

The stock on hand in our Depository is valued at \$6,385.10. Further particulars will be found in the Treasurer's Account.

DISTRIBUTION.

The number of Bibles, Testaments, and portions, which have been issued from the Society's House during the past twelvemonths is 38,769, being 595 more than the number sent out the previous year.

Of the above, 4,155 were sold, and 1,721 issued gratuitously at the Depository in Toronto; 27,317 sent to Branch Depositories, or sold to the trade; 5,576 to Colporteurs; 1,558 were in other languages than English, and 23 were portions, in raised characters, for the blind.

The total number of copies issued by the Society since its formation is 1,049,486.

COLPORTAGE.

Much attention has been given to the colportage of the Society during the year, and the Directors have endeavoured to take care that no part of the field should be neglected. Although there has not been an increase in the number of the Society's Colporteurs, the aggregate time spent in this service has been greater, and there has been a corresponding increase in the number of copies of the Scriptures circulated through this channel. The reports have shown that in almost every locality into which the Colporteurs have been sent, there has been manifest a desire among the people to purchase the Bible. The gratuitous distribution by the Colporteurs has been increased, but almost entirely in connexion with the Society's operations among the French and half-breeds in Manitoba.

Mr. J. E. Taylor, who entered the Society's service during the year, was formerly engaged in a somewhat similar work among the sailors in Liverpool. He was sent to the agricultural shows at London, Hamilton, Brampton, Uxbridge, Ameliasburg, and Demorestville. In addition to his stock for sale, he took with him a show case of Scriptures in twenty-five different languages, a number of hand-bills giving a short sketch of the history of the Society, and some copies of a little pamphlet containing John iii. 16, in 134 languages, the demand for which he could not at all satisfy. The spirit with which he prosecuted this work was very gratifying. He not only sold many copies of the Scriptures, but undoubtedly succeeded in awakening in many minds a lively interest in the operations of the Society.

Mr. Brimstin, another new colporteur, has been labouring faithfully in the back townships of the County of Hastings. Mr. Badger has, as usual, done some very arduous work in the Muskoka and Nipissing Districts. Messrs. McPhail and Rothwell have been working in the more settled counties, and Mr. Lowry, the Society's oldest colporteur, laboured for two months with his usual success in the city of Toronto and its vicinity. Mr. Moodie has left the Society's service to go to Manitoba, and Mr. Sparling has been laid aside by poor health.

After several fruitless efforts to get a competent colporteur for Manitoba, able to speak both French and English, the services of Mr. Rouleau were at last secured, and he proceeded to that distant part of the Society's field last May. His reports have been both interesting and encouraging, and letters received from the Committee of the Winnipeg Branch express their satisfaction with his zeal and activity, and thankfulness for the results of his efforts. In a letter recently received they say: "The good seed has been sown, and therein we rejoice. At the same time we do not forget, for experience has taught us, that in many places the precious seed of the Word is in constant jeopardy through the ignorance and hostility of men opposed to the truth as