

EXTRACTS FROM COLPORTEURS' REPORTS.

Mr. H. J. F., one of the Society's Colporteurs in Newfoundland, having labored nearly seven months in the harbors between Channel and Burin, Placentia Bay, makes the following interesting statements respecting his field and labours:

"The fishermen in most of the harbors I visited would not be likely, during the term of their lives, to get the chance of reading such books as the Society sends out if the books were not brought to their doors, as very few of them go to St. John's, being supplied with the necessaries of life by merchants and traders, who live among them and whose aim is to make all the money they can out of the poor fishermen. I met a young man who had come from some distance to the 'Merchants' Room' with fish to the amount of £25, taking up part of it in flour and pork. Wishing to buy a few books he went to the office, asking for a dollar, and telling what he wanted for. He was refused, although money was due him.

"Education until recently was out of their reach; and now there are many harbors with from thirty to forty children where there are no day schools, Sunday schools or Evangelical preaching. The mothers are more anxious than the fathers to buy books for the children, although perhaps unable to read. They say 'that it is well to have books in the house; some one in the harbor can read and we will get the books read to us in the winter nights.' The mothers also are anxious to procure alphabet cards and first readers for their children, as there are generally two or three who can read and teach the children to read. One woman I met had been trying for six months to get a book for her boy who was eager to learn to read. With a few exceptions I did not see a Sunday school paper or a child's paper of any description during the whole of my journey.

"In many places three times in the course of the year is as often as a clergyman visits the people; consequently Sunday is spent in eating, sleeping, or telling stories. This is the reason why I ordered such a large number of Mr. Moody's sermons,—I think about 250 copies, which I disposed of, taking care to sell some in every harbor I called at.

"One of the old residents of a harbor in which are twelve or fifteen families informed me that, although people had been living there nearly one hundred years, until twelve months ago they had been without a school and without a service on Sunday. The clergyman who lives about fifteen miles distant, visits them three times in the year. Not more than 40 cents could be had in the harbor to buy books. The old School master who reads prayers on Sunday, wished to buy a few books, especially 'Sermon books,' but all his money was at the merchant's. I gave him two volumes of Moody's sermons, 'Wondrous Love' and 'Great Salvation,' his intention being to read

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