

which is pernicious, and they are encouraged to hope that the time is fast approaching when all christian people will abandon the use of intoxicating drinks and Tobacco, thus removing and preventing a vast amount of ill health and expense, which has been so detrimental to the interests of the Church of Christ.

JOHN FRANCIS, *Chairmn.*

[C.]

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS AND COLPORTAGE.

The Committee on Religious Publications and Colportage, report as follows:—

That in their opinion the *Christian Messenger* highly merits the esteem and liberal support of the Denomination. Inasmuch as the decease of our beloved and well remembered brother J. Ferguson, affects the continuance of the paper, we would urgently appeal to its friends and patrons, to put forth during the coming year especially, increased efforts for enlarging the list of subscribers and promoting its interests in every way. We record our decided conviction that it cannot, and must not be discontinued, and that the only practical method of sustaining and continuing it, is by securing an able editorship, an energetic agency, and a more liberal patronage.

Your Committee regard the system of Colportage as well suited to supply the extensive destitution which prevails within the bounds of this Association. The publications of the English and American Tract Societies, together with the issues of the American S. School Union, the N. England S. S. Union, and the Am. Baptist Publication Society, are worthy of wide circulation. To the volumes of the latter Society we would call especial attention. We recommend the employment of at least one efficient Colporteur and the raising of funds for the purpose. This may be done in connexion with the "Nova Scotia Tract and Colporteur Society."

All which is respectfully submitted,

S. N. BENTLEY, *Chairman.*

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