THE MISSIONARY REGISTER,

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

LORD, bless and pity us, shine on us with thy face,
That th' earth thy way, and nations all may know thy saving grace.—*Ps.* lxvii. 1, 2.

Vol. 8. **NOVEMBER, 1857.** **No. 11.**

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REPORT ON COLPORTAGE.

To the Rev'd. The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

The Committee of Colportage beg leave to report,

That having completed the fifth year of their labours, they now present a brief outline of their proceedings. Last year as formerly we have endeavoured to continue our operations throughout the length and breadth of the bounds of our Church; with the solitary exception of Miramichi and Harvey, in New Brunswick; as well as all intervening settlements. We have even extended beyond these bounds, to the West in Nova Scotia, to the East in Cape Breton, to the North in P. E. Island, and to the N. West in New Brunswick.

The usual liberality has been exercised in giving tracts and small books to the poor; in discount to the clergy of every denomination; and to Sabbath school and to congregational libraries. The sales have not been quite so extensive as on former years, chiefly, if not solely, in consequence of most of the colporteurs being laid up part of last winter, on account of the state of the weather and roads. Our imports during the year have amounted to 8457 vols. valued at £601 8s. which have been put into circulation, together with bibles, testaments, confessions, catechisms, and tracts, of which we kept no specific account.

This number and value added to those formerly imported, makes the number 44.036 vols., valued at the sum of £3,558 1s.

As during the previous year, we have had four colporteurs employed, and we have seen no cause to change the individuals who seem so well qualified for, and interested in the work; though for various reasons, we have occasionally changed their circuits. Mr James D. Baird spent the most of last summer in P. E. Island. Not finding it convenient to renew the supply in that quarter for reasons to be hereafter mentioned, he has been laboring since chiefly in Colchester, Cumberland, and the border counties of New Brunswick; and is now gone to explore Cape Breton. Mr John Falkner has been chiefly employed in the southern circuit of Colchester, Halifax, Hants, and Falmouth. Mr James Millar has been employed mostly in the eastern circuit within the bounds of the Presbytery of Pictou, but is now on a tour round the western end of the province; where a supply of books was ordered to meet him; that he may complete the circuit via Annapolis, Yarmouth, Barrington, Shelburne, Liverpool and Lunenburg. Mr James Gordon last fall made a second trip to Cape Breton, and has since been traversing the intermediate settlements to the East, and those along the North shore from Carriboo to Pugwash. They have each visited and offered their books for sale to about 2000 families being 8000 in all during last year; and they report hav-