

In addition to the work accomplished by the Rev. Messrs. Cameron and Borthwick conducting service and distributing religious literature among the shantymen, your Committee were enabled during the past winter greatly to extend the circulation of suitable literature. Large supplies were received by them from various sources. The Religious Tract Society, of London, sent through the Clerk of Synod two valuable cases of their publications for free distribution. The French Canadian Missionary Society forwarded, through Col. Haultaine, 10,000 pages of French tracts. Donations of suitable magazines and papers were received from R. A. Ramsay, Esq., of Montreal, and from Mrs. Johnson of Ottawa. The Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland sent one case of mixed religious literature, which was not, however, received in time for distribution; and your Committee purchased 2000 numbers of the "British Workman," a periodical peculiarly suitable for workingmen. To the Societies and private individuals who have thus rendered them very material assistance your Committee tender their grateful acknowledgments.

From these supplies your Committee were enabled to prepare large parcels of mixed appropriate literature, which were readily distributed among the shantymen, not only by the Clergymen engaged in the work of the Mission, but also by several of the employers, and by some of the young teamsters who were willing to circulate them among their fellow-workmen. In this way many of the shanties which could not be visited by the Clergymen were yet furnished with excellent and attractive religious literature, both in English and French. In the selection of tracts particular care was taken that none of a controversial nature should be distributed, for, while in all their work your Committee desire to act in a purely non-denominational Protestant spirit, they at the same time endeavour to avoid all possible cause of strife between the Roman Catholic and Protestant lumbermen.

Your Committee have been much gratified and encouraged by the increasing testimony which they receive from different quarters regarding the value of this Mission. They are well aware that the agency at their command is very small when compared with the vast extent of the field which they attempt to cultivate. They still cherish the hope that eventually they may be able to secure the services of Missionaries, whose special work shall be to carry the Gospel to the shantymen, and they would hail with delight the co-operation of other branches of the Protestant Church in this most important field of home-mission work. At the same time, they think that the method which they have hitherto pursued is, under existing circumstances, the best possible one, and, they have reason to believe that their labours during the past winter have been more extensively useful than during any previous season, on account of the great increase in the amount of religious literature which, from different sources, has been supplied to them, and which, by various means, they have been enabled to circulate.

Your Committee would very gratefully acknowledge the pecuniary assistance rendered to them by several of the leading lumberers, especially in the city of Ottawa, and also the unsolicited support rendered to the Mission by the shantymen and others, who more immediately experience the benefits bestowed by it.

In conclusion, your Committee would express the hope that He who "bestoweth liberally and upbraideth not," who "despiseth not the day of small things," would bless their feeble efforts, and would enable them so to extend their labours as to embrace the whole section of country included in the operations of the lumber trade. Deeply impressed by a sense of the paramount importance of the work, and encouraged by the measure of success they have already experienced, they desire to continue and extend their labours with a living trust in the Lord of Missions. His blessing alone can give adequate strength or permanent success, but that