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THE
CHRISTIAN'S MAGAZINE;
ON A NEW PLAN.

No. 1.]

JANUARY, 1811.

[Vol. IV.]

FOR THE CHRISTIAN'S MAGAZINE.

A New Year's Meditation.

ALL men are travellers upon earth, whose days are as a shadow. View them in every situation and condition, and you will find this to be an irrefutable truth. Here verily we have no abiding place. Through this world we merely pass, as the way to another. If we become strongly attached to life, as if it would always continue; if we strike our roots deep in the earth, flattering ourselves that we will successfully resist the attacks of time, we prepare for ourselves bitter sorrow, and agonizing regret.

Sin hath produced this melancholy state of things. By it, we are put under the ban of God's empire, and wander up and down among the tombs in this dying world; not knowing how soon his arm will reach us, and bring us before him, to account for our deeds. We are driven from the presence of God, into the world cursed for our sakes, and must toil among thorns and thistles for our support and convenience. Every thing around us is subject to change, and transient in its nature. Lover and friend are removed from us, and our acquaintance drop into darkness. Generations have already gone to the land of forgetfulness, and generations are going. All that we see, all that we experience, all that we anticipate, prove that here we have no home, but are travellers on the earth, whose journey is abridged

DOMESTIC.

The Annual Report of the New-York Bible Society.

THE Managers of the *New-York Bible Society*, in obedience to an article of the Constitution under which they act, beg leave to lay before the Society an account of their transactions during the past year.

In performing this duty, for the first time, the Board have the satisfaction of presenting to the Society sufficient evidence of the utility of the Institution, and abundant encouragement to perseverance in the promotion of its important object—the distribution of Bibles among those who are destitute of that invaluable treasure. The funds placed at the disposal of the Managers, although ample evidence of the liberality of the friends of the Institution, and adequate to many useful purposes, do not warrant an expectation that the business of the Society has been conducted on a very extensive scale. All, however, that could be done, the Managers have endeavoured to perform.

This Association has no pretensions to a comparison with the British and Foreign Bible Society. That unrivalled Institution contemplates the universal diffusion of the Holy Scriptures, until *there shall be no speech nor language where their voice is not heard ; until their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world :* and it has already remarkably succeeded in its advances toward that splendid object. The New-York Bible Society, content for the present to co-operate with similar Institutions in this and in other countries, as an auxiliary to the PARENT ASSOCIATION which set the example, and so liberally extended to others its patronage, directs its exertions more immediately to the supply of those wants which occur within the bounds of this State. These wants, however, are numerous. The Managers have discovered, by the inquiries which they have instituted, that great numbers in the City, and in the frontier settlements, are destitute of Bibles. In some instances, this arises from choice, but generally it is to be attributed to poverty, or carelessness, or to both combined. These wants, as will hereafter appear more in detail, have been in part relieved by the distribution of nearly two thousand copies of the sacred volume.

The Managers have not, however, confined the bounty of the Society within the limits of the State of New-York. They have cast it upon the ocean, by donations of Bibles to mariners. They have extended it to the western limits of this Continent, by sending Bibles to a settlement forming at the mouth of Columbia river—and to the East-Indies, by a donation of a thousand dollars, to aid in the translation of the Bible into the several languages of Asia.

The Board will now proceed to lay before the Society a more particular account of their transactions, under the following heads:—Procuring Bibles.—Distributing Bibles.—Correspondence.—State of the Funds.

Procuring Bibles.

Particular inquiries were made for the purpose of ascertaining, whether it would be eligible for the Society to purchase types ; and considering the delay, expense, and uncertainty incident to any proceedings

for importing stereotype from Europe, the idea was entirely relinquished. Means were also employed to ascertain where the best and cheapest Bibles could be procured at home; and those printed by Messrs. Hudson, Goodwin, & Co. Hartford, were, on the whole, preferred. From them have been procured two thousand copies, and two thousand more have been ordered. All Bibles procured for the use of the Society, are stamped on the cover and upper edge of the leaves with the name of the New-York Bible Society, and deposited in the Book-store of Messrs. Williams & Whiting, who have generously offered, without any compensation, to take the trouble of delivering them as the Managers shall direct.

Distributing Bibles, within the City.

Each Manager is furnished with a certain number of printed orders, to be delivered to those who shall apply for a Bible or Bibles, and satisfy the Manager, to whom the application is made, that the applicant is a proper object of the Society's bounty. Every applicant receiving such order, signed by one of the Managers, may receive one or more Bibles, as the order may specify, at the place of deposit. Agreeably to this arrangement, there have been distributed about 760 Bibles.

A Committee appointed to ascertain what Bibles are wanted by the poor in the Alms-house, Hospital, and Prisons, and under the care of the Widows' Society, and Orphan Asylum, and to supply these wants, have distributed among them - - - - - 96 do.

There have been distributed among the Africans, independently of orders given by individual directors, 40 Bibles, by order, to Messrs. Rice & Thompson; and 36, by order, to Mr. Brewster, - - - - - 76 do.

Making in all, distributed in the City, since the erection of the Bible Society, - - - - - 932 Bibles.

In the Country.

A Standing Committee has also been appointed to ascertain what Bibles may be wanted throughout the country, and authorized to supply these wants. The Committee having opened a correspondence with several persons in different places, who take an interest in promoting the object of this Institution, have accordingly distributed 1009 Bibles, in manner following:

To Rev. Mr. Osgood, Missionary at Buffaloe, &c.	- - -	250
Rev. Mr. Chapman,	- - -	100
Rev. Messrs. Forrest and M'Aulay, Delaware,	- - -	50
Mr. John Caldwell, to be sent W. Newburgh,	- - -	25
Mr. Prince, Plattsburgh,	- - -	24
Mr. Thurston, W. Catskill,	- - -	25
Col. Tuttle, Montgomery County,	- - -	20
Elder Labatt, Rensel. and Montg. Co.	- - -	37
Sent to a settlement on Columbia River,	- - -	25
Ship America,	- - -	6
Mr. Cumberland, 60 miles W. Catskill,	- - -	6

To Rev. Mr. Hunting, Long-Island, - - - - -	24
Rev. Mr. Green, do. - - - - -	24
Mr. Caldwell, to be sent beyond Utica, - - - - -	30
Mr. Donaldson, West of Neversink, - - - - -	20
Rev. Mr. Proudfit, Salem, - - - - -	150
Deacon Hill, Onondaga, - - - - -	25
Mr. Van Tassel, Delaware County, - - - - -	12
Rev. Mr. Mairs, 12 for the Oneida Indians, - - - - -	20
Rev. Mr. Channing, Canandagua, - - - - -	36

Correspondence.

A correspondence has been opened between this Society and the several Bible Societies of Philadelphia, Connecticut, Merrimack, Beaufort, Charleston, Baltimore, New-Jersey, and Albany, with an offer of mutual co-operation and support.

From the *Young Men's Bible Society* of this City, a communication has been received, covering one hundred dollars, with a request, that it should be transmitted to Bengal, accompanied with such donation as the Board might choose to make, to assist in translating the Bible into the Asiatic languages.

A letter has been accordingly addressed to the President and Secretary of that Society, informing them that the Managers had voted one thousand dollars to the object, which, together with the one hundred dollars received from them, should be transmitted to the Rev. Messrs, Carey & Co. with all possible speed.

A letter has also been addressed to Messrs. Carey & Co. which is to accompany the sum ordered for their use, in aid of the great work of translation in which they are engaged.

With the British and Foreign Bible Society, a correspondence has been commenced, and the Directors of that Institution, with their characteristic liberality, have granted to the New-York Bible Society, a donation of 100 pounds sterling, for which the thanks of the Managers have been returned.

Funds.

From the account of the Treasurer, which is annexed as a part of this Report*, it appears, that,	
The total amount of subscription is,	Dolls. 5219 25
Of which there is still unpaid,	375
The amount received into the Treasury,	4844 25
Of which there have been expended,	1336 28 1-2
Leaving in the Treasury a balance of,	3507 96 1-2
Of this sum there are appropriations, for Messrs. Carey	<hr/>
& Co. Bengal,	1000
For 2000 additional Bibles, ordered,	1300 <hr style="width: 50px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"/> 2300
Which will reduce the funds to,	<hr style="width: 50px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"/> 1207 96 1-2
To this sum are to be added, for the ensuing year, the annual	
subscription from 230 members, at 3 dolls.	690
The donation of 100 <i>l.</i> from the B. & F. B. S.	440
Subscriptions not yet collected,	375 <hr style="width: 50px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"/> 1505
	<hr style="width: 50px; display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"/> 2712 96 1-2

* This Report is omitted, as the substance appears above.

On a review of the foregoing statement, the Managers cannot help congratulating the Society, on what, they think, may justly be styled an auspicious commencement of their labours. They cherish the hope, that what has already been done will be considered both as an encouragement and a pledge of greater exertions in future; and that the Christians of this wealthy metropolis, will proceed, with growing zeal, in the path on which they have entered, until there shall not be a family or an individual within their reach, destitute of a copy of the *Word of Life*.

Signed by order of the Managers,
 SAMUEL MILLER,
 ALEXANDER M'LEOD, } Secretaries.

New-York, Nov. 26th, 1810.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

- REV. DR. J. M. MASON, President.
- Dr. S. MILLER,
- Mr. W. PARKINSON, } Vice-Presidents.
- Dr. P. MILLEDOLER, }
- HENRY RUTGERS, Esq.
- Rev. Dr. J. B. ROMEYN, Sec'ry.
- Rev. Mr. J. BRODHEAD, Clerk.
- T. HAMILTON, Register.
- Mr. D. L. DODGE, Treasurer.

OTHER MANAGERS.

Rev. Dr. A. M'Leod,	Dr. J. R. B. Rodgers,
Rev. Mr. J. Williams,	S. Osgood, Esq.
Rev. Mr. — Thatcher,	Mr. R. Gosman,
Rev. Mr. A. Maclay,	J. R. Murray,
Rev. Mr. J. Schureman,	J. P. Mumford,
Rev. Mr. G. Spring,	Z. Lewis,
Mr. L. Bleeker,	G. Sukely,
D. Bethune,	J. I. Margarum,
J. Mills,	E. Coit,
A. Gifford,	J. Stoutenberg,
	S. Whiting.



The Report of the Trustees to the Hampshire Missionary Society, at their annual meeting, holden at Northampton, August 30, A. D. 1810.

THE Members and friends of the Hampshire Missionary Society will unite on this anniversary with the Trustees, gratefully to notice the divine goodness towards this institution. The smiles of God from the beginning have attended our endeavours; they are continued. The Missionary cause prospers.

Six Missionaries were employed in the summer of 1809. One of them, Rev. David H. Williston, finished his mission of fourteen weeks, pre-