

"Before the establishment of the British and Foreign Bible Society, there appeared among the Protestants of all denominations an astounding apathy about religion. There was little or no communications among Christians of different nations, nor any desire to become acquainted with each other; but no sooner was the Bible Society established, than all denominations perceived in it a foundation laid for the growth of Christian love and fellowship, without compromising their particular opinions. Accordingly, mutual intercourse has sprung up, and a spirit of harmony and conciliation has uniformly directed all their communications. And the friends of the Bible have found an ample requital for all their exertions in disseminating it, in those feelings of affection and attachment, which the principles of the Association, and its simple and magnificent design, are so well calculated to foster and increase."

(To be Continued.)

Canadian and Domestic.

FIRST LETTER FROM COLPORTEUR RECENTLY APPOINTED TO THE MUSKOKA TERRITORY.

Very soon this part of our Province, which has now only two ordinary roads, will yield to the change which its railroad is certain to produce. This letter should be preserved, that the future spiritual, as well as material progress of this section of the country, may hereafter be contrasted with its present condition :—

PARRY SOUND, January 31st, 1870.

SIR,—Having been appointed Colporteur for the Parry Sound Branch of the Upper Canada Bible Society, and having just terminated my first month's labours, I beg to submit and enclose the monthly report. When I first thought of undertaking the work, there were so many difficulties associated with it, and the task seemed so arduous, that for a while I hesitated; but the pleasurable satisfaction of taking the Word of Life to destitute settlers, and of placing in their hands that for which they have so ardently longed, has been ample recompense. In the column of the report for "destitute families," you will find but few mentioned. I have taken this word as there used, to mean families without a Bible in the house, and in this sense there are but few to be found in this entire district. In every other sense, however, they are actually and deplorably destitute. Almost every home boasts its Bible, but in most cases, they are kept more as a sacred relic, than something for every day use, and to find them would be a task well nigh impossible. They have been placed away in some obscure corner, and from that time until your Colporteur's visit, they have never been seen. In kindness to remind these of their duty with reference to the sacred word; to read appropriate passages out of its, to them, hidden treasures; and to join with them in prayer, and commend them to the Saviour, and the Saviour to them, has been my invariable practice and pleasure.

The families out of Parry Sound are scattered very much, and most of them live beyond the possible reach of either minister or ministrations, and in this lies the incalculable advantage of the system of Colportage in this district.