

Christian Work.

E are glad to find, that the scarcity of money, which has crippled almost every department of commercial activity throughout the world, has not materially affected the great and good work of printing and circulating the word of God. We gather our information on this matter from the report read last month at the annual meeting of the *Upper Canada Bible Society*.

THE BIBLE IN CANADA.

Although the past twelve months have been a time of disappointment and stringency in money matters to nearly every one in our province, the Directors of the Upper Canada Bible Society cannot begin their report otherwise than with a note of praise to God. Whilst our Heavenly Father has withholden from us, in some measure, the temporal prosperity which we wished and expected, He has been giving very abundantly the blessing of His Holy Spirit. In some places there has been very marked religious awakening, and the harvest of souls has rejoiced the hearts of both sowers and reapers. Nor has the blessing been confined to a few places and congregations. Ministers of all churches in different parts of the country, have noticed an unusual readiness among men to be spoken to about the salvation of their souls. Another evidence that God's Spirit has been working on the minds of the people, which is of special interest to this Society, is, that whilst all kinds of business has been depressed, there has been an increased demand for God's Word. This has been seen very plainly in the Colporteurs' reports which have come before the directors from month to month; and it is very gratifying to notice that although the proceeds of sales have decreased—and, indeed, form the only item in which there has been any falling off—yet the number of copies issued has been greater. It is true that the issues of the Society have not increased very largely, but taking into consideration that colportage has been seriously interrupted by death and sickness, that money has been so scarce, and that the sales of Bibles by the ordinary booksellers have been larger, the directors regard even this slight increase as encouraging.

The number of copies of the Scriptures issued by the Society during the year is 98,174, being 603 more than in the previous twelve months. There is a large increase in the number of Bibles issued, and a falling off