer at a late hour—and we hope it has left a strong impression of the importance of the object upon all who attended.

PRICE OF BIBLES AND TESTAMENTS IN THE YORK DEPOSITORY.

	PRICE TO SOCIETIES AND OTHERS.			REDUCED PRICE TO MEMBERS.		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Quarto Bibles.....	1	8	6	1	8	6
Small Pica, with references.....	0	15	8	0	11	11
— do. without references.....	0	12	6	0	9	5
Minion with references.....	0	11	6	0	8	8
Brevier, 8vo.....	0	8	6	0	6	5
Minion, 8vo.....	0	7	5	0	5	7
Nonpareil, 12mo.....	0	5	2	0	3	11
Minion, 24mo.....	0	6	8	0	5	1
Ruby or Pocket.....	0	5	8	0	4	4
Pearl.....	0	6	10	0	5	2
Brevier, with references.....	0	13	8	0	10	2
German, 12mo.....	0	9	0	0	6	9
— 8vo.....	0	12	6	0	9	5
Sabbath School Bibles, [only to be used in Schools.]....	0	2	6	0	2	0
TESTAMENTS						
German Testaments.....	0	3	0	0	2	3
Pearl, do.....	0	2	3	0	1	9
— with Psalms.....	0	2	6	0	2	0
Pocket, do.....	0	1	9	0	1	4
— with Psalms, do.....	0	2	0	0	1	7
Brevier do.....	0	1	11	0	1	6
Sunday School, exclusively.....	0	1	0	0	1	0
Gaelic Bibles, 8vo.....	0	9	4	0	7	0
Do. Testaments.....	0	2	2	0	1	6
German Testaments.....	0	3	0	0	2	2
French and English do.....	0	9	0	0	7	0

Note.—A full supply of the above on hand

SPECIMEN OF TYPE.

PICA.

Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me.

LONG PRIMER.

Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

BURGEOIS.

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you.

BREVIER.

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments; and his commandments are not grievous.

MINION.

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he will give it you.

NONPARIEL.

If ye walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

FOURTH REPORT

OF THE

York Auxiliary Bible Society.

Your Committee, in yielding up the trust confided in them by the last general meeting, desire to render unfeigned thanks to God, for the unanimity and cordiality with which all their transactions have been marked through the last year. And while they have witnessed with pain the opposition of some, and the careless indifference of others, respecting this noble Institution, yet they trust in that God in whose work they are engaged, and who has hitherto prospered their feeble endeavours to circulate his own word.

It is now clearly seen, and very generally acknowledged, in what is called the Christian world that the Bible, without note or comment, is the only source of that instruction, which Jehovah has destined to evangelize the nations—To convert the Jew and the Gentile, and to fill the whole world with that knowledge of himself, and of his son Jesus Christ, which shall issue in life eternal. The proof is clear from what has been done already—and though the work is slow, yet it is sure. Bible Societies have not acted upon the human race like flashes of lightning, nor like the mountain torrents—but like the gentle rays of the summer sun, or like the mild rains that descend on the tender herb, and cause it to spring up and vegetate. The growth of a day, a month, or even a year may seem small—yea almost imperceptible—But at last the full fruition—the *Golden Harvest* will crown their labours with success.

The increase of funds, and operations of the Parent Society has surprised its best friends, and encouraged them in their unwearied exertions. They know that in “due time they shall reap if they faint not.” This grand Institution has circulated this last year, 193,655 Bibles, and 390,233 Testaments—Total, 583,888 copies—being 112,959 copies more than were circulated in any preceding year—Bringing up the total issue from the commencement of the Society, to 7,608,615 Copies. Its income, from all sources, during the year has been £81,735 16 4. 130 new auxiliaries have been formed last year. Expenditure, £98,409 10 9.—Engagements, £40,200.

In Paris, Professor Keiffer has issued in one year 176,139 Copies. The Paris Protestant Bible Society has issued 11,948 Copies in one

year. Dr. Pinkerton has issued in Germany, Prussia, Poland, &c. &c. 71,509. (38,787 of which were distributed among Roman Catholics.)

Central Prussia Society has circulated 46,874.

Lugnitz Society has circulated,..... 14,094.

Geneva Society has circulated,..... 19,921.

The Hamburgh Altona Society have circulated since their commencement, 54,000 Copies. Were we to fill the list with all that have been issued from all the Societies on earth this year we could not but exclaim, "What hath God wrought.!"

Let us now come to what we have done in this great and good work, and see whether we ought not to bestir ourselves, and double our diligence; while at the same time it will we think, fill our minds with gratitude to Jehovah. It is truly lamentable to see that among such a vast increase of population and wealth, this town should make so little progress in regard to the circulation of the word of God.

The number of Bibles issued from your depository since last report is 580—Testaments 947—Total, 1527.—Total issued the preceding years—3432.—Grand total from the commencement of the Society—4959.

There remains now in your depository 1697 Bibles, 1880 Testament. Gospels & Acts 200. Indian St. Matt. 800. Total 4577 copies.

Your Committee are happy to inform you that the Gospel according to St. Matthew, in the Chippawa language, is finished and partly delivered to the Indians—and had it not been for the bad roads, and want of sleighing, every Indian station in the province would have had their quota before this time.

They regret, however, that the gospel according to St. John, which was printed in London at the expence of the Parent Society, (an expence no less than £160 Cy.) is still at Montreal. The boxes arrived there in June, and Mr. Workman, late Secretary of the Montreal Bible Society, applied to the Governor in Chief to remit the duty. Through some mistake he got no answer till the navigation closed. The books, however, are safe, and will be sent in the Spring. The translators are now engaged at the book of Genesis and have got on as far as the 49th chapter.

Your Committee have further learned, that a Dr. James of the United States' army, has the whole Chippawa New Testament in the press at Albany, and is well on in the translation of the Old Testament—and they have authorised Drs. Harris, and Baldwin of the Indian Committee, to correspond with Dr. James upon this Subject. Hoping that the great object of their wishes, as it regards the Indians will be sooner accomplished than they expected. Thus does the Lord prosper his own work.

The Subscriptions and donations, this year are as follows:

For the general purposes of the Society	£96	14	2	
For the Indian translation exclusively, ..	7	15	0	
From Branch Societies,	22	0	0	Also for trans.
From sale of Bibles and Testaments...	74	19	4	

Total income this year.....£201 8 6

Cash on hand last Meeting..... 176 9 7

377 18 1

The expenditure, the details of which will appear in the Treasurer's account has been 252 0 0

£125 18 1

In this detail there are grounds of encouragement, and of self-abasement. Of encouragement at the continued circulation of the word of God—of self-abasement at the little that is done to spread the knowledge of God, and bring about the latter day glory.

Your Committee are happy to inform you, that agreeable to the recommendation of the last annual meeting, a ladies association is now formed in this Town which promises fair to prove a very great help to your Society.

They are sorry to say that some of the Branch Societies in the Country are truly languid, and a few have discontinued their operations. This arises partly from ungrounded jealousies among themselves, but chiefly from not being visited and taught the nature and necessity of the object.

Your Committee sent an agent last April to the London District. He revived some old societies, and formed several new Branches, of which a more detailed account will be given in the appendix. The malady that prevailed in Town and Country prevented the agent from visiting half of them in the autumn—and the roads in the woods have been long impassable—but as they have been written to, letters are expected from them before the report is put to press.

We are engaged in a great work—a work of ages! If it has taken twenty-eight years of the Parent Society's exertions to circulate 7,608,615 copies of the Scriptures—in what time will 600,000,000 more be distributed. It looks like as if a heap of ants should begin to remove the Andes—But it is a good work. It is the work of God. We are workers together for him. He could remove the Andes with a puff of wind, and dry up the sea with a flash of lightning. Let us not be discouraged. Jehovah is on our side. The Bible is the word of Christ's Kingdom—The standard of every true Christian's faith. As long as Satan is loose we may expect opposi-

tion, but none can contend against our King; and so long as we keep the principles of our Union—viz. “to circulate the Scriptures without note or comment.” their can be no jaring among ourselves.—Every man, in this Society is engaged in circulating, what he recurs to as the standard of his own faith—therefore no jaring can take place. We are one in the great principle that the Bible is able to make us wise unto salvation. Then let us double our diligence, and never stop till the whole world shall possess, (the blessing we enjoy)—the Bible in their own tongue.

Permit us to quote from the Parent Society’s 28 report as follows:

But Your Committee feel that it is a time of conflict, rather than putting off the harness of war—War not with each other—but with the God of this world contending in his various forms of Idolatry, Superstition, Infidelity, division, and Philosophy (falsely so called.) That Philosophy which makes men too wise to be taught of God, and accept truth when delivered through the medium of divine revelation. Their hearts’ desire and prayer unto God is, that the Society may still be permitted, to bear to the world a united testimony, from all who profess and call themselves christians, that the words of the Bible are the words of truth, and the standard of truth, to which all opinions are to bow, and by which all opinions are to be tried.”

Again—“In the events of the days in which we live your committee see much to forbid, all approaches to lightness of mind, or vain glorying in speech; but let it not be supposed that by these events they feel dismayed. Though the tempest be high—The whirlwind rage, by faith he may be seen who rides upon the whirlwind guiding the storm—and the ark of his church may also be evidently seen advancing to its desired, and destined rest.”

To which let us add at such a moment let mutual charity teach us forbearance—Let faith and love quicken our zeal and exertion—Let a sense of the faithfulness of God keep us from despondency. Let us look up in faith, and constantly pray for the Divine presence.—Let us do all with a view to the glory of God, and give him the sole praise of all our success. Believing that we are performing the work of God, let us walk in the path of duty, looking to him alone for success, knowing that he is almighty to provide and protect, and that his word shall not return to him void, but shall accomplish what he pleases and shall prosper in the end for which he sent it.

Union is strength—We have a wide field before us—two thirds of the human race destitute of the word of divine revelation—Judge then if it is a time to fold up the hands to sleep—No! It is a time that calls for all the zeal and energy of which we are capable. The

call is loud from the Indian, the Negro, and the rude barbarian—help us—give us light—give us the bread of life—and a share of your salvation. The call from Jehovah, is, “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might. As the work is the Lord’s he will accomplish it if we should desist, but we must at last give account of our Stewardship. Permit us then to remind you that the command of God is “occupy till I come.” And the promise is—Lo, I am with you always even to the end of the World

AMEN.

ABSTRACT.

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT WITH THE YORK AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

REPORT.

	<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.		<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.	
1832	To Cash on hand,	176	9	7	1832	By Cash for room and fitting up for General Meetings and Anniversaries,	3	10		
Feb.	To " Collected at the door, Gen'l meeting,	5	6	3	Feb.	By " freight of Bibles,	19	11	4	
to	To " per Depository from sale of Bibles	74	19	4	By " paid Agents travelling expenses,	25				
	To " per Subscribers,	74	12	6	to	By " Stationary,	2	8	10	
Feb.	To " Donations,	19	13		By " printing Notices,		15			
	To " do. for translation,	7	15		Feb.	By " for assurance against Fire,	7	3	9	
1833	To " Toronto Society for do. by Mr. Silvertorne,	3			By " Guardian office printing Report,	10				
	To " Woodhouse do. do. A. Stewart,	5			1832	By " for 50 Bocks for country Agents,	1	11	3	
	To " Whitby do. do. do.	3			By " Rent for Depository,	12	15			
	To " Humber do. do. do.	7			By " John Jones and Assistant Translating,	10	11	3		
	To " Pickering do. do. Jas. Harris	4			By " Colonial Advocate office printing Translation,	18	10	9		
					By " Caldicott binding Translation,	17	12	2		
					By " Bill of Exchange to Parent Society,	122	4	5		
					By " Balance in hand, February, 1833,	129	1	11		
		£	30	15	8		£	380	15	8

PETER PATERSON, TREASURER,

AUDITED AND APPROVED

W. W. BALDWIN, }
B. TURQUAND, } AUDITORS.

RULES,

RECOMMENDED FOR BRANCH SOCIETIES.

1. That a Society be formed, in connexion with the British and Foreign Bible Society, through the medium of the York Auxiliary Bible Society, for the purpose of contributing towards the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, *without note or comment*. The English, of the authorised version only.

2. That the Society be denominated "THE——BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY."

3. That all persons subscribing five shillings or upwards, or one pound five shillings at one time, shall be Members of this Society.

4. That the business of this Society shall be conducted by a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretaries, and a Committee consisting of not less than —— other members. Five to constitute a quorum.

5. That all Ministers of the Gospel, who join this Society shall be reckoned Members of Committee.

6. That the Committee shall meet quarterly, or oftener—the time and place of meeting to be fixed by themselves.

7. That the Committee divide their sphere of operations into districts, and appoint two of their own members for each district, to solicit subscriptions and donations from the inhabitants; as also, to ascertain the wants of the people regarding the Word of God.

8. That the whole of the subscriptions and donations received by this Society shall be applied, after deducting incidental expences, to the purchase of Bibles and Testaments from the York Society, to supply this neighborhood; (which copies of the Scriptures the Committee are to sell to all at cost price; to members at the reduced price (one fourth less), and to give gratis to those who they know cannot purchase); and that the overplus be remitted half yearly to the York Society, for the purpose of translating the Word of God into the Indian languages, and supplying other nations, through the Parent Institution, with the pure Word of God.

9. That a general meeting of the subscribers be held on the —— day of —— in each year, at ——, when the accounts shall be presented, the proceedings of the past year stated, a new committee appointed, and a Report agreed upon—the Report to be published under the direction of the Committee if required.

10. That in the formation of a new Committee, the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretaries, and such three-fourths of the other Members of Committee as have most frequently attended, shall be eligible for re-election for the ensuing year.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FOR THE YORK BIBLE SOCIETY,
FOR 1833.**

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Armstrong, Mrs.....	0	5	0				
Armstrong, John.....	0	5	0				
Armstrong, John.....	0	5	0				
Armstrong, Alexander.....	0	5	0				
Armstrong, Thomas.....	0	5	0				
Armstrong, James R.....	1	0	0				
Anderson, Thomas.....	0	5	0				
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Atkinson, William.....	0	5	0				
Arthurs, William.....	0	5	0				
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B.							
Bell, William.....	0	5	0				
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Blake, John.....	0	5	0				
Barry, Mrs.....				0	1	3	
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	£	11	5	0	17	17	6

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H.		
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	£ 35 17 6	22 7 0

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M.		
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S.		
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	£ 64 7 6	31 0 9

Names of Subscribers and Donors.	Subscriptions.	Donations.
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	£ 72 2 6	32 0 0

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£	8	0	0

We are sorry the expectations of the committee expressed at the general meeting is not fully realized, as they have not the expected accounts from the branch societies. A few however have wrote, and though they cannot give their reports at full length—a few extracts may be acceptable.

The Newmarket society remark as follows :

“ While they (i. e. the Committee) have not that gratifying and pleasant account to give of the success of the exertions, and the benign and excellent effects produced by their labours, yet they are much relieved from this unpleasant reflection by having it in their power to state one pleasing and gratifying feature of the affairs of your society, viz: that your society has continued steadily to advance from its commencement to the present time, both in point of numbers, and amount of funds—as well as in the number of copies of the scriptures issued from its depository.

“ Your Committee are well aware that if the exertions and effects produced by your society are compared with some other societies, whose means are greater, and whose operations are more extensive; it may have a tendency to make our exertions appear diminutive, but they hope such comparison will stir you up to greater ambition and activity—and they beg that you will ever remember that the great author of all good, in whose cause we are engaged, and whose word we desire to disseminate, has declared that he will by no means despise the day of small things—may your society gradually increase, till it shall occupy an honourable and prominent situation among its associate societies in the Province.

We would cheerfully give this report entire, were it consistent with prudence, but we must desist for the present.

We have accounts from Woodhouse, St. Thomas, Oxford, Pickering, Whitby, and some other places, giving an account of their office bearers, and progress, some of these are very encouraging—and shew the great utility of encouraging our friends to come forward to help this good cause. Our friend, the Rev. G. Harris, Secretary, to the Oxford society observes, “we have strong hopes that when the scriptures are circulated among the inhabitants; they will see more clearly the utility of the Bible cause, and have a more benevolent spirit to honor God with their substance for sending the word of God to their fellow men.”

It was intended to give the names of all the office bearers of the branch societies, but as we have not got above one half of their reports, we must defer it till next year.

To the Christian Public.

Dear Friends,

The Committee of the York Bible Society, instead of ordering the speeches delivered at the annual meeting, to be published, as usual, have thought it most beneficial to draw up a short address to the friends of the institution to be printed in the appendix to the report. They must, in apologizing for not printing the speeches assign as their chief reasons—

First—As they had no qualified reporter, they had no means to get the speeches, except from the speakers themselves—

Secondly—In applying to Speakers in times past, some told them they had no written speech, and others objected to what they said being printed—thus they found that it was only a part of the whole speeches they could give—and only a part of such speeches as they did give. We hope our friends will see these to be sufficient reasons for omitting the speeches for this year.

In our address to you upon this painful but pleasing subject permit us to remind you of the following things. It is painful to be under the necessity of urging christians to their duty—particularly the duty of circulating the word of God—But pleasing to know that the object is the best that human ingenuity could point out—yea, the object for which Jehovah has sent his spirit into the world—His work is to testify of Jesus—His testimony is the spirit (sum and substance) of prophecy, and has been the chief blessing given to the people of God from the beginning.

1st. We notice the necessity of more extended exertions. Notwithstanding that much has been done, for which we ought to be thankful, much still remains to be done. Out of one thousand millions of souls, not one third of them have the scriptures. Now brethren, we know that the scriptures are the means to make men wise unto salvation—in other words, the only means of teaching the way of salvation,—(and what other means can be devised) and if we have found them to be so from our own experience, as every christian must experience, how can we clear our own consciences from guilt if we do not exert ourselves to give the Bible to the whole world—or how can we profess that we love our neighbour as ourselves, if we do not communicate our chief mercy to our dying, perishing fellow creatures. We beg your attention to this subject, brethren—and wish you to ask yourselves, whether in neglecting this we are doing to others as we would wish others to do to us, were circumstances exchanged.

2d. Permit us to notice, that Jehovah's way from the beginning has been to make his created and intelligent beings help one another

—and particularly to make his people the instruments of shewing forth his character to those who know it not. Thus it was before the flood, during the patriarchal age—under the law, and under the gospel dispensation. Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Moses, the Prophets, and the Apostles were the instruments in his hand for teaching the people, and making known his character unto their fellow men. He could have easily employed angels to accomplish all his will, but this did not suit his divine wisdom. He inspired men to accomplish even natural things—and made them the agents to convey his will to the world. Yes, and the instruments of revealing his will were often, yea in general, raised from the lowest of his servants. Look at Abraham, the former idolater, Moses the cast away child, Christ the son of a poor virgin. The Apostles the fishermen of Galilee—yet by these means his kingdom has been established in the world—from whence we may fairly infer that the mechanics and farmers, the servants and labourers, of Europe and America, may become the great instruments of his power to bring about the latter day glory.

3d. The best possible way of exhibiting the character of God is the circulating of his own word. The heavens declare his glory, and the firmament shews forth his handy work, so that those who do not behold his eternal power and godhead in them, are without excuse—but the Bible alone points out all his perfections in harmony. It is in them only we see how mercy and truth meet together, how righteousness and peace embrace each other. There we have exhibited to us the holiness, justice and truth of the divine being, and manifested also in the salvation of sinners, in a way perfectly consistent with that mercy and loving kindness exhibited to the human race. The scriptures being the revelation of God respecting his son Jesus Christ, point us to his face, i. e. his character and work, for a full exhibition or manifestation of his glory, i. e. of his perfections. This being the case and every other means, even all the works of nature failing to give the same clear exhibition of his character, how necessary is it that the word of God should be given to all the human race—to object that they do not understand the Bible, though true in itself, is to overlook the promise of God—for he has promised his spirit to them that ask him and his word is the sword of the spirit. The want of understanding the scriptures, as every christian knows, does not arise from any darkness in the word, but from the darkness of man's mind, and the spirit is promised to lead men into all the truth—to give them an understanding of him that is true. Let us then brethren circulate the pure word of God, and pray to him to pour forth his spirit to lead men into all the truth. Let us do our duty, and God will never fail in performing his part—he will bless it, for his word shall not return to him void, but shall accomplish his pleasure.

4th. The arduousness of the task must not frighten us. The work is Jehovah's, and he will support us in the execution thereof. He supported a Moses, a Gideon, a Barak, a David, and a Paul in the midst of the greatest threats, and while surrounded with the bitterest enemies. The greatest mountain cannot withstand our Zorobabel. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain made low, and Jehovah will make a high way for his precious word! If any one had prophesied 35 years ago that a society should be formed by a few persons in London, which in 28 years should expend £1,878,382 sterling in circulating the scriptures—circulated 7,608,615 copies of the word of God, and assist to translate the scriptures in 153 languages—and that in that time should have auxiliaries, branches, and associations, to the amount of 2500 odds; besides nearly 700 other societies connected therewith, such a person would have been laughed at as a false prophet. If the work goes on for other 28 years, in the same ratio, for which there is ample room, what must the end be, but the bringing about the latter day glory. Could not 500 branches be formed in the Canadas—yes verily, and if there were only 50 members in each at one dollar a year each, that would amount to 25,000 dollars a year or 700,000 dollars in 28 years—this would circulate 700,000 Bibles. The thing is perfectly practicable.

It is said we have 30,000 Indians destitute of any part of the word of life. We can now get the whole new Testament at 70 cents in their language, so that 21,000 dollars would give each a copy—thus one years subscription at the above calculation would more than supply them all—thus a great work is soon done if every professor would act up to his duty in this case. Our calculation does not take in one out of every eight persons of the population even of Upper Canada and sure we are that one fourth of the members could easily raise the sum if conscious of their duty.

5th. Permit us to remind you, dear friends, that all we possess is from the Lord, and that he will require of all his creatures an account of their stewardship. If God has given us money or health to earn it. If he gives us food and raiment, and every thing else necessary to sustain our mortal life—to what end should we employ his mercies. Is it not the first enquiry which should be made—what is the best, the greatest work in which I should spend these gifts of God—surely the answer is plain, viz. to exhibit the glory of the *giver*. This is the work of heaven, and ought to be the work of christians on earth. How is this to be done to most advantage? the answer is plain again, viz. by circulating that account he has given of his own glory, or perfections—to wit; the Bible. This is the first and the most important work, because it is God's command—because it is the speediest and clearest way of exhibiting God, & because it serves the most noble pur-

pose of saving sinners. Let us beware of hiding our Lord's money in the earth.

Lastly—We observe that Jehovah is not a hard master—he will reward all according to their works—and if a cup of cold water given to his disciples, as such, shall be rewarded, how great and precious must the reward of those be who exert themselves to impart the water of life—of eternal life—to their fellow sinners! We hope these hints dear friends, will be taken in good part, so as to stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance.

We shall be happy to hear of the prosperity of those societies already formed—and to hear of the formation of numerous new societies.

In due time we shall reap if we faint not.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

Page 19, line 21 from top, for £10 donation, *read 10s.*

Page 19, line 23 from top, for £5 donation, *read 5s.*