

THE MISSIONARY REGISTER,

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

LORD, bless and pity us, shine on us with thy face,
That th' earth thy way, and nations all may know thy saving grace.—Ps. lxxvii 1, 2.

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COLPORTAGE.

To the Rev'd The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, the Committee of Colportage beg leave to report it.

That, the fourth year of our labour having terminated, we submit the following epitome of our proceedings.

Since last report as well as before we have been endeavouring to occupy every part of the field, within the bounds of our own Church, and even to extend a little beyond, in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, but especially in Cape Breton. Last fall Mr Miller made another trip round the Western end of the Province, via Cornwallis, Annapolis, Digby and Yarmouth; where a supply of books had been ordered to meet him. These, numbering nearly 2,000 vols. valued at nearly £150, he circulated chiefly in that quarter, and on his way home, via Barrington, Shelburne, Liverpool and Lunenburg. Since then he has been employed chiefly in the Eastern circuit of the Province and within the bounds of the Presbytery of Pictou.

Mr Falkoner has during the same period, very efficiently supplied the middle circuit within the bounds of the Presbyteries of Truro and Halifax. Several visits also have been paid and with some degree of success to the laborers on the Railway.

As Mr Baird had met with considerable success in P. E. Island, as well as some opposition, from private adventurers by whom he had been obliged to take out a license for a year, we thought it

expedient to take advantage of this circumstance and send a large supply there in order to keep him employed during the winter; where he has consequently been up to the present time, where he has circulated over 3000 vols., valued at £300.

Having our eye still upon Cape Breton as an appropriate field for our operations, as well as some other Highland settlements, such as Earltown, New Larig, and Barney's River; to which we had not been able to do justice for want of a Colporteur having the Gaelic language, since the demise of Mr McLeod; we concluded to employ one of this class. Mr James Gordon, a man of sterling piety, and zeal in the good cause, and otherwise well qualified and highly recommended by ministers of the Established and Free Churches, having offered his services was readily excepted for this field of labour. After being initiated to the work in some of the above mentioned contiguous settlements he was last fall sent to Cape Breton. He met with some difficulty both in his travels and in his labours; but yet with so much encouragement and success as to induce us to send him again in that direction, earlier in the season, which, with his previous experience, we hope will modify his labours and trials.

On the whole, therefore, on reviewing the labor of our four Colporteurs, in their fields of operation; notwithstanding their difficulties and trials, their success and encouragement have been such as to induce us "to thank God and take courage" and go forward in the noble work in which