

THE CANADA CHRISTIAN MONTHLY.

DECEMBER, 1878.

Editorial.

COLPORTAGE IN ONTARIO AND THE NORTH-WEST.

IN the very first number that was issued of the *Canada Christian Monthly*, in 1873, the reader will see an article on "*Colportage in Canada*." In that article occurs the following sentences :

"*The Religious Book and Tract Society*" of Toronto has done good in the past, and is now in a prosperous condition; but its work is only half done till it establishes a system of *Colportage* that shall embrace every township in the Province of Ontario. In Nova Scotia, a system of *Colportage* is now in operation; and in the Province of Quebec, such a work has been carried on for years, and with such blessed effects, among the Roman Catholics, as eternity alone can fully disclose. Scotland is occupied by *Colporteurs* from the Solway Frith to John O'Groat's: the system is spreading in England, over the northern counties, and slowly stretching towards the centre and south. . . . With the danger to which our young are exposed, by unwholesome literature, staring us in the face; with the example of other countries inviting us to proceed; it surely cannot be that the Province of Ontario must admit, by its doing nothing, that it lacks heads to devise a system of *Colportage*, and hearts to carry it on."

It will soon be six years since these words were penned. Whether they had anything to do with the event we are now glad