

MR. A. R. McQUEEN writes :—

During the year just ending I labored for the Society 11 months and 25 days; travelled 3000 miles; sold in round numbers \$1200 worth of books; made grants to the amount of \$59; found 13 Protestant families who habitually neglect attending evangelical preaching and five destitute of Bibles.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The scarcity of money this year had a perceptible effect on my sales, particularly in the line of S. S. I am aware of several instances where libraries were needed that the want of funds kept from being supplied. But notwithstanding this I sold for the last eight months over 1500 vols. to S. S., which gave general satisfaction both as to matter and price.

The influence for good of a well conducted S. S. in charge of a well trained superintendent and taught by a zealous band of teachers, will be acknowledged by all who give the subject a thought. In no way can we better reach children whose religious training has been neglected at home. Permit me here to relate an incident that came under my notice last summer. In a certain congregation of my acquaintance a young lady convert came to her pastor expressing a desire to do something for Christ, but could think of no special work. The pastor suggested to her the idea of gathering the young children that could not read into a Sunday School class and teach them orally. This she did with success. By such means the young are early taught to learn that *wonderful story of the Cross*.

Although the Society does much in helping S. Schools in supplying, at cheap rates, all needful helps and suitable libraries well calculated to build Christian character, its more fruitful field is in the introducing into every family good books aiming at leading the sinner to Christ, and inculcating Christian principles. In this way the immoral and pernicious literature that is so fascinating and injurious to the youthful mind is supplanted, and in no way perhaps is this more successfully done than through the agency of the colporteur. Within the last year I visited 4000 families and sold a book to or left some tracts with each family. Now supposing that with each of those families I left an immoral book or a trashy novel, and averaging each family at five persons able to read, I would be supplying 20,000 readers in one year with poisonous food. And supposing this was continued for years, what would be the effect on society and our institutions? Would not such a circumstance be a subject of deep concern and alarm to our people? And if the supplying of so many bad books would cause alarm and make us fear for the consequence, should not the supplying or circulating of so