

for doing good, pruned as important

st year for the whole and earnestly, and the They have been dis-

Yarmouth, one in Hants, one in Pictou, n.

purpose of engaging in Depository, and four of their service is They travelled 7,850 each family with one held conversation with 5,543 families, A Pastor testifies is earnest, zealous, is in the habit of of the new birth, wise to seek, by perlabours are highly ring fact that he has efforts, in several g souls, that after-

found who habitually families were less religious truth, one or more bound and destitute of the distributed gratuitously
 . . . \$254.71
 . . . 3,153.21
 . . . \$3,407.92

of pages of Tracts. ge in Nova Scotia can Tract Society

and continued four and a half years, and from December, 1867, until the present, by this Society, the following facts are given :—

Thirty-one Colporteurs have been in commission, whose united term of service amount to thirty years, nine months, and four days. 88,202 family visits were made, in 39,746 of which there was personal religious conversation, reading of the Scriptures or prayer by the Colporteurs. In 803 of those visits, the families were found destitute of the Bible; and in 1,514,—of all other religious books. 6,422 visits to Roman Catholic families were made. More than 120,000 volumes of religious books and Bibles were distributed by sale and grant. The value of this aggressive work, in the large amount of religious truth disseminated, and in the efforts made in the Spirit of Christ, cannot be estimated or known fully this side of eternity.

The necessity of Colportage may be realized to some extent, when we consider that outside of Halifax there are only about half-a-dozen Bookstores in this Province: one in Windsor, one in Yarmouth, one (recently opened) in Truro, and three in the county of Pictou, thus leaving fourteen counties without any. The great mass of our population have thus no opportunity of obtaining supplies but as they are conveyed to them.

There are large numbers of families all over our Province most inadequately supplied with religious reading. Notwithstanding all the efforts that have been made by Colportage, and the large number of volumes distributed, it will be observed that the number of volumes average only one-and-a-half to each family visited. Some procure more; but very many, and those the most needy, not even this small quantity. Add to this such facts as these: the destitution of religious ordinances that exists in many parts of our land; that great numbers of children and youth in those destitute neighborhoods have no Sabbath School or parental religious instruction; that there are multitudes who are unsaved, and who are ignorant, to a large extent, of the way of salvation; and that these perishing ones will not seek the Gospel, and we cannot but realize, to some extent, the imperative necessity there is for an aggressive, preparatory Agency, such as this is, to co-operate with the work of the ministry in evangelising our land.

Friends in Halifax have contributed liberally to the support of this work. The Committee hope that the sympathies and co-operation of ministers and people may be more generally enlisted in its support; that means may be furnished to enable them this year to double the number of Colporteurs in Nova Scotia; and also that by the aid, of