

**THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY; CONTAINING
LISTS OF AUXILIARIES AND
LIFE DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS,
CONSTITUTED SUCH DURING THE YEAR.
PRESENTED AT NEW YORK, MAY 13, 1857**

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Thirty-Second Annual Report of the American Tract Society; Containing Lists of Auxiliaries and Life Directors and Members, Constituted Such During the Year. Presented at New York, May 13, 1857 by American Tract Society

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AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY

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THIRTY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

American Tract Society.

PRESENTED AT NEW YORK,

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1857
New

MAY 13, 1857.

PUBLISHED BY THE
AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

150 NASSAU-STREET, NEW YORK.

1857.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE SOCIETY.

150 NASSAU-STREET, NEW YORK.

COMMUNICATIONS pertaining to the Publishing and Foreign departments may be addressed to Rev. WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, *Corresponding Secretary*, etc.

Those pertaining to the departments of Finance, Colportage, Distribution, and Christian coöperation, to Rev. O. EASTMAN, *Corresponding Secretary*, etc.

Those covering remittances of Funds and ordering Publications, to Mr. O. R. KINGSBURY, *Assistant Secretary*, (or *Assistant Treasurer*,) etc. Drafts for dues will also be issued in the name of Mr. Kingsbury, and drafts containing remittances should be drawn in his favor.

Articles for insertion in the American Messenger and Child's Paper may be addressed to Rev. WILLIAM A. HALLOCK, Editor.

All communications may be addressed to either of the above, or to *The Secretaries of the American Tract Society*, No. 150 Nassau-street, New York.

THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY.

THE Society are collecting a Library, to which additions of books of reference, and all valuable ancient or modern works, will be gratefully received.

FORM OF A BEQUEST.

I GIVE and bequeath to "THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY," instituted in the city of New York, the sum of —— Dollars, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

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AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

150 NASSAU-STREET, NEW YORK.

OFFICERS, ELECTED MAY 13, 1857.

PRESIDENT.

Hon. THOMAS S. WILLIAMS, LL. D., late Chief-Justice of Connecticut.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Elected.	Elected.
Et. Rev. Charles F. Mallvins, D. D., Cincinnati, Ohio	1839
Et. Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, D. D., Louisville, Ky.	" "
William B. Crosby, Esq., New York	1839
Rt. Rev. William Meade, D. D., Millwood, Virginia	1841
John Tappan, Esq., Boston, Mass.	" "
Rev. Francis Wayland, D. D., Providence, R. I.	1842
Rev. Wm. B. Johnson, D. D., Edgefield, S. C.	" "
Rev. Lyman Beecher, D. D., Boston, Mass.	1844
Hon. Nathan Green, Lebanon, Tenn.	" "
Rev. Thomas MoAnley, D. D., New York	1845
Hon. Joseph C. Hornblower, LL. D., Newark, N. J.	1847
Hon. John McLean, LL. D., Cincinnati, O.	" "
E. F. Backus, Esq., Philadelphia	1849
Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., New York	1849
Hon. Reuben H. Walworth, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.	" "
Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., New York	1850
Rev. Thomas DeWitt, D. D., New York	1851
Rev. Samuel B. Wilson, D. D., Prince Edward, Va.	" "
Aristarchus Champion, Esq., Rochester, N. Y.	" "
Rev. Charles Hodge, D. D., Princeton, N. J.	1852
Rev. John T. Presley, D. D., Alleghany City, Pa.	" "
Rev. John S. Stone, D. D., Brookline, Mass.	1853
Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, D. D., New York	" "
Rev. John Ludlow, D. D., New Brunswick, N. J.	" "
Rt. Rev. Manton Eastburn, D. D., Boston, Mass.	" "
Rev. Samuel Reicks, Litz, Lanaca, Co., Pa.	" "
Hon. Herman Lincoln, Boston, Mass.	1854
Hon. Edward McOhee, Woodville, Miss.	" "
Rev. Mark Hopkins, D. D., Williamstown, Mass.	1855
Rev. S. S. Schmucker, D. D., Gettysburg, Pa.	" "
Rev. George Brown, D. D., Uniontown, Pa.	" "
Hon. Robert L. Caruthers, Lebanon, Tenn.	1856

SECRETARIES.

Rev. Wm. A. Hallock .. 1835	Corresponding Secretaries.	Rev. Charles G. Sommers, Recording Sec'y 1835
Rev. O. Eastman		O. R. Kingsbury, <i>Asst. Sec. and Treas.</i> 1834
Rev. J. M. Stevenson .. 1857		Sam. E. Warner, <i>Asst. Sec. for Colportage</i> 1857

No. 150 Nassau-street, New York.

Moses Allen, Treasurer	Auditors.
1835	Jacob Breunwer
	1842
	James Donaldson, Esq.
	1853

DIRECTORS.

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Rev. James M. Mathews, D. D., New York ..	" "	Rev. James G. Hamner, D. D., Baltimore ..	" "
Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., Providence, R. I.	" "	Hon. Jacob Collamer, Woodstock, Vermont ..	1849
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Rev. Howard Malcom, D. D., Lewisburg, Pa.	" "	Rev. Moses Quimby, Smithfield, R. I.	" "
Francis Hall, Esq., New York	" "	Rev. H. W. D. Johns, D. D., Baltimore, Md.	1851
Rev. Benjamin Tappan, D. D., Augusta, Me.	1826	Rev. N. L. Rice, D. D., St. Louis, Mo.	" "
Rev. Duncan Green, New York	1832	Rev. David S. Doggett, D. D., Richmond, Va.	" "
Rev. F. R. Conitt, D. D., Lebanon, Tenn.	" "	Rev. Elias Heimer, D. D., Baltimore, Md.	" "
Rev. W. S. Plumer, D. D., Allegheny City, Pa.	1836	Rev. Osgood C. Wheeler, Sacramento City, Cal.	" "
William W. Chester, Esq., New York	1839	Dr. Oliver Bronson, Hudson, N. Y.	" "
Rev. Baron Stow, D. D., Boston, Mass.	1842	Rev. Henry N. Pohnman, D. D., Albany, N. Y.	1853
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Rev. John T. Brooks, D. D., Gambler, O.	1845	Rev. Charles A. Smith, D. D., Philadelphia ..	1855
Rev. Leonard Bacon, D. D., New Haven, Conn.	" "	E. L. Kerrison, Esq., Charleston, S. C.	" "
Rev. W. A. Scott, D. D., San Francisco	1847	Rev. John C. Young, D. D., Danville, Ky.	1826
William M. Halsted, Esq., New York	" "	Rev. Marcus S. Hutton, D. D., New York ..	" "
Hon. Jeremiah Sullivan, Madison, Ind.	" "	Rev. Edward Lathrop, D. D., New York	" "

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.	FINANCE COMMITTEE.		
Rev. John Knox, D. D.	1825	Rev. William Adams, D. D.	1851
Rev. David Magie, D. D., Elizabeth, N. J.	1848	Rev. Benjamin C. Cutler, D. D.	1852
Rev. William R. Williams, D. D.	" "	Rev. Nehemiah Adams, D. D., Boston, Mass.	1854

DISTRIBUTING COMMITTEE.	FINANCE COMMITTEE.		
William Forrest	1831	Richard T. Haines	1826
William Winsterton	1833	Moses Allen	" "
Alfred M. Trevellick	1857	Thomas C. Dorrens	1827
Oliver H. Lee	1855	Richard S. Fallwee	1847
Alfred S. Barnes	1857	George N. Titus, Esq.	1848
		Oliver E. Wood	1849

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THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

OF

The American Tract Society.

THE Society met at the Reformed Dutch church, Washington-square, New York, on Wednesday, May 13, 1857, at 9 o'clock, A. M., the President, Chief-Justice Williams of Connecticut, in the chair, supported by the Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, former President, and Rev. Drs. Gardiner Spring, Thomas De Witt, and John S. Stone and William B. Crosby, Esq., Vice-Presidents. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Spring; and the Rev. Dr. Knox, chairman of the Executive Committee, read a statement of the Society's history during the year, as given below.

The Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, chairman of the Special Committee of fifteen appointed by the Society at the last anniversary, then gave a brief history of the proceedings of that Committee, who assembled with a deep sense of responsibility, and were driven to the throne of grace for guidance, but who were brought to harmony of views, as would appear from the Report which he requested Judge Jessup, the secretary of that Committee, to present. That Report was then read by Judge Jessup, and printed copies presented to the audience, when, on motion of Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Thompson, seconded by Horace Holden, Esq., it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Report of the Special Committee be accepted and adopted by the Society.

It was further unanimously

Resolved, That the resolutions contained in the Report be adopted by the Society.

See the Report and Resolutions, page 225. The sixth resolution changes the last article of the Society's Constitution to read as follows :

"ARTICLE XI. This Constitution shall not be altered except at an annual meeting, and by a vote of two-thirds of the members present; notice of the proposed alteration having been given at the previous annual meeting."

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On motion of the Rev. Dr. De Witt, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the officers of the Society for the ensuing year be the same as the last year, except that Rev. Dr. John M. Stevenson of New Albany, Indiana, be elected one of the Corresponding Secretaries, in place of Rev. R. S. Cook, resigned; and that Mr. Samuel E. Warner be elected Assistant Secretary for Colportage.

At the suggestion of Rev. Dr. Knox, that the Society should unite in thanksgiving to God for the harmony which had prevailed, Rev. Dr. Thompson, at the call of the President, led the meeting in prayer; and after a short recess for a meeting of the Board of Directors to elect the Executive Committee, the Society proceeded to the usual public exercises of the anniversary.

The Treasurer's report, presented by Moses Allen, Esq., was approved; and an abstract of the Annual Report was read by Rev. Messrs. Hallock and Eastman, Secretaries, when the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted.

On motion of Rev. H. D. Ganse, of the Reformed Dutch church, New York; seconded by Hon. William Jessup of Montrose, Pa.

Resolved, That the Annual Report, an abstract of which has now been read, be adopted, and published under the direction of the Executive Committee; and that this meeting gratefully recognize the smiles of divine Providence in the extension and prosperity of the Society's labors during the year.

On motion of Rev. Hugh S. Carpenter, of the Presbyterian church, Brooklyn, N. Y.; seconded by Rev. John S. Stone, D. D., of the Protestant Episcopal church, Brookline, Mass.

Resolved, That thanks be rendered to God for the harmony which for thirty-two years has prevailed in the councils of the Committee and among the numerous laborers for the Society, in seeking the conversion of men through faith in Christ and the renewing of the Holy Spirit, as the divinely appointed means of rescuing sinners from the ruins of the fall, and conferring upon them the richest blessings for time and eternity.

On motion of Mr. Jonathan Cross, General Agent and Superintendent of Colportage in Virginia and North Carolina; seconded by Mr. John Potter, colporteur in Western Pennsylvania,

Resolved, That this meeting rejoice in the steadfast endeavor to penetrate the desolations of our beloved country, which has characterized the operations of this Society, especially in the work of Colportage; and that God has richly blessed these endeavors in innumerable ways, and to men in all conditions of life.

On motion of Dr. Divie Bethune McCartee, missionary of the General Assembly's Board at Ningpo, China; seconded by Rev. N. Aldrich, of the Evangelical Lutheran church, the Society's General Agent in South Carolina,

Resolved, That this meeting rejoice in the cordial coöperation of missionaries connected with our several respected Boards and denominations, in publishing the

gospel by the press and the living voice in heathen lands; and in like coöperation of evangelical Societies and individuals in papal and nominally Christian countries.

The Society then united in singing the 117th Psalm, and the services were closed by the Benediction, pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Knox.

STATEMENT OF REV. DR. KNOX.

Mr. President—The Executive Committee of the American Tract Society, in meeting their constituents on this the Thirty-second anniversary of the Society, are happy in being able to report, that by the blessing of God, the prosperity of the last year has been fully equal to that of any year which has preceded it.

Internal peace and harmony have attended all their doings; the contributions to the support of the institution have been liberal; its operations large, widely diffused, and effective; and cheering evidence of continued confidence on the part of the Christian community has been afforded.

As the result of laborious and persevering culture, under the Divine blessing, and as the growth of many years, the organization and capabilities of the institution have reached a high degree of advancement. A very large and increasing aggregate of evangelical truth of vital and universal importance, is embraced in the publications of the Society; and very effective agencies and facilities are arranged for its widest distribution throughout the whole of our own land, and throughout the world. God has signally owned and blessed its efforts. In the southern section of our country especially, the labors bestowed have never been greater, nor the evidence of spiritual and saving results more cheering, than during the last year.

Infirmity and imperfection attach to every thing human. Your Executive Committee, however, are conscious of having prayerfully, and according to the best of their judgment and ability, endeavored to exercise their great trust with all fidelity.

They are compelled ever to remember that the object of the association is *specific*, and its sphere *restricted*. This sphere is nevertheless ample, eminently important, and is practicable. Our prescribed constitutional office is, to issue and circulate *religious truth in which evangelical Christians are agreed*; embracing, therefore, whatever is most fundamental to salvation, and most vital in the common Christianity, but excluding every topic of a purely denominational character, and besides whatever else is matter of strife and distraction among evangelical Christians. The Society, by its elements, organization, and genius, is precluded *controversy*.

Its single object is to accomplish a work not otherwise to be so well done, if done at all, and which requires inward harmony and the confidence and coöperation of Christians around of every section and every name. If either this *harmony* or this *confidence* fails, it is shorn of its strength.

At the time of the last annual meeting of the Society, the Rev. Mr. Cook, one of its laborious, energetic, and accomplished secretaries, was suffering under disease and prostration. Subsequently, with his family, he repaired to Europe, where he still is, in the hope that by change and relaxation he might recover his health. This hope has been only partially realized, and recently he tendered the resignation of his office. His resignation, under the exigencies of the case, the Committee felt themselves reluctantly constrained to accept. In his absence they have appointed, as assistant secretary for colportage, Mr. Samuel E. Warner, a young gentleman for thirteen years connected with the institution, and who was associated with Mr. Cook in this department. The other secretaries have during the