

its influence multitudes are being turned away from the simplicity of the Gospel, who are taught to accept *human traditions* and inventions that make void the commandments of God.

It is therefore incumbent upon Baptists to use every proper means for the circulation of such literature as shall lead to a proper reverence for the Word of God, and preserve the people from error. If they fail in this, they are guilty of unfaithfulness to the sacred trust committed to their hands. Hitherto we have been without any organized methods for the dissemination of such literature as the times demand. We have had to depend very largely upon books issued by Union Societies, many of them excellent and worthy of a place in our libraries, but all of them failing on points vitally affecting the Christian system. We are glad to know that this want long felt is now supplied in the establishment of a Depository in Halifax; that it has already accomplished a good work, and appeals strongly to the benevolence of the churches to make it increasingly efficient.

The Baptist Book Room has had eighteen months of wonderful financial success. The careful management of the Committee, and their continuous gratuitous labors demand our grateful recognition.

Pledges toward the Capital Fund to the amount of \$7,000.00 have been received, about \$3,400 of which is actually in use in the business.

The pure streams of Baptist literature may now flow unimpeded from 104 Granville Street, Halifax, into every Sabbath School and home within the bounds of the Convention, if our people will but invite them.

It is a fact that but few of our people have ever seen or read a package of Baptist Tracts. Very many of our Baptist families have not a volume or a page of literature in their homes teaching our distinctive principles except the Bible and Hymn Book. The logic of these facts strongly plead for a liberal support of the Colportage department of our work. Twenty-five Colporteurs are needed in order to occupy fully the ground. At this stage of our work surely we ought to aim to sustain 10 Colporteurs. Spurgeon requires \$200 of benevolent funds for each of the 80 Colporteurs he employs. We need at least this amount. The half of it, \$100, is intended to be spent in donating small books and tracts to the needy; the remainder is held as a reserve toward the salary of the Colporteur. It is hoped that it may be laid upon the hearts of some of our wealthy brethren and sisters, their *privilege* and *duty* to each support a Colporteur either wholly or in part. It may be quite suggestive to us that a large proportion of the Colporteurs in the employ of the American Baptist Publication Society are ordained ministers. We submit that on the score of economy of funds, to accomplish the greatest results in the Master's work, we cannot longer afford to neglect the claims of our Baptist Colportage upon our benevolence.