

the principle which  
A Society that  
ord of God—to dis-  
mble mankind by  
idolatry, delusion  
whole earth with  
s of this Society,  
y—forward is the  
our privileges and  
of the Gospel.

from heaven  
twice blessed:  
in that takes."

deriction, in moving  
e follows,—

t be expected that  
is Meeting to the  
society, I should  
of compliment and  
Resolution was not  
—a formal expres-  
Ladies who devote

the Bible Society,—  
value attached to  
s claim indeed our  
we would not speak  
if it were an extra-  
nd her encourage-  
ncivence and relie-  
ve the cause to be  
rt; it justly claims  
le we strongly ap-  
part which the La-  
the interests of the  
are doing no more  
we should expect  
ducation, and their  
h they owe to the  
nence of those glori-  
ht in the Bible, that  
t elevated position  
an-lands, and sur-  
general respect and  
do, to religious in-  
face, the purity, and  
ers, we are not sur-  
to in this Resolu-  
of the Bible their  
generous and inde-

minutes longer, Mr.  
the audience, while  
on to the Colportage  
has been so exten-  
advancing the king-  
of the world. I shall  
the system of Col-  
an who moved the  
cribed the character  
teurs. On examin-  
religious truth we  
licity, which consti-  
ere is no elaborate  
structure of social  
of laws and rules,

requiring time and labour for framing them. Indi-  
vidual workers, voluntary labourers, demanding no  
great amount of mental training, and without being  
formed into any cumbrous organization, constitute  
the scattered but efficient host of Colporteurs.—  
There is also a *directness and facility of application*  
in this system, which shows its utility. We have  
already seen that no elevated standard of mental  
training, no peculiar education is needed for the  
work. If together with sincere love to God and  
man (an indispensable requisite for true prepara-  
tion,) the individual possesses so much of aptness  
to teach as will enable him to explain the Gospel  
to others, he is fitted for a Colporteur. These  
qualifications, we say, are sufficient; of course the  
work admits of the very highest order of trained  
intellect being employed in its execution, and  
numbers thus gifted are devoted to it. Now, as  
the Churches of Christ contain many members of  
the class described, and competent for the labours  
of Colportage, without being obliged to undergo  
any long preparatory course of study, this system  
of instrumentality can act with great directness and  
ease, and over a wide range of operation.

The only other feature of the Colportage system  
which I will now mention, is its *adaptation to ex-  
tremities which cannot well be met by any other means.*  
I allude especially to those countries and regions  
where society is scattered, and means are wanting  
to secure the stated means and permanent institu-  
tions of religion. In such cases years would elapse  
in the ordinary progress of society, before Churches  
and an established Ministry of the Gospel could be  
provided. But without these, how fearful an amount  
of spiritual ignorance, vice and degradation would  
overspread society. Here there is a field vast and  
important, which invites the labours of the Colpor-  
teur, and which seems designed for them, inasmuch  
as it is inaccessible to others.

Did time permit, I might dwell at length upon  
the extent to which Colportage has been employ'd

for supplying the spiritual wants of those immense  
territories under the jurisdiction of the United  
States, known as *the West*. Into those regions of  
boundless prairies, far spreading forests, and luxu-  
riant vallies, of mighty mountains and rivers, of  
fertile and varied soils and inexhaustible mines,  
the streams of immigration have been pouring for  
years, and with unabated volume. In the early ef-  
forts of such a population to form itself into society,  
and make a new home in the wilderness, it could  
not be supposed that churches, colleges, sabbath  
schools, and other instruments of religious and so-  
cial improvement could be provided. The scatter-  
ed state of the people would prevent, as well as  
other obvious impediments. To supply this de-  
stitution the churches in the older States of the Union  
have largely and with wonderful success employed  
the labours of Colporteurs. Hundreds of these  
self-denying and devoted men have hastened to  
spread themselves over the West, visiting the re-  
motest settlements, homes and hovels of the wild,  
plunging into the depths of the mighty forest, and  
following the track of the enterprising immigrant  
with courage as great and a nobler aim than his;  
bearing the Word of God to thousands who had it  
not, distributing Tracts and other religious publi-  
cations, and scattering amid the wilderness the  
seeds of a Christian literature. They have formed  
Sabbath Schools, instructed families and commu-  
nities ignorant of the Gospel, aided in erecting  
temples for the worship of God, in the constitution  
of Christian Churches, and the settlement of stated  
Pastors. Thousands of souls have been converted  
to God through their faithful labours; and every-  
where a higher degree of social morality and com-  
fort has attested to their fidelity and their success.

But I will not detain the audience, whose pati-  
ence has already been so severely tried, by further  
remarks; but conclude with returning my grateful  
acknowledgments for the kind hearing which I  
have received.

PRINTED BY DONALD A. CAMERON, ST. JOHN, N. B. :

Price 1d. each, or 9d. per dozen