

Baptist Historical Society.

REPORT for 1915.

Presented 15 May, 1916.

The eighth year of the Society's work has witnessed its most important publication, in the works of John Smyth, the pioneer Baptist. The two volumes, printed and issued from the Cambridge University Press, have been distributed to all subscribers in class A for 1914 and 1915, and are on sale to the public at 31/6 net. Orders have already been filled to India and Australia.

Two numbers of the Transactions have been published; in one we were fortunate enough to reprint the long-lost First Serampore Memoir, telling the first steps of Carey, Marshman and Ward towards translating the Bible into many tongues.

The Society has in view many other relics. The Stuart State Papers have been indexed, and will be published from time to time in so far as they bear on Baptist life. The minutes of the Baptist Board from its foundation in 1724 are being prepared for press. The Minutes of the Midland and Lincolnshire Conferences of the New Connexion are also in hand.

Articles are in course of preparation, on the Dendy family by Sir W. J. Collins, and on Bow Church by Capt. F. W. Butt-Thompson. By arrangement with the Baptist Union Publication Department, another important work will shortly be issued to subscribers in class A, for 1916 and 1917.

The Library is occasionally augmented by gifts; thanks are due to Dr. Joshua Wills of New Jersey for his sketch of early Baptist life there; and to Mr. David Swan of Preston for a volume of pamphlets. The existence of a nearly complete file of the Baptist Magazine and of the Union's Baptist Manuals and Handbooks,

is of great use in answering the many enquiries that are referred to your officers. Gifts to complete the sets are much needed.

Your committee regret deeply the loss of their valued colleague, the Rev. J. C. Foster, whose wealth of learning in bibliographical matters has often enriched the pages of the Transactions.

G. P. GOULD, *President*,
W. T. WHITLEY, *Hon. Secretary*.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT, 1915.

To			£	s.	d.
Balance from 1914	...	...	56	8	2
Annual Subscriptions	...	...	68	14	3
Donations toward reissue of Smyth's Works...			85	0	0
			<hr/>		
			£210	2	5
			<hr/>		
By			£	s.	d.
Printing and Publishing <i>Transactions</i> , Vol. IV.,					
Parts 3 and 4	...	...	37	11	11
Research Expenses, Works of Reference, &c.			4	11	0
Printing and Advertising	1	16	6
Stationery, Stamps, &c.	1	12	7
Balance forward	164	10	5
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			£210	2	5
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J. W. THIRTLE, *Hon. Treasurer*.

Examined and found correct, there being a balance of £164 10s. 5d. in the Bank,

HAROLD KNOTT.

10th February, 1916.

The cost of printing and binding the Works of John Smyth has exceeded £220, and left the Society in debt.

W. T. WHITLEY.