

and patronage of the "American Board of Publication." But since these have been withdrawn, our operations have been limited to the funds placed at our disposal, which, during all the time of our service, have not amounted to so much as either of the above mentioned organizations are asking for one year.

This treatment of one of the schemes of our church would seem to indicate either that it did not need assistance, or that it did not merit it. From the difficulty, or our unwillingness of believing either of these propositions, we are rather inclined to ascribe it to indifference—unless where the subject is presented for special consideration. Such appeals, we can say both from experience and observation, have generally been successful; and we regret that we have not had more time and opportunity to devote in this way. In the mean time we can only thus again appeal to our friends, and remind them of the good being done by the pious, persevering colporteurs, often in the outskirts of society where the gospel is seldom or never heard, and where the word of God and religious books are very scarce. Surely there is none amongst the officers, or members, or adherents of our church who would hesitate, when applied for, to cast in their mite to the treasury of the Lord for such a purpose.

During the last year we have only had three colporteurs employed,—one of whom, Mr. John Lamont, is in the service of the N. B. Society of Scotland, and is paid by them. The others have not been full time in the field, one having retired for the winter, and has not again commenced—the other retired this spring, partly at least in consequence of the severity of the past winter, causing dull times and limited sales. Formerly, under these circumstances, we would have been in a dilemma, because bills would have been due, and some creditors pressing; now we have no such difficulty, and, therefore, when money is scarce we have only for a season to take it easy, having no debts to alarm us, as may be seen from the subjoined cash account and statement of debts and assets.

In reviewing the business after sixteen

years operations, it appears gradually to have extended, during the first six years, under the patronage of the Synod and the fostering care and unlimited credit of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, and of other publishing companies and individuals; these being partially withdrawn during the succeeding five or six years, our operations were not extended, but rather curtailed. The whole amount imported during these twelve years was over \$19,000, which is a little over an average of \$1,500 per annum. During the last four years, for obvious reasons, our importations, excepting in Bibles and Testaments, have been still more limited. As much good work had been done, and co-labourers had entered the field, the demand became less and the expenses greater, hence it was not considered expedient to urge labourers into the field under the present circumstances and aspect of the times; but we stand ready to enter upon the work more extensively and vigorously should Providence open up the way, which we are confidently anticipating will be done before long. As we always endeavoured so to conduct the business as not to become insolvent, it is gratifying to be able to state that we are still in the same position, and hope to be so to the end, be it sooner or later.

All which is respectfully submitted by your committee.

JOHN I. BAXTER, *Convener.*

The Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces in account with John I. Baxter, from June 30, 1867, to June 30, 1868.

1867.	Dr.	
July 8.	To incidental travelling expenses.	\$4.90
Aug. 29.	" N. B. Soc'y, Scotland, for Bibles.	70.23
Sep. 10.	" do. do.	35.01
Oct. 8.	" Stationery and stamps.	2.60
Dec. 18.	" Rev. J. Scott, for Gough's lect.	20.00
31.	" Agents salary, 6 months.	25.00
1868.		
Jan. 22.	" N. B. Soc'y, Scotland, for Bibles.	53.75
Feb. 7.	" Rev. J. Alves' lectures.	6.10
27.	" N. B. Soc'y, Scotland, for Bibles.	20.00
June 30.	" Agents salary, 6 months.	25.00
	" Balance on hand.	76.89
		\$399.48

1867.	Cr.	
July 1.	By balance on hand.	\$2.65
29.	" Joseph Fulton, colporteur.	23.37
Aug. 26.	" John Maxwell, "	19.06
Sep. 9.	" " "	42.03
14.	" Rev. Robert Laird.	40.00
Oct. 24.	" Joseph Fulton, colporteur.	20.00
	" John Maxwell.	76.61
Nov. 30.	" Books sold at depot.	13.60
Dec. 18.	" John Maxwell, colporteur.	8.24