

tion, by which each was authorized, and even urged, to employ Agents. By a few the Resolution was carried into effect and with success; and more perhaps would have ascertained its admirable tendency if the establishment of the Talbot County Society had not induced us to hope, that the facts required, would be more speedily, and certainly, obtained than it was possible for us with our limited means and resources, even to aim at. The efforts however which we had previously made were not relaxed—Our Agent in St. Michaels still continued quietly, but steadily to pursue her errand of mercy and although for a long time she walked alone, her example produced that influence which every woman in the faithful performance of her duty exerts in a greater or less degree on the circle in which she moves. We at last gained two Members in this hitherto sealed District—and domestic affliction having withdrawn from it our valuable agent, her place is supplied by a Lady of the same village who has entered actively into our views, and through the friend to whose exertions in fact all this success may in the first instance be referred (and to whose name we can scarcely forbear giving honorable mention) we have engaged in our cause three other Ladies who have distributed during the winter such supplies as our means enabled us to send them. We have also to thank her for a Member and Agent near "The Oak"—an accession the more gratifying, as hitherto we have never been able in that neighbourhood to make the smallest distribution—a few Bibles have been sent on, and the Agent's first report is anxiously looked for.

Thus during the past year we have distributed and disposed of in the Bay-Side 55 Bibles—and 2 Testaments, of large type, have been given to aged persons. In Miles River Neck 24 Bibles and 7 Testaments have been distributed—In the Trappe District 18 Bibles and 2 Testaments—In Tuckahoe 12 Bibles and 2 Testaments—To a School in Bambury, 18 Testaments were given (being part of a donation of 40 made to us by the late Eastern Shore Bible Society) and the residue of the whole number we have stated, was distributed in and around Easton.—The Managers have never confined themselves either to family or individual, distributions.—It is our earnest desire and object, to circulate the Bible whenever we can do so with a due regard, to the reverence in which the gift should be held.—We should shudder to bestow it on those who apparently would either look upon or treat it with contempt—But we are limited only by this becoming sense of sacred respect and if occasionally it has also limited our distributions, we have seen no cause to regret the caution. To families, (often to several individuals in the same) we tender the gift, even where the inmates of the dwelling are unable to read, if assured that through the kindness of a neighbour, they can occasionally enjoy the comfort of

hearing its wonders, and as we always accompany it with remarks calculated to make them view this charity as distinct, from *all others* we trust that our duty has been faithfully performed.

By a comparison then with the last year (when we distributed but 40 Bibles and 24 Testaments) our progress was encouraging—Still we saw how little was done where so much was yet to do—and silently, but anxiously, we waited for a Report (either from the Agents of the Young Men's Bible Society, or from that which through their influence had been established by the Gentlemen of the County) which would not only make our path clear to us but *prove* how great a necessity existed for our exertions—If we could have induced those to whom we have so often appealed in vain to listen to us—if we could have won their countenance and aid it would have been our delightful privilege to complete the work which we had just begun.—But limited in means and numbers we were thankful when it pleased God to call in more efficient, and perhaps more zealous agents and felt that it was as much as we could ask if we were permitted to cast our little fund and humble exertions into the abundant Treasury thus opened to the Poor.

The Board of Managers of the Talbot County Bible Society have in a late communication to the President of the Female Bible Society kindly viewed those exertions in a more favorable light; and have proffered to us not only the information which through their Agents they have acquired but their assistance in completing our plans. We feel all the delicacy which led them to place us in such a position but are too conscious of our necessarily limited sphere to hesitate in reversing it—In accepting their friendly overtures, we have but one source of anxiety, which we express when we ask of the Ladies of Talbot County, whether the *Female Bible Society* shall in the accomplishment of the work which these Gentlemen have undertaken, hereafter appear as an *humble Agent* or an *efficient aid*?—Whether they will come forward and give us funds sufficient to occupy our Board and to meet the claims on its charity or compel us to avail ourselves of the resources—the plans, of the Gentlemen of the Talbot Bible Society, and thus deprive them of the just merit due to their generous exertions and "reap where we have never sowed."

It is calculated by those Gentlemen (from the reports of their Agents) that there are "*more than 600 families in Talbot county destitute of the Bible.*" Will not this fact be a sufficient apology for the persevering appeal which we again make to those who have hitherto refused us their assistance? More than 600 families among us, under whose roofs the word of God is never heard or read! To whom the rising and the setting Sun—nay even the Sabbath itself brings no spiritual light—no rest—no know-