

number of Agents engaged this year in the service of the Society is larger than in any former year. It represents all the Protestant churches in the Province, and is peculiarly adapted to awaken a deeper interest, and to arouse Christian workers to greater activity in connection with Bible distribution than the Permanent Agency could accomplish. However, the Provisional or non-permanent system is yet on its trial, and we urgently request the friends of the Society to do all in their power to give it every reasonable opportunity of success during this its probationary period. The present number of Agents is seventeen. From this fact it will be evident that much care and anxiety must devolve upon the Board and its officers in Toronto ; and, moreover, that the efficiency of the Society can never be effectually secured without the hearty co-operation of the committees and the officers of the respective Branches. A small portion of the field has already been visited by a few of our agents, and the results are very satisfactory. But by far the greater portion of it has yet to be traversed, and what the success will be the record of *your* labours and *theirs* alone can determine. What with an abundant harvest, with general and special blessings not exceeded in any other country, with belief in the efficacy of prayer through the merits of our Divine Redeemer, may we not still hope for means to sustain the work in Ontario, and to carry it forward in other portions of old Canada, in British Columbia and Manitoba ; and especially to enable us to share nobly in the burdens of the Parent Society, which, owing to the appeals coming to it from many foreign lands, are greater than they have been at *any* former period of her history

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THE PRESENT NUMBER.—The last two numbers of the *Recorder* were necessarily much taken up with the “Branch Subscription Lists.” We attach much value to their publication, and would wish that every Branch Secretary had sent in his “List.” However, in publishing them we were prevented from furnishing a larger quantity of reading matter than those numbers contain. The present number will be found to be well filled, in its different departments, with such intelligence and facts as are appropriate to a journal of its kind. We trust that their perusal will have the desired effect of creating the most lively interest in the prosperity of our Society. At this season of the year, when a thorough canvass of the field is to be more fully entered upon by our agents, and when, amidst many hardships, our colporteurs are going from house to house, and from shanty to shanty, in the more destitute settlements of the country, offering the people the precious gift of God’s holy word, may we not reasonably expect that the general knowledge our readers have heretofore had of the value to our country, and to the world at large, of the possession of the Sacred Scriptures, will lead them to give a hearty welcome to God’s messengers, and the most generous support to the Upper Canada Bible Society, of which they are members.