

the good man who provided these gifts for them ; but have used the opportunity to say a few words to enlist their sympathies in the work of the Society. Several Agents also endeavoured, whenever possible, to visit the day schools in the country and ask the children to announce the Bible Society meeting to their parents, and at the same time to say a few words to interest the children themselves in the Bible cause. This commendable practice is very important, and the Directors trust that the Agents in future years will more and more endeavour to seize such opportunities. It not only helps to increase the attendance at the public meetings of the Branches, but it is undoubtedly the most practicable method of reaching the ears of the rising generation with a view to getting their hearts enlisted in this great work of giving the Holy Scriptures to all nations of the earth. In order to reach their eyes for the same purpose, the Directors wish very much that the Society's friends throughout the country would do what they can to promote the circulation of the "Gleanings for the Young." This beautifully illustrated little periodical, published by the Parent Society is, for its actual value, one of the cheapest things issued for the good of children.

The Rev. Mr. Jamieson, the Society's Agent in British Columbia, regrets very much having to report very little accomplished for the Bible cause in his field during the past year ; but in the present state of affairs in that Province the Board does not think that Mr. Jamieson can with justice blame himself for not seizing opportunities which have never presented themselves. Moreover we have received since the closing of the accounts, a free contribution of \$114 from the New Westminster Branch, and \$54 from other friends in the Province through Mr. Jamieson. Perhaps these contributions might be larger ; but they put to shame many places in Ontario, whose populations are both larger and in more prosperous circumstances.

The Rev. Mr. Fortin's report shews that in Manitoba, where the Society's affairs were in a very unsatisfactory state eighteen months ago, they are now, chiefly through the enthusiasm and wisdom of our lamented friend the Rev. W. W. Ross, in a most hopeful condition. The published report of the Winnipeg Branch says : "New life and zeal were infused into the Society by the visit of the Rev. W. W. Ross, who came last year as the official representative of the Society in Toronto." Mr. Fortin, reports that "the public meetings of the Branches were not as well attended as he could have wished ; but that he was quite cheered by the manifestation of so much zeal and enthusiasm." In another part of his report he says : "Everywhere there is a feeling of gratitude towards your noble Society for the many kindnesses which it has shewn to this Province in the past, and as we become more able there will, I am sure, be some substantial return made."

Extracts from Agents' Reports will be found on page 16.

COLPORTAGE.

The Colportage of the Society has been much hindered, even more than in the previous year, by the heavy snow of last winter, and in some degree again by sickness. There have been six colporteurs employed for longer or shorter periods, Messrs Taylor, Jackson, Currie, Pyke, Aston, and Patterson. The aggregate time spent in the service has been thirty-five months, and they have circulated 5318 copies of the scriptures. The Tract Society's Colporteurs have sold 1765 of this Society's Bibles and Testaments, making the total distribution by colportage, of 7073.

Mr. Taylor was again remarkably successful in Algoma last summer. He was sent up in the beginning of May, and by the end of the month had circulated 252 copies in the district of Thunder Bay. In June, partly in the same neighbourhood, partly near Lake Nepigon, and partly near Sault Ste