

who have not an opportunity of becoming members of regularly organized Societies, continue to aid this Conference by donations to its Bible Distribution Fund, in the work of scattering abroad throughout the destitute districts of our Province the invaluable word of Life.

19.

## ON COLPORTAGE.

The Committee on Colportage Report—When looking at the records of kindred efforts in the United States and elsewhere, and from a short experience by our own denomination during the last year, your committee decidedly agree that Colportage is one of the best means for diffusing Religious knowledge that has yet been brought into existence; and is the most efficient auxiliary of the Religious Press. A distinguished and clear-sighted British Christian says: "The people who stand most in need of religious Books are the last to seek them. Frivolous and immoral literature makes its own market everywhere. The supply goes before the demand, and never fails to create it. In case of religious publications, the process is reversed. Religion must be conveyed to the fireside of the religiously destitute. \* \* \* This is an agency which the Churches will require to cultivate to a greater extent than heretofore. \* \* \* This power of the system of Colportage in the diffusion of good books, and in applying counteracting influences to the circulation of the mischievous literature, is the important feature of this organization."

Colportage is no longer an experiment. It is a well defined, approved, and indispensable system of christian effort for the diffusion of religious knowledge which is greatly needed in numerous districts in our Province. In recommending measures for the more efficient carrying out of this department of christian enterprise, we submit for perusal a paragraph from the journal of a Colporteur—"Wherever I find, in a family, a good selection of religious reading, I usually find a desire for more books of a similar kind. It is among those who are training themselves under such discipline, if any where, that I find a spirit of deep-toned piety, of Christian efficiency, and a strong and predominant desire to do good, showing itself in Christian activity and usefulness, amid the duties of every day life." Your Committee believe this testimony, and where families are found who have no reading, or whose reading consists in "light literature," revivals will seldom be found, and no interest will be manifested in the great benevolent enterprises of the age.

Your Committee recommend that one or more Colporters (according to the means at command), be employed and kept in the field, during the ensuing year, and that subscriptions be solicited to enable them to distribute *gratuitously* large numbers of religious tracts and periodicals.

20.

## EDUCATION.

The Committee appointed to Report on Education, submit the following:—

The education of a child consists in more than the mere development of its physical and intellectual powers—it embraces also