

FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE

OF THE

Kingston Auxiliary, to the British and Foreign
Bible Society, submitted to the General
Meeting, held in St. George's Church,

ON

WEDNESDAY THE NINTH OF JANUARY, 1822.

T. Markland, Esq. in the Chair.

*"The words of Man inherit, as is just,
Their Author's frailty, and return to dust—
But Truth Divine, for ever stands secure!"*

COWPER.

KINGSTON, U. C.

Printed at the Chronicle Office.

1822.

Maj. Gen. Sir PEREGRINE MAITLAND, K. C. B. *Patron.*

Committee of Management.

THOMAS MARKLAND, Esq. *President.*

B. WHITNEY, Esq. } *Vice Presidents.*

N. McLEOD, Esq. }

Mr. J. KIRBY, *Treasurer.*

" A. PRINGLE, *Depositary.*

" J. LAMPREY, } *Secretaries.*

" S. SHAW, }

REPORT, &c.

ALTHOUGH your Society was formed nearly two years since, it was deemed expedient by your Committee to defer the first Anniversary meeting until the present period, as considerable time necessarily elapsed before its operations could be said to have commenced; the Books ordered soon after the establishment of your Auxiliary did not arrive until the Autumn of the year 1820, so that when your first Annual Report became due, little more had been accomplished than to ascertain how many individuals were unprovided with the Holy Scriptures; but far different is the present duty of the Committee—they have now the satisfaction to lay before you a statement, that many individuals have been supplied, through your benevolent assistance, with Bibles and Testaments, who if inclined to obtain them, knew not where to apply previously to the existence of this Institution.

Your Committee experience considerable pleasure in being able to announce the gradual progress of the Society, and although there may be some inclined to consider its advancement as slow, the circumstance of its prevailing to any extent affords a reasonable ground of satisfaction, and it may be hoped that when the object and use of the British and Foreign Bible Society, with its numerous Auxiliaries, are better understood in this country, they will be more highly appreciated—receive additional support, and consequently extend their benign influence to the remotest parts of this extensive Province.

In the operations of your Committee, they desire to know no difference of nations or religion—no distinction of party—no division of interest, that can restrain them from owning one as their neighbor, whom it may be in their power to serve.

Your Society is founded on these two simple positions.—That the Bible is an invaluable gift to mankind—and that we are to do good to all men as we have opportunity. Can we then, as Christians, possess this treasure and not feel earnestly desirous of imparting it to others? We are not the mere Agents of a Bible warehouse—we have a nobler object—even the very best interests of our fellow creatures. If then we act conscientiously, our zeal is not likely to cool, nor our energies to be palsied; while we are employed in forming channels to convey the water of life to distant parts of the country, we shall drink copiously ourselves at the Fountain head. The daily use of the Bible in the closet and in the family will give it a growing importance in our eyes, will endear it to us beyond expression, while the increase of personal and family religion, cannot but produce a beneficial reaction in promoting the interests of the Society.

Your Committee humbly trust that the desire which seems already manifested for diffusing the knowledge of eternal truth may not be blighted in its early risings, but cheered and invigorated by the rays of the Sun of Righteousness.

By your Depository's statement annexed, it is shewn, that 506 Bibles and 760 Testaments in various languages, have been received from the Parent Society in London; that 35 Bibles and 71 Testaments have since been sold either at the full cost, or at reduced prices, according to the means of the receiver: that 187 Bibles and 163 Testaments have been granted gratuitously, or are not yet accounted for, through the benevolent means afforded by contributors to the funds of the Auxiliary; which makes the total issues since the establishment of your Society, 222 Bibles and 234 Testaments; and 234 Bibles and 526 Testaments are still remaining in the Depository.

It has been found indispensably necessary by your Committee in order to give full scope to their exertions, to grant supplies of Books in some instances to individuals residing at a distance who have been kind enough to undertake the disposal of them according to the acknowledged rules of the Institution, viz. to dispose of them at cost or reduced prices whenever practicable, in preference to gratuitous distribution, yet when it is ascertained that applicants are really unable to purchase, the latter mode is instantly adopted. In this manner 100 Bibles and 110 Testaments were furnished to the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie, of Williamstown; and 20 Bibles and 40 Testaments to the Rev. Mr. MacLaurin, of Lochiel, for which no account has yet been rendered, but it may be expected to reach your Committee daily.

Bibles have been granted by your Society for the use of the passengers and crews of the following steam vessels running on Lake Ontario—the Frontenac, Charlotte, and Sophia, which were thankfully received by their respective commanders, after their assuring a member of your Committee that they should be placed in the most appropriate parts of the Cabins. Many individuals composing the Naval and Military Establishments in this Province as well as several Sunday Schools have also shared the advantages of your institution.

By the Treasurer's statement it appears it will be found that a balance of about £50 Currency has been in his possession since August last, when a meeting of the Committee was called, for the purpose of considering the propriety of remitting it to the Parent Institution, but in consequence of the unfavorable rate of the Exchange, and its small amount at that period, it was decided to defer making the remittance until the Spring, when probably the Exchange might prove more favorable and the sum to be remitted considerably increased by the collection and addition of another year's contributions, which became due on Christmas day last.

Your Auxiliary is indebted to the Parent Institution the sum of £273 13 7 Sterling, for the very liberal supply of books sent out in the latter part of the year 1850, and it will naturally occur to any one that the balance in the Treasurer's hands will liquidate but a small portion of the debt incurred. It becomes therefore the indispensable duty of your Committee to invite the public to afford the needful aid. The dissemination of God's Word is a work in which all may share a part, either by their personal influence or by their contributions, or by both—none have room to excuse themselves, the rich and the

poor, the prince and the peasant may unite in it, and surely this is an admirable feature of the Institution. Remember that the widow's mite was sanctified by our blessed Redeemer's approval, and he has encouraged us to hope that even a cup of cold water, when given for his sake to a poor Disciple, shall not lose its reward, and he will assuredly bless that influence which shall be directed in families or neighbourhoods to the promotion of His Glory !

The success which has already attended the Society's operations, and the prospect of future usefulness which is opening around, supply strong arguments for perseverance, such as it is hoped will influence friends to the Bible Society to continue their support, and prevail upon those who have hitherto viewed it afar off with doubt or distrust, to lend a helping hand in dispensing Divine Revelation.

After the above developement of your Society's affairs, and from the success which has already attended its operations, it may fairly be anticipated that its efforts are not vain, and although it is beyond the power of any one to trace the books which have been distributed by this Institution, or to ascertain their effects, yet it is hoped that the Author of all good may deign to pour down a blessing on your exertions, and render your efforts abundantly useful.

Your Committee have the satisfaction to acknowledge the generous offer of a gratuitous grant of the French Bibles, with copies of the Gospel of St. John in the Mohawk, and the Epistles of St. John in the Delaware languages, from the General American Bible Society of New York, which however were not accepted in consequence of a previous supply of Books having been received from the Parent Institution.

It is the sincere wish of the Committee, in order to render their usefulness more extensive and effectual, to form Branch Societies to your Auxiliary in the different Townships and Settlements around and they humbly trust there will not be wanting individuals ready to co-operate in this desirable method of supplying the most dispersed settlers with copies of Holy Writ ; and they will feel grateful to any individuals in this Province who may undertake the establishment of Branch Societies, and will be happy to furnish them with terms on which Books may be furnished, together with such Rules as it may be found necessary to observe with respect to the formation of Branch Associations.

The admission of females into a participation of the labours of your Society, may be productive of the most beneficial results, indeed the great support which our Parent Stock has received from the unwearied exertions of Ladies, proves the propriety of humbly and respectfully claiming their assistance, both in disseminating the Scriptures amongst their own sex, and in aiding its funds.

When your Committee consider the readiness with which the public came forward to aid the bodily wants of the poor and distressed, they feel assured that they may with confidence rely upon the generosity and christian benevolence of the inhabitants of Kingston, to supply their spiritual wants also.

In concluding this Report, your Committee avail themselves of the opportunity of expressing their grateful thanks to that Being who has so far prospered their undertaking, to whom they would ascribe all the glory, and on whom they would faithfully rely for future guidance and strength.

| Dr. <i>The Treasurer in account with the Kingston Auxiliary to the British and Foreign Bible Society.</i> | | | | Cr. | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| 1821. | | | | 1821. | | | |
| Jan. 1, To amount of Annual Subscriptions and Donations received for the year 1820, } Dec. 31, To do for the year 1821, - - - - — To Cash received for Books sold, - | | | | Jan. 1, By Cash paid for freight and Carriage of Books from Quebec, including Custom House charges, &c. } Dec. 31, By cash paid for rent of room, as a Depository, and for meetings of Committee, for the past year, } — By cash paid for printing advertisements in the Chronicle and Herald, Book case, postage & Stationary, } — By balance in the Treasurer's hands, - - - - | | | |
| £ s. d. | | | | £ s. d. | | | |
| 68 2 3 | | | | 7 10 9 | | | |
| 1 13 9 | | | | 5 0 0 | | | |
| 16 3 11 | | | | 9 11 10 | | | |
| — | | | | 58 17 4 | | | |
| £ 80 19 11 | | | | £ 80 19 11 | | | |
| E. E. | | | | JOHN KIRBY, Treasurer. | | | |

*Kington Auxiliary Debtor to the British & Foreign Bible Society
on the 1st Jan. 1822.*

| 1820. For Books received | | Sterling. | |
|--|--|---------------------|----------|
| May 8. | From J. Lamprey, as under. | Stg. | £ s. d. |
| | 14 English Bibles, | at 4s4d each | 3 0 8 |
| | 2 Gaelic — | 6s6 | 0 13 0 |
| | 8 Gaelic Testaments, | 2s6 | 1 0 0 |
| | 19 French Catholic Test. | 2s2 | 2 1 2 |
| | 53 Do. do. Paris edit. | 5s0 | 8 5 0 |
| Nov. 20. | For Books received from British and Foreign Bible Society, as under. | | |
| | 50 English Bibles, | at 11s. each | 27 10 0 |
| | 50 do. | 7s5 | 18 10 10 |
| | 50 do. | 6s2 | 15 8 4 |
| | 50 do. | 4s4 | 10 16 8 |
| | 50 do. | 4s9 | 11 17 6 |
| | 200 English Testaments, | 3s6 | 35 0 0 |
| | 200 do. | 1s4 | 13 6 8 |
| | 100 do. | 1s6 | 7 10 0 |
| | 78 Gaelic Bibles, | 6s2 | 24 1 0 |
| | 22 do. | 7s6 | 8 5 0 |
| | 6 Welsh Bibles, | 12s | 3 12 0 |
| | 14 do. | 5s | 3 10 0 |
| | 29 Welsh Testaments, | 3s6 | 3 10 0 |
| | 30 do. | 1s9 | 2 12 6 |
| | 6 German Bibles, | 15s | 4 10 0 |
| | 14 do. | 7s | 4 18 0 |
| | 50 do. Testaments, | 2s3 | 5 12 6 |
| | 100 French Bibles | 6s8 | 33 6 8 |
| | 100 French Testaments | 2s | 10 0 0 |
| Shipping expences, freight, insurance, &c. as per invoice, | | | 14 16 1 |
| | | Sterling, £273 13 7 | |

On a motion made by the Rev. John Barclay, it was unanimously resolved.—That the Report now ready by the Secretary be received and adopted, and that it be printed under the sanction of the Committee for the present year.

On a motion made by Mr. Robert Stanton, unanimously resolved, —That the sincere thanks of this meeting be given to the Parent Institution for the very liberal and appropriate grant of Books forwarded to the Auxiliary at its formation.

On a motion made by the Rev. Arch Deacon Stuart, unanimously resolved.—That the cordial thanks of this meeting be respectfully presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Major General Sir Peregrine Maitland, K. C. B. for his acceptance of the office of Patron, and for the countenance and support he has bestowed upon this Society.

On a motion made by Mr. — Hooper, unanimously resolved,—That the thanks of this meeting be given to Thomas Markland, Esq. President of this Society, for his support and attention to the Society's affairs.

On a motion made by Lieut. Henvey, R. N. unanimously resolved,—That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Vice Presidents and Committee for their exertions in behalf of this Institution, and that the following gentlemen form the Committee for the year 1822.

The Rev. Arch Deacon STUART,
 “ “ JOHN WILSON,
 “ “ JOHN BARCLAY,
 Mr. F. RAYNES,
 “ T. CARTWRIGHT,
 “ R. STANTON,
 “ R. RICHARDSON,
 “ S. BARTLET,
 “ H. C. THOMSON,
 “ J. DENN.

On a motion made by the Rev. J. Wilson, unanimously resolved,
 —That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Chairman for his able conduct in the Chair.

