

And in reference to the subscriptions, he says :—

“What is given is given cheerfully and intelligently, and I may say also with many prayers that God would be pleased to bless their gifts to the spread of his own word.”

About 100 miles of the 2,400 were performed on foot, it being sometimes found impossible to obtain any conveyance. In this way considerable time was lost, and a good deal of hardship encountered. Many additional houses might have been visited, and the subscription lists materially increased, had a horse and vehicle been at the disposal of the agent. Your Committee are satisfied that the interests of the Society require such a purchase to be made, if for no less cogent reason, on the score of economy. The total number of Branches now in connexion with this Society is seventeen : a short notice of each one will be published with this Report.

Through the liberality of the Parent Society, a munificent grant of £200 stg. has been placed at the disposal of your Committee to aid in maintaining a system of

COLPORTAGE.

One colporteur has been engaged for twelve months and employed almost uninterruptedly since the month of April last, and another one at intervals, whenever he could be spared from his other duties.

A large extent of country has been visited, and notwithstanding the ceaseless activity and vigilance employed, consisting by turns, of threats and ridicule, arguments and entreaties, to prejudice the minds of the people against the colporteurs, and to oppose their labors, somewhat over 400 copies of French scriptures have been circulated.

The colporteurs have been, for the most part, received with the characteristic politeness of the French Canadian habitant, and in many instances under pleasing and hopeful circumstances. The limits of this report must necessarily preclude the insertion of more than a few brief extracts from the copious journals in the possession of your committee. The following have been selected as embracing the most prominent features of this effort:—

H—— Visited the families which had received New Testaments last autumn. The Curé had asked them for them, but two families would not give them up, and they appeared to have decided to retain them.

W—— found all our books carried off by the Cure. Had a discussion with about a dozen men, who finally said, you would not have beaten our Curé so easily. We said that we had no fear of Priests, and would go to the Curé's ; and after many excuses from several of them, one at length agreed to go. We gave him 2s. 6d. to drive us there, and we all went in together to the Curé's, who received us very politely, and shewing us into an inner room, asked us to sit down, shutting the door at the same time, without allowing the habitant to enter.

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