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Report of the Executive Committee of the St. Charles County Bible Society, February 22, 1840

George Champlin Sibley

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The Executive Committee of the St. Charles County Bible Society, as in compliance with the 9th Art. of the Constitution, Report

That they have obtained possession of all the Books and Papers within their power, containing the Records & Accounts of the Society, and after a careful examination thereof ascertain as follows-

The St. Charles Bible Society was first formed in January 1819, and is believed to be the first in the State; by its Constitution it was an Auxilliary to the American Bible Society and So continued 'till January 1835, when the present Constitution was adopted, by which it is now Auxilliary to the Missouri State Bible Society, which is connected in the Same manner with the American Bible Society- During the first Eight years of its existence, The Society appears to have operated with considerable zeal and Spirit; its meetings were regular & frequent- In 1821 it encouraged the formation of Branch Societies in Franklin- Callaway & Lincoln, and Subsequently two of those Societies (Callaway & Lincoln) were received as Branches, and were furnished gratis, with upwards of One Hundred Bibles & Testaments- In neither of the years 1828- 1829- 1830- 1834- 1838, was there any meeting of the Society- Regular Annual meetings have been held in every other year Since its formation, except the five just named- The Records do not furnish any Satisfactory account of the Amount of Funds collected & disbursed by the Society prior to the new Organization in January 1835- From the 20th Ann^l. Report of the American Bible Society (for 1836) it is shewn that up to that time funds had been transmitted from This to that Society to the am^t. of \$387:- of which \$262 was to pay for Bibles &c- and \$125 as Donations-

The Records are also very unsatisfactory upon these points, Since the new Organization in 1835- It is noted however, that on

the 5th January 1835, the Sum of \$125.75 was paid into the hands of the Rev. Geo: B. Davis, the Ag^t. of the American Bible Society, out of which he was directed to pay any Balance that might be due from this Society to the A. B. Society, and to place the Residue in the Treasury of the Missouri B. Society- How this was done, the Committee cannot tell- Subsequently to the 5th of January 1835, to the 3^d of January 1840, the Committee ascertain that Cash to the Amt. of \$324.30 has been collected thro' this Society, and paid to the Ag^t. of the St. Louis Depository for Account; besides \$150 for donations to the general cause, made by individuals.- It is believed that other Sums of money have been contributed by and through this Society, which have not passed through the hands of any of our Officers, for the use of the great Bible cause; and which have doubtless been faithfully applied according to the will of the donors.

On the 17th of January 1836 Mr. Z Harmon was appointed Treasurer & Librarian of this Society and was continued in those offices 'till the 6th of January 1840, when he declined a re-election- The Committee have carefully examined Mr. Harmon's Acct^s. & report thereon as follows,

It appears that Mr. H. Received altogether 203 Bibles of Various kinds, and 370 Testaments assorted, the Whole of which cost with charges,- \$322.12

that he had remaining on hand 6 Jan^y last 35 Bibles & 54 Test^s - - - - - 71.48

leaving 168 Bibles & 316 Testaments to be accounted for - - 250.64

That he Sold Books for Cash to the Am^t of - - - - - 166.03

leaving to be otherwise accounted for. - - - - - 84.61

That he furnished Sundry distributors on Order of the Society - - \$46.24

And Sundry Sunday Schools by order of the Society - 15.10

61.34

leaving to be otherwise accounted for - - - - -	\$ 23.27	
That he furnished Rev ^d . Mr. Fitch a Bible & 6 Testaments-		
a Bible to Rev. Mr. Redmon- One to Rev. Mr. Patton to give		
away- One to Rev: Mr. Comfort to give away- Several to Mrs.		
Sibley for distribution to destitute German families &		
others- In the whole amounting to - - - - -	- <u>12.72</u>	
leaving still to be otherwise accounted for - - - - -	-\$ 10.55	
That the packing Boxes & charges amt. to - - - - -		
	-\$ 4.12	
And that Mr. H. himself gave away Com: Bibles &		
Testaments at various times during the four		
years to Am ^t . of - - - - -	- <u>6.43</u>	\$10.55
That Mr. Harmon Rec ^d Cash for Books Sold - - - - -		
	\$166.03	
and for Subscriptions & Donations - - - - -	- <u>97.77</u>	\$263.80
That he transmitted to the Depository, & otherwise		
disbursed in a correct & proper manner - - - - -	\$232.12	
And Reports now in his hands in Money - - - - -	26.43	
And Henry Porter's Note, for a Bible Sold him - - - - -	- <u>5.25</u>	\$263.80

All Mr. Harmon's Acc^{ts} as Treasurer and Librarian are believed to be entirely correct, and the zeal and fidelity with which he has discharged these trusts, entitle him to the full approbation of the Society.- The Executive Committee have made Some entries on the Treasurer's Book pages 34-35-38- & 39, more in detail in relation to these Accounts: to which they refer as part of this Report-

A detailed Acc^t. has been received from Mr. Keith the Ag^t & Treas^r of the Missouri Bible Society's Depository at St. Louis, which Shews that after furnishing us with a new Supply of Bibles & Testaments, ordered by the Committee recently, amounting to \$65.87, he still holds a balance in his hands due this Society of \$25.81-

So that after replenishing our Stock of Bibles & Testaments, which now Amounts to \$137.35, we have a fund available in the

Treasury of Fifty two Dollars and 24 cents; And the Society is believed to be entirely out of debt, with Sundry debts due there- to from members upon old and recent Subscriptions.

The Committee after due consultation, have determined unani- mously to establish an open Depository in the Town of St. Charles; at which they intend to keep a constant and Suitable Supply of the Holy Scriptures, in every variety of form as published by The American Bible Society. With this view, they have ordered a pro- per Book case to be fitted up at the Store of Mr. Thomas P. Copes (who allows the use of a conspicuous Space, without charge for that purpose) and as Soon as Sufficient additional funds can be obtained, they propose to add to the present Stock, a new assortment to the Amount of Two Hundred Dollars cost; and in order to effect this, the Committee appeal to the Society, and to all the friends of this great and Holy Cause, within its bounds, to contribute Such Sums as they may be able to do conveniently.

The Committee beg leave also to Suggest to the Society, that the Sum of Fifty Dollars be raised as a donation to the State Society in addition to the Sum of One Hundred & fifty Dollars already asked for to complete the Depository Supply-

The Committee have not yet appointed Solicitors, but will pro- bably attend to that duty Soon-

All which is respectfully Submitted

By order of the Executive Committee

G. C. Sibley Chariman

St. Charles Feb: 22nd, 1840