

Canadian fellow-subjects gives pleasing and hopeful reports of his labours and of the kindness with which he has been generally received. Owing to many circumstances, peculiar to the country, the work of Colportage is attended with many difficulties and discouragements; but the necessity that exists for it is as strong as ever, and, therefore, the efforts of this Auxiliary in this department of work must not be relaxed, but rather augmented. Careful attention is invited to the reports of the Colporteurs given in Appendix, as these furnish details as to the localities and character of the work which cannot be given in this place.

#### BRANCHES.

These have been visited by your Travelling Agent, Mr. Green; and meetings have been held with his usual regularity, and many cheering indications of strength and efficiency, on the part of the Branches, have been afforded. In this connection, it may be instructive to present a few facts and figures, taken from Mr. Green's report, illustrative of the extent and character of the field occupied by this Auxiliary. In the Province of Ontario, the Society has eight counties, with an aggregate population of 171,996 souls; 120,427 Protestants, and 51,569 Roman Catholics. In Quebec, it has thirty-six and a half counties, with a population of 674,571; of these, 546,292 are entered in the census as Roman Catholics; 5000 as of no creed; and 123,279 as Protestants. In the whole field, therefore, there are, in round numbers, 243,000 Protestants, and 598,000 Roman Catholics. What an argument is furnished by these figures for increased zeal and liberality! Mr. Green reports the operations of the past year among the Branches as presenting many features of encouragement, some of which cannot, perhaps, be very easily enumerated, but are still very obvious to one minutely acquainted with the work. This work is becoming yearly better known, and its claims more generally recognized. This gives hope and encouragement to its old and long-tried friends, and their attachment is strengthened, and their zeal intensified. The result is, that every year bears witness to an increasing liberality. The amount returned by the Branches during the past year is \$5,906.51, against \$5,709.54 for 1867; being an increase of \$197.03 over a year whose receipts were the largest ever received from the Branches by this Auxiliary. The receipts from the Branches have increased three-fold within twenty years, and fully one-third within the past ten years, although the country population has been very nearly stationary. Here, then, we have matter for devout gratitude and encouragement.

During the year, the Committee of the Ottawa Auxiliary Bible Society has made formal application, by correspondence and deputation,