

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

IN presenting their Twenty-eighth Annual Report, the Committee of the British American Book and Tract Society desire to express their devout thankfulness to Almighty God for His continued aid and blessing. They fully realize the truth of their Divine Master's declaration: "Without Me ye can do nothing." One colporteur may plant and another may water, but it is God alone who gives the increase. He is ever, what He revealed Himself to the father of the faithful, "El-Shaddai,"—the Almighty God, who is not limited nor hindered by any difficulties. Our aim has been so to order and conduct all the affairs of the Society that His approval may remain with us, according to the saying of the Psalmist, "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly."

The work of colportage is like God's rain, it waters the just and the unjust. By the Holy Spirit's blessed agency, to the just it brings peace and growth, while in the experience of the unjust it has often proved the means of conviction and conversion. Our colporteurs have had a wide range of visiting. Along the storm-beaten, rocky shores of Labrador, for hundreds of miles, and on the east and west coasts of Newfoundland, indented by innumerable harbors, the travel was necessarily by boat, with its attendant perils and discomforts. Here the colporteur would find a solitary family in a lonely inlet; then groups of families forming scattered hamlets; and, less frequently, a town with its busy wharves and shipping, throbbing with quick life, in the eager race for riches. The Magdalen Islands, separated from the current of travel, and shut up for half the year in lonely isolation, have had a welcome visit from one of our agents. The garden Island, Prince Edward, has been diligently traversed by two of our faithful men. The glens and mountains, the high-ways and bye-ways of lovely Cape Breton, with its sturdy warm hearted Highlanders, have had a good share of attention. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, to the full measure of our ability, have had laborers diligently pursuing their calling. The sick have been cheered, the

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