

large results could not have been obtained. It has been the study of the committee to manage the business in all its departments with a due regard to economy. It is proper to explain that the full amount of duty is in all cases paid, not upon the reduced prices at which some of the books are purchased, but upon the fair wholesale market value.

Great benefit has accrued to Sunday Schools from the continued benevolence of the Religious Tract Society in supplying books for Sunday School libraries at reduced prices. These are sold for that use alone, at a discount of forty per cent. upon list prices, thirty cents to the shilling.

It is gratifying to be able to report that the finances of the Society are in a sound condition, and that a large measure of prosperity attends its operations. The need for Colportage is still extensive and urgent, as a perusal of the reports of our Colporteurs will abundantly shew. Such being the case may we not hope that our numerous friends will increase their contributions, so that we may be able to support a larger staff of men who shall be able to embrace a wider area in their operations, and visit more thoroughly those districts where the need is sorest?

GRANTS IN 1886 FROM THE DEPOT.

In response to 199 applications there have been granted religious books, Bibles, Sunday School papers and cards, during the current year, amounting to \$1,095.90.

BIBLES.

In 1886 we imported 9,250 Bibles and 7,250 Testaments; and we received from the Bible Society of Prince Edward Island for Colportage there, 254 Bibles and 400 Testaments.

Reference is made by some of our Colporteurs in their reports to the large number of Bibles disposed of by them throughout the year. As noted elsewhere 136 families were found without a Bible in the house. At an average of five persons to a family this represents 680 individuals who had no copy of God's revealed will for their daily comfort and guidance. And although the possession of a Bible does not ensure the salvation of a household, yet, when God's blessing is sought upon its diligent use, it is a most valuable means of grace.