

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.

"HITHERTO hath the Lord helped us." With grateful hearts to Him who has called us to the work and who has been our Guide and Leader,—Whose we are and Whom we serve,—we would now survey the operations of the past year, the twenty-fourth of our existence as a Society. The Lord has been on our side; we seek ever to be on His side, and to go forward with an unfaltering conviction of ultimate triumph. The bright day will surely come when the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. When this happy consummation shall have been attained, our Society's work will be completed, "and His rest shall be glorious." That day is still far off; for in too many places ignorance and superstition, vice and folly, prevail, and multitudes are without God and without hope. It becomes all who love the Saviour of men, and who seek the salvation of the lost, to help as best they can, every effort for the diffusion of the true light, and for the overthrow of the kingdom of darkness and sin.

However diligently churches and pastors may be doing their work, there are yet many who, by their own carelessness or culpable negligence, are without the ministrations of the gospel. To these, our fellow-countrymen, have we been privileged for twenty-four years to carry by the printed page, in tract, pamphlet, or large volume, the free offer of a full salvation. Little children have been led to Jesus, who otherwise might not have known the way. The sick have been comforted, the careless have been arrested, the leaven has been hid in the meal to leaven the whole lump. As we listen to the solemn and life-giving words that come to us so freely from our pulpits our prayer meetings and our Sunday-Schools, let us have deep sympathy for those who have no such help and guidance, and let us endeavour to supply to others the knowledge, the price of which is above rubies. As an illustration of the lack of teaching an extract from one of the colporteur's report is in point. "On entering a house away in the

backwoods I found who had the care of "Mother is dead." "love Jesus?" "I about Jesus?" "No." Can it be children eight years Heaven?" There is story of Jesus and upon their young hearts but what heathen god, though that gapsed in christian indifference or trea

There has been tage, carried on the rock-bound coast station on the rugged and in the interior lumbermen; in the romantic glens and across the fertile Scotia, our colporteur who journeyed in who travelled by stumps, hillocks and of the situation, the area of country as a population of a could be reached in their trials, but the and while our me little to say of the Whose service the manned by himself with unknown d