

EXTRACTS FROM COLPORTEURS' REPORTS

RELIGIOUS DESTITUTION.

A Colporteur in New Brunswick writes:—I found several old people who had not heard a sermon or seen a minister for years.

Another says:—There is much religious destitution in many portions of my field. There is great need of good and cheap Sabbath School literature.

P. E. Island:—There are many settlements in the Eastern part of this Island very destitute in many respects. It is truly heart-sickening to see the apathy and indifference manifested toward religion or anything that is good, especially where intoxicating liquors have been sold for many years. In such places it is difficult to sell Bibles or good books.

Nova Scotia:—A Colporteur in one of the most favoured counties in this Province writes:—I find many families who never received a visit from a person who would talk with them on the subject of religion, or pray with them. They are too poor to buy books, yet they rejoice that a Colporteur is sent among them. While visiting one section, I found the people without day or Sabbath School, or stated preaching of the gospel. One family, the husband and father of which has been sick three years, stated weeping that he had no one to converse with him about his soul.

I have met with some cases of deplorable ignorance. I found a young lad who knew nothing about God or his own soul. He could not read, and never went to any place of worship. I gave him a Testament to take to his mother.

Another writes,—

The most of the places which I have visited are so exceedingly dark and destitute that, if I state the facts as they are, the readers of my report will say that such statements are exaggerations.

A large number of families in the county never possessed a copy of the Bible. Some were found who had lived eighteen years without a copy, and yet Bibles were kept for sale a few miles from their home. Some set so little value on the Word of God, that although they have no Bible and say they can not buy one, yet I find it difficult to persuade them to accept a copy.

I visited a settlement which had not more than three Bibles in its borders. I was so fatigued by a hard day's work and travelling over

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