

By the following extract we learn that a Colporteur has been secured for the Parry Sound Branch. The writer says:—"He is an earnest, unassuming, devoted man of God, and will, I have no doubt, be a successful Colporteur. He is, if possible, to visit every settler, and every lumbering shanty within Lake Nipissing on the north, and Bracebridge on the east. His task, you will thus see, will be an exceedingly arduous one, an immense tract of very wild country, no roads, isolated settlers. He is to commence his work as soon as practicable. He will often, in his journeys, be compelled to camp out at night, and for miles have nothing to guide him but blazed trees through an unbroken forest; fortunately, however, he is a man well acquainted with 'bush life' and its hardships, and his intense love of the Bible will sustain him. Any directions you may have with reference to his work, I shall be glad to receive and transmit."

COLPORTAGE AND THE UPPER OTTAWA.

We had the pleasure of attending the recent anniversary of the Ottawa Auxiliary, and, in common with the large congregation then present, were deeply interested in the able report of the gifted Secretary, the Rev. R. Gavin. The subjoined reference to colportage labour on the Upper Ottawa is of a character to call for insertion in this first number of our bi-monthly:—

"We have had, in the course of the year, three colporteurs at work. In the latter part of last winter, their labours were greatly hindered by the unusual quantity of snow that fell, and by the difficulty in some remote sections of obtaining, owing to the prevalent scarcity, the necessary subsistence for their horses. This latter hinderance was continued through spring and the beginning of summer, and was felt all the more from the extraordinary rains which they had then to encounter. Interruptions from other unavoidable causes they have also experienced.

"They visited seven shanties in the County of Lanark, many on the Gatineau, 46 on the Upper Ottawa, containing 1,070 men. In all these they disposed of 431 copies of the Scriptures. In some, the demand was far greater than in others. In one, containing 36 men, Mr. Day sold at once 30 copies. In nearly all, portions of Scripture were read, and the Divine blessing implored. Speaking generally, the colporteurs were very kindly received by the men, and what they said for their instruction was attentively listened to. Altogether, they have put in circulation 2,621 volumes; nearly one half of which were of the entire Scriptures.

"Fifty copies were in French, eight in German, two in Gaelic, and two in Chinese. Their gratuitous distribution was to the value of \$43.

"In the course of their work, they met with a few cases of clamant spiritual destitution. Some houses called Protestant they found without the word of God. A settlement of twenty-five families in the Calabogie district Mr. McKenzie speaks of as never having been visited, so far as he could ascertain, by any Christian missionary whatever, and the people seemed pleased to have it so.

"On the other hand, our colporteurs' reports for the past year contain some new and encouraging features. One is the frequency with which they have been asked to read and pray as they have passed along from house to house in the remote regions. Another is the palpable spiritual results of their work. A Roman Catholic, or rather one who has till lately been such said, "I have learned more of the love of God in Jesus Christ during the last month than in all the previous years of my life;" and in further conversation showed that that learning had been to purpose. Two or three years ago one of our la-