

TWENTY-SIXTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY;

PRESENTED AT NEW YORK,

MAY 7, 1851.

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TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

THE Society met on Wednesday, May 7, 1851, at 9 o'clock, A. M., at the Society's house, the Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., Vice-president, in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Justin Edwards, D. D. After receiving letters from the President and from several Vice-presidents and Directors apologizing for absence, and attending to the nomination of officers for the ensuing year, the Society adjourned to the Broadway Tabernacle.

The public exercises of the anniversary were held in the Broadway Tabernacle at 10 o'clock. On motion of the Rev. John Knox, D. D., Chairman of the Executive Committee, WILLIAM B. CROSBY, Esq., Vice-president, was called to the chair, and the meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Leonard Woods, D. D., of Andover, Mass. The Rev. Mr. Eastman, Secretary, read letters from the President Chief-Justice Williams, and from Rt. Rev. C. P. M'Ilvaine, Judge M'Lean, and Chief-Justice Green, Vice-presidents, expressing their cordial interest in the Society. The Treasurer, Moses Allen, Esq., presented the Treasurer's Report, and Rev. Messrs. Hallock and Cook, Secretaries, an abstract of the Annual Report, when the following resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted: namely,

On motion of the Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., of the Presbyterian church, New York, seconded by the Rev. Charles Evans of the Baptist church, general agent, it was

Resolved, That the Annual Report, an abstract of which has now been presented, be adopted and published under the direction of the Executive Committee; and that the signal proofs it affords of the prosperity and usefulness of the Society, call for gratitude and praise to the great Head of the church.

On motion of the Rev. Richard Newton of the Protestant Episcopal church, Philadelphia, seconded by Mr. J. Cross, colporteur and agent in

TWENTY-SIXTH

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God has graciously continued his smiles upon this Society. Unbroken harmony has prevailed in its counsels; wider and wider fields of usefulness have been opening before it in our own country, in Papal and nominally Christian lands, and among the heathen; the hearts of the people of God have been opened to contribute; laborers have been raised up to penetrate the moral wastes at home and abroad; valuable publications have been issued, and the crowning blessing of the Holy Spirit has not been withheld. In no year has more been accomplished; and never did our country, and continent, and the world seem in such preparation for enlarged plans and operations. At the close of the year the Committee invite all who love and take part in this work to join in thanksgiving for the past, and in commending the institution for the future to Him who "so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Within the year, the Rev. CORNELIUS C. CUYLER, D. D., an original member of the Board, and who addressed its first annual meeting, has ceased his kind and useful labors here on earth, and entered on the rest above.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT.

The following 78 new publications have been stereotyped during the year, in English, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Dutch, Danish, and Welsh, 42 of which are volumes; making the whole number of publications now on the Society's list, 1,598, of which 327 are volumes of larger or smaller size. Besides these, there have been sanctioned at foreign stations 104 publications, including 13 volumes; making the whole

TEN YEARS OF COLPORTAGE IN AMERICA.

A brief sketch of the rise and progress of Colportage in this country seems appropriate to the completion of the first decade of its history. The great truth that "God is in history" will thus find a new and marked illustration; while new motives to fidelity in evangelical labors, and to implicit confidence in the providence and grace of God, may be derived from the review.

The *providential preparations* for the application of the system of colportage to this country are worthy of note. The power of a similar agency, as employed in the great Reformation, and its more recent achievements on the continent of Europe, had arrested the attention of thoughtful men in America. The efficiency of personal Christian effort, or fireside preaching, had received ample demonstration in the success of the plan of Tract visitation. The Volume enterprise, by which chiefly 1,598,150 books had been circulated previous to 1841, had awakened widespread interest in *printed* truth, as a blessed means of edification and salvation, and had furnished a corps of experienced and faithful men to give direction to the labors of others in the new system to which it paved the way. The Tract Society had gained the confidence of the Christian public by sixteen years of harmonious, efficient, and heaven-blessed toils for the conversion of the world. Add to this the fact that the tide of European emigration had then become so strong as to excite the apprehension of every Christian patriot, and to demand some more efficacious means of evangelization; that our western states were becoming peopled with unprecedented rapidity; that the cheap and vicious press then began to pour forth its streams of vanity and pollution as never before; and that the instrumentalities previously relied on for counteracting vice, dispelling ignorance, and propagating the gospel, were seen to be painfully inadequate to the wants of our expanding republic—and it will be seen how marked was the divine hand in bringing into being and leading to the application of an enterprise so suited to the exigencies of our country.

The combination of the elements of tract visitation and volume circulation, or the association of individual Christian influence with the diffusion of religious reading, with special reference to the destitute, constitute Colportage. In God's own time and way the system came into vigorous operation—its past achievements, though in its infancy, and, much more,

its probable influence on the kingdom of Christ, marking an era in the history of modern evangelization.

The normal idea of this enterprise was suggested in a discussion of plans of usefulness between the executive officers of the Society, in connection with the preparation of the Annual Report for 1841. In that document an appeal is made for aid in the distribution of good books, which may "instruct the ignorant, rebuke the vicious, establish the pious, and guide the inquiring soul to Christ." "To supply the destitute millions of this country will require an immense expenditure of effort and money," say the Committee, (16th Annual Report, p. 33.) "A large number of devoted men must be employed, who shall, with Christian coöperation, visit the poor and neglected families, converse with the impenitent, sell the volumes to those who are able and willing to purchase, and be authorized to circulate them to some extent as a gratuity. Will not those families who live under the meridian light of the gospel, and who have been called, alarmed, guided, and converted, or instructed and quickened by the Spirit's blessing on volumes which they possess and prize, cheerfully contribute the means for conferring the same precious boon on their fellow-countrymen who sit in darkness?"

The annual meeting had scarcely passed when the Society's efficient and experienced volume agent at the West, visited the East. He had supplied with books many of the older and more flourishing churches; and the policy of the Society with reference to the unevangelized population being unfolded in a conference with the executive officers, he at once threw his energies into the enterprise. He spread before the Committee important facts respecting the spiritual condition of the West; the limited extent in which previous efforts had reached the masses on his field, notwithstanding the circulation of volumes to the amount of \$41,310 in connection with his agency; and urged the appropriation of \$2,500 for the employment of agents, and a like sum in grants of books for the destitute, for the current year—pledging \$100 of the amount, in case the movement was authorized. He accompanied one of the secretaries to Boston, and aided in the selection of the first candidates for the colporteur service, who responded to an appeal made in May, 1841, on the platform of the Society in that city. In that address the secretary presented the purpose of the Committee "to carry the volumes to the vast multitudes, especially of the poor and vicious, who have not been extensively reached. Their intention is to avail themselves, as far as possible, of the services of plain, simple-hearted Christians, who shall go into destitute neighborhoods and tell their experience of the loving-kindness of the Lord; and scattering as they go, by gift, if necessary, such of the volumes as

may be most useful. The agent for the West has told us he can profitably use \$2,500 worth of books as a grant to the destitute; and we shall need at least \$5,000 for other portions of the country."

Messrs. Prescott and Follansbee, the first two American colporteurs, were commissioned in June, and began their labors in August, 1841—the field of the former being Indiana, and of the latter Kentucky.

Under date of June 23, 1841, the Committee issued a "Home Appeal," unfolding the more matured views then entertained of the necessity of colportage, and of its claims on the charities of the churches. The following extracts will show the tenor of that document. After reciting the occasions for more strenuous exertions for the spiritual improvement of the country, they say,

"The Committee, having anxiously and prayerfully considered this subject, have determined to employ, chiefly in connection with volume agents of tried fidelity, a considerable number of humble, single-hearted Christians, who will labor at a small compensation, and with the coöperation of the people of God, so far as it can be obtained, visit especially the destitute families at their homes; conversing and praying with individuals; selling the volumes where it is possible, but *giving them* where it seems necessary in the exercise of a sound discretion; in short, who shall do all for the salvation, particularly of the destitute, that faithful personal labor connected with the diffusion of the most spiritual books can do, with the blessing of the Holy Spirit. It is a work kindred to that prosecuted with such evident tokens of divine favor by the colporteurs of France and Switzerland, and for which very superior facilities are enjoyed here. To sustain these labors, however economical its arrangement, and to provide the requisite amount of books for gratuitous distribution, will require a large sum of money.

"If a colony of 5,000,000 souls, speaking and reading the English language, were found in the most distant part of Asia, destitute of *religious* reading, while books and papers that poisoned the mind and ruined the soul were continually finding their way into their abodes, how promptly would the American churches send among them the preacher and the *colporteur*, laden with the precious practical writings of the holiest authors; nor cease their labors till every family had been supplied. But is the obligation or encouragement less, when these 5,000,000 are our own countrymen, and accessible to our efforts with far less expense of money and of life?"

After the experience of the year, the Committee in their Report for 1842 urge with great earnestness the claims of "the unevangelized population of this country, probably equal in numbers to that reached directly

by the personal influence of all the foreign missionaries in the world," and say,

"The paramount question is, *whether the existing generation in America shall be evangelized, and by what means.* It is urged on the patriot Christian by every consideration of our relations to God, our country, and the world. The conviction that *it must be done*, would mark a new era in the history of the church. Does not the Lord Jesus Christ require it at our hands? Where is the sincerity of the sacrifice we make for other lands, while blind to the dangers and destitutions of our own? If 'he that provideth not for his own kindred,' in temporal things, is 'worse than an infidel,' how is he better who leaves millions of his own countrymen to famish for 'the bread of life,' on which he feasts?

"It is an obvious fact that the present means of evangelization are scarcely adequate to keep pace even with the rapid *increase* of our population. While, then, Sabbath-schools are rapidly multiplied, the Bible distributed, an educated ministry furnished in greater numbers, and all other means of doing good are employed in their fullest vigor, another, though a kindred agency, adapted to the existing condition of a widely scattered population, is indispensable, if the whole population is to be evangelized. *Colporteurs* must be furnished in sufficient numbers from the ranks of intelligent pious laymen, who shall penetrate the forests, and scour the prairies, and scale the mountains of our wide territory, seeking out destitute families; 'publicly and from house to house' telling the story of 'Christ and him crucified,' and placing in the hands of all, by sale if possible, and as a gift if necessary, the spiritual volumes of the Society, that may speak more eloquently and persuasively the words of eternal life when the humble visitor is gone, or when the hours of weariness or affliction make such counsels welcome. Thus the *preaching of the press*—the universal diffusion of good books, which contain the 'precious lifeblood of master-spirits of other ages, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to live beyond life,' with the attendant personal influence of godly men in their distribution, may supply an important 'lack of service,' and be the means of conveying the news of salvation to every inhabitant of the land."

For the sake of bringing more prominently before the Christian community the expanding field and increasing responsibilities of the institution, a Public Deliberative Meeting of the Board and friends of the Society was held in the Broadway Tabernacle in the autumn of 1842, the influence of which is still felt. One of the most prominent topics suggested for discussion, in the circular calling this meeting, was as follows: "Shall the Executive Committee prosecute the work of supplying the millions of

the unevangelized population of our own country, and especially the destitute at the West, including probably 1,000,000 German emigrants, with at least one book for each family, by sale or gift, through the agency of pious colporteurs and the coöperation of Christians, on such a scale that the *existing generation* may be reached? And will the churches adequately sustain this 'Home Enterprise?'" The report of a Committee, unanimously approved by the meeting, responded to the questions thus presented, urging the Society "to carry forward, as fast as the providence of God shall seem to direct, the colporteur system, with the view of reaching as soon as practicable the existing generation of the unevangelized in our own country;" and expressing the belief, "that in the prosecution of a scheme so benevolent and so divine, the Society may rely upon the blessing of the great Head of the church, and the sympathies and coöperation of every friend of the Redeemer."

The emphatic and unanimous approval of the enterprise by the members and friends of the Society thus convened, encouraged the Committee to press onward in their efforts with redoubled zeal; while the documents and discussions of the above occasion, furnishing a comprehensive view of the principles and relations of the Society, served to awaken the public interest—indispensable to the support of its constantly expanding operations.

In connection with this important meeting, the *American Messenger* came into being, as a more convenient and useful organ of the Society, and a more efficient means of doing good than the Tract Magazine, which it superseded. The first number contained the proceedings of the Deliberative meeting. The growth of colportage has been identified with the prosperous and unprecedented circulation of the Messenger—now exceeding 186,000 copies monthly.

In September, 1843, a pamphlet of 28 pages, discussing the principles and relations of colportage, entitled "The American Colporteur System," was issued by the Committee, and had a wide circulation.

At a later period a work, entitled "Home Evangelization," was issued under the direction of the Committee, presenting a more complete view of the wants of the country and the adaptation and bearings of colportage than had previously been given. Of this volume 45,000 copies have been issued, including 20,000 copies distributed gratuitously among colleges, theological seminaries, and missionaries, and by agents of the Society, chiefly by the liberality of an anonymous friend in Baltimore. There have been many instances of the usefulness of this distribution.

Soon after the commencement of colportage, it became apparent that however desirable its agency might be among the dispersed and neglected masses of our native population, it was obviously indispensable to the

evangelization of the present generation of *foreign immigrants*. In 1842 the first German colporteur was commissioned in Ohio, whose labors are still continued, with signal tokens of the divine favor, especially among his Roman-catholic countrymen. One of the officers of the Society, whose attention was called to the German interest in a western tour, also visited some of the German institutions and ecclesiastical bodies in Pennsylvania, and found a wide field, with promise of efficient laborers for its cultivation. From year to year valuable candidates for the German colporteur service have been raised up, until they constitute an important and most interesting portion of the little army now in the field. As a class they are not surpassed in constancy, devotedness, and efficiency. And as the range of books in the German tongue is widened, their circulation increases, and their access to families is easier. The evangelical churches of the German family welcome and rejoice in this movement, and are coming by degrees to give it a cordial support. They justly feel that with the tendencies to Rationalism and Atheism on the one hand, and to Romanism on the other, there is imperative need of additional agencies for spreading a pure faith, a common salvation. The Committee share in this feeling, and regard no part of the labors of the past ten years with more interest and satisfaction than those that relate to the Germans.

The efforts in behalf of the *Welsh* immigrants have been gratefully welcomed by ministers and Christians speaking that tongue, and have been crowned with success. Many thousand copies of the *Pilgrim's Progress*, stereotyped by the liberality of a friend, and other volumes, have been placed in their hands, which will pave the way for future evangelical issues for their benefit.

The Committee have made various attempts to promote the spiritual well-being of the Irish population, and still persevere in their endeavors. Though these labors have not been in vain, it is an occasion of grief that so few visible evidences of good have rewarded the toils and sacrifices in their behalf. It is yet purely a work of faith and labor of love. Perhaps it is unreasonable to look for speedy results among a people so long trodden under the iron heel of oppression, and so abject in their servitude to a corrupt priesthood, and in their adherence to superstitious forms. We cannot, however, but indulge the hope that a brighter day is drawing nigh, and that patient continuance in labor will be graciously rewarded.

The French population, concentrated chiefly in our large cities, and in Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio, and Michigan, have been cared for in some degree, and with a measure of success.

Within the last three or four years, various providences have turned attention to the spiritual condition of *Canada*, and every effort in that

direction has been blessed and prospered. Several English, German, and French colporteurs have been employed in Canada West, and ten or twelve students from Andover have just commenced an expedition in Canada East. Christians in those provinces are looking with hope to the continued prosecution and enlargement of the enterprise there—we trust not in vain. At the same time the eastern provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have had partial attention, and demand a still further application of an instrumentality happily adapted to their spiritual condition and wants.

The employment of colporteurs in *Mexico* was undertaken while the American army occupied that territory. Professor Morse, so honorably known as the inventor of the Telegraph, incited to the undertaking by the donation of \$500, and others made generous sacrifices for the same object. At one time colporteurs were at Jalapa, Tampico, and Monterey. At another, while one penetrated the interior from the Rio Grande, amidst numberless perils and difficulties, another was in the city of Mexico scattering publications in Spanish, to the delight of the people, and the consternation of the ecclesiastics, who resorted in vain to excommunications of sundry tracts from the altar, to arrest the progress of the truth. From reliable sources the belief is encouraged that the 8,000,000 people of Mexico, one fourth or more of whom are readers, are in a great measure accessible by colportage; and the time may not be far distant when that priest-ridden and neglected republic will hail the approach of the army of Protestant evangelization. Perhaps, too, Central and South America, caused to feel as never before the influence of our commerce and civilization, will be speedily thrown open to the influence of that religion which they are beginning rightfully to regard as the mainspring of our prosperity. It may be that from California a race of Spanish evangelists will be raised up to carry to their former countrymen the light of life; so that human cupidity, as in other instances, may be overruled for the furtherance of the kingdom of Christ.

Soon after the acquisition of *California*, a colporteur sailed for that distant and important field, arriving January 25, 1850. On the 24th of February the "Pacific Tract Society" was formed, in circumstances highly auspicious, under whose care, it is hoped, colportage and kindred agencies may be made to reach the scattered population of that new state. A building was immediately erected for a depository, and a considerable amount of publications has been purchased. Additional funds have also been raised for the prosecution of the objects of this important auxiliary.

To this brief sketch of the rise and progress of the American colporteur system, it may be desirable to append extracts from the reports of

some of the superintendents of particular fields, or brief notices of the more important districts successively cultivated.

The *American Tract Society at Boston* early entered warmly into coöperation with the Society at New York, both in the support of the operations of the latter in the more destitute portions of the country, and in the employment of colporteurs in New England. During the seven years ending May 1, 1850, the Society at Boston had employed colporteurs equal to one man for fifty-seven years; visiting 119,904 families, conversing or praying with 48,846, selling 195,218 volumes, and granting 50,397 volumes. The rapid increase of foreign immigrants locating in New England has recently arrested the notice of the Committee, and they are now giving increased attention to the cultivation of the moral wastes thus found at their very doors.

The several annual reports will show that as the population of *the state of New York* exceeds that of any other state, so a larger number of laborers has been employed. In the city of New York, colporteurs speaking the various languages of the emigrant classes have been employed from year to year, in increasing numbers. Were a hundred men steadily devoted to this single state, they could scarcely accomplish the work demanded among the heterogeneous and neglected multitudes comprising a large portion of its population.

In *Eastern Pennsylvania*, the system was vigorously applied to the German and English counties, under the supervision of Mr. Ermentrout, as early as 1843, and more recently under that of Mr. E. M. Long.

In the autumn of 1843, the Rev. S. T. Wells, who had performed a brief agency in Missouri, was transferred to *Western Pennsylvania*, where he has since continued his labors as general agent, with some oversight of colportage in that field. The following year four colporteurs were associated with him; among them Mr. James D. Clark, who afterwards became the superintendent of colportage, until ill health compelled his resignation. In the summer of 1849, Mr. H. N. Thissell, an experienced colporteur in Ohio, assumed the supervision of colportage. The statistical results for the successive years serve as the best illustration of the prosperity of the work on this field. At the present time about fifty colporteurs are in commission in connection with this agency, and much interest attends the work. See the annual report of the superintendent in another page.

In *Maryland*, the Rev. S. Guiteau was instrumental in awakening some interest in this department as early as 1842, and has continued his labors, in connection with the Baltimore branch, till the present time. Colportage has become a leading object of benevolence in that state, and

during the past year alone, nineteen colporteurs were employed for a portion of the year, visiting 17,264 families, and the operations of the branch were on a scale of expenditures exceeding \$10,000 per annum.

The history of colportage in *Virginia* would furnish a record of remarkable providences and blessings. From the outset, the hand of the Most High has been visibly displayed, leading on the increasing company of self-denying laborers, and bringing around them friends and supporters. In 1845, Mr. Jonathan Cross, who began his labors as a colporteur in Western Pennsylvania, passed single-handed into the mountainous districts of Western Virginia. He soon began to gather fellow-laborers of kindred spirit around him. From year to year new interest has been kindled along their pathway, until a considerable portion of the state is pervaded with the influence of the men and the books of the Tract Society. Instead of tracing the progress of this work in detail, as in the report of six years' labors embracing twenty-five pages now before us, we must refer to the particular report for this year, inserted in another place, and barely embody the statistical results given by Mr. Cross for the whole period, as follows: "Years of colporteur labor performed, 75; families visited, nearly 74,000; number of volumes sold, 135,982, amounting to \$33,995; volumes gratuitously circulated among the poor, 51,410, amounting to \$8,586; meetings held or addressed, 5,391; families destitute of all religious books except the Bible, 11,485; and 6,309 families destitute of the Bible, 5,047 of which we have supplied. We have found 6,820 families who neglect evangelical preaching, and 2,067 who have embraced error in some of its forms. We have organized, or aided by donations in books, in poor and destitute neighborhoods, 320 Sabbath-schools, where old and young have become pupils. In these Sunday-schools a thirst for knowledge has been excited; thus day-schools have sprung up, where the children of the poor are taught, and often the only book within their reach, of an elementary kind, is the Tract Primer, and that, too, furnished by a colporteur. In different places where Sabbath-schools were organized they proved the nucleus of a church, where there is now regular preaching.

"The operations in Virginia," he says, "have cost the Society \$19,488, and we have not collected in the state for the aid of this cause as much as was paid for a single musical concert in the city of Richmond!"

In the *Carolinas and Georgia*, colportage was introduced in 1842-3. In 1843 the Savannah Colporteur Association was formed, and prosecuted its labors with much efficiency. One of the colporteurs in its service, Mr. Wight, has since become a missionary in China. In December, 1843, Rev. Henry Safford was commissioned as a colporteur, and after sufficient experience became the superintendent of colportage.

In reviewing his labors, he writes,

“During my connection with the Society, sixty-five individuals have been associated with me for longer or shorter periods, of whom thirty were students. Of the latter, twenty-one were members of Oglethorpe University, four of Mercer University, one of Emory College, and four of the Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C. Of the 35 regular colporteurs, 17 were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, 14 of the Presbyterian, and 4 of the Baptist church. The aggregate amount of labor is thirty-one years and seven months, in 70 counties in Georgia and 5 districts of South Carolina. The amount of sales has been 80,594 volumes, value \$20,226; and of grants 18,522 volumes, value \$3,087; total value, \$23,213. More than 41,000 families have been visited, and most of them conversed or prayed with; 2,028 families have been found destitute of the Bible, and 3,077 of all other religious books.”

Among the instances of usefulness recorded by Mr. Safford, he states that “a reader of ‘Mammon’ placed \$100 in the hands of a preacher, for the gratuitous distribution of 530 copies of that work through the conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. Another gentleman gave \$25 to place a copy of the Sabbath Manual in the hands of each stockholder of the Georgia Railroad Company; and another paid for 200 copies of the same work for his county. These donations prompted to an effort which resulted in the distribution of thousands of the Manual, which prepared the way for the passage of a law by the last legislature forbidding the running of freight-trains on the Sabbath, under a penalty of \$500 for the first, and \$1,000 for the second offence. The circulation of our publications lessens the demand for ‘light reading.’ A dealer in the article said to me, ‘I cannot sell my books where the colporteur has been.’ To extend the colporteur system over my field would require forty men constantly employed.”

The colporteur system was extended to the south-west, from New Orleans as a centre, in 1842. Mr. Heman Packard gives the following sketch of its early history :

“I came to Louisiana in 1839. What I did for the Tract cause during the first four years was unconnected with any society. I gathered such second-hand tracts and books as people at the East were willing to give, during the summer, and in winter I brought them here and distributed them among boatmen and raftmen. In 1841 I brought *twenty-seven boxes*, some of them large. I was suspected of having incendiary books, and cast into prison. I was soon released; but owing to the enmity and hard speeches of some who got their wealth from these boatmen and raftmen, and who well knew that if they left their intemperance and gambling, the hope of their gains was gone, I labored with some fear and trembling, except when my confidence in God lifted me above the fear of man.

“The next summer I was in a strait. My available means were spent. Some of my friends at the East said my health was so far restored that I might live among them; others said, as they had persecuted me in this city, the Saviour’s instructions were against my returning here again. My best friends were not disposed to aid me in returning to New Orleans. I felt, however, a settled conviction that my work was here, and that if I altogether held my peace, then should deliverance arise from another quarter. When I saw a notice of a Deliberative meeting of the American Tract Society, to be held in New York, I determined to attend it. I did so, and you know the result. I came to New Orleans as a colporteur of the American Tract Society. From the outset, I determined to begin at the bottom of society, where I left off the year before, and work upward if I could.

"At first I opened my books in an old soda-shed, open on one side and not fully enclosed on any side. From thence I took out my books to boatmen, raftmen, etc. There I displayed my books to ministers and others who called to examine them. I was informed that more than one congregation got a reproof for suffering the publications of our Society to be so poorly accommodated.

"A Baptist brother came from the country, and for the first time heard of the American Tract Society. He would see their publications, and followed me to the shed. He took home a goodly number, and exerted an influence that extended from one individual to another, and from one bayou to another, embracing in its course the conversion of sinners and the increase of Christ's visible church on earth. That brother rests from his labors, but the influence of that visit has not ceased. When the soda-shed was wanted, I procured a place for my books in a counting-room, and had a bookcase to exhibit a sample. I hailed the coming of an enterprising Bible agent for the French, and Mr. Westerman from the Tract Society to the Germans, as the beginning of better things for New Orleans. In 1844, a small depository was opened in connection with the Bible Society. The circulation of our publications was greatly increased by local agencies. A colporteur speaking French and German was sent to Western Louisiana, and Mr. Keith went to Texas. Other colporteurs for Louisiana and for Mexico were engaged as suitable men were found, until for the last two years the number has averaged sixteen. Three times that number could now find profitable employment on this field, without calculating any thing for the probable openings in Mexico. The rapidly increasing population in many parts makes the want of more laborers greater every month.

"From whence shall ten, twenty, or thirty devoted laborers come? When I remember the darkness in which I formerly prayed God to send some one speaking their language to care for the souls of the German and French and Spanish population, and reflect on what he has since done, I *should* know where to go to ask for more laborers, even if it had not been written, 'Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into the harvest.'"

The early history of colportage in the *Western States* has been incidentally elicited in the preceding narrative. The rapidity with which it has expanded, and the efficiency with which it has been prosecuted, are strikingly illustrated in the following statement of Mr. Seely Wood, to whose systematic and faithful supervision and counsel the enterprise owes, under God, much of its present prosperity and usefulness. Mr. Wood writes,

"Including the labors of students devoting only their vacations to this work, the first year five colporteurs were employed; the second, twelve; the third, twenty-eight; the fourth, thirty-seven; the fifth, forty-three; the sixth, seventy-seven; the seventh, one hundred and ten; the eighth, one hundred and forty; the ninth, one hundred and twenty-five; and the last year, one hundred and sixty-one.

"The statistical report of the last year's labors shows that 59 years' labor has been performed; 116,508 families visited, of whom 12,343 were Romanists; 15,835 families habitually neglected public worship; 18,183 were found destitute of religious books except the Bible; 7,533 were found destitute of a copy of the sacred Scriptures; 3,118 prayer-meetings were held, or public meetings addressed; 59,647 were conversed with on personal religion, or prayed with; and 184,159 books, of the value of \$42,701 91, have been circulated, of which \$6,676 04 have been given to the destitute.

"The statistical reports for the last five years show that during that period, 238 years' colporteur labor has been performed, and 411,283 families visited. If an equal number of families were visited in the five years previous, in proportion to the service performed, it would give 575,443 families. The total amount of colporteur labor performed in 10 years, is 333 years. Total circulation of publications \$268,549 78, of which \$41,269 79 have been circulated gratuitously.

"In the field assigned this agency, embracing the states of Ohio, (except the counties contiguous to the Pittsburgh agency,) Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, and North Alabama, there are about 450 counties, of which 375 have been visited in whole or in part by a colporteur. Deducting 33 years' service performed in Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa, while those states were connected with this agency, gives 300 years' colporteur service performed in the 375 counties which have been visited; being less than a year's time, upon an average, to each county occupied, in 10 years. Some counties have been visited several times, while others have been only partially visited.

"The population during this period has increased so rapidly that our efforts hardly keep pace with the increase. The object of colportage will not be accomplished by one, or two, or three visits to a family, any more than the object of preaching will be accomplished by the delivering of two or three sermons to a congregation. Every county and every accessible family in the land should be visited annually by a colporteur. This would require upon an average about a year's labor to two counties, or at least 200 years' service to the 450 counties in this field. The large and most populous counties would of course require more than the small ones. Many counties where there is a large German population, would require a German colporteur for that population exclusively. Some of the larger towns and cities contain a foreign population sufficient to keep several colporteurs employed in visiting them. Of the 161 colporteurs in commission the past year, 18 are German.

"There are now in commission 57 colporteurs for Ohio, 20 for Indiana, 15 for Kentucky, 20 for Tennessee, 4 for North Alabama, 3 for Mississippi, and 1 for Arkansas; total 120, including 20 students.

"There are needed at this time 20 additional colporteurs in Indiana, 25 in Kentucky, 20 in Tennessee, 20 in Mississippi, and 15 in Arkansas. Can these colporteurs be obtained? The religious history of the colporteurs who have been commissioned during the last ten years, shows conclusively that there are hundreds of devoted, pious laymen in the various evangelical denominations, who possess a spirit of consecration to Christ, and a desire to labor for the salvation of others, which would lead them into the ministry, would the circumstances in which they are placed admit of it. Though not qualified to preach, they are qualified to convey the printed sermons or essays of the most able and useful ministers of the last two centuries to those whom they are designed to bless, and commend the truths they contain to the personal attention of the purchaser for his soul's sake. There are also many ministers accustomed to itinerant efforts, who are willing to devote themselves to preaching at the firesides of the people in connection with the circulation of books. Again, the numerous students of our colleges and theological seminaries who are preparing for the work of the ministry, now regard it as highly important, in addition to literary and theological attainments, to devote a part of their vacations to colportage as an essential part of their preparation for usefulness in the ministry. Were these colporteurs to be drawn from a single denomination, it might be difficult to obtain the number requisite; but in endeavoring to reach all classes of the population, and appointing colporteurs with reference to their qualifications and Christian character rather than their ecclesiastical connection, it is hoped that by proper effort the whole

field may be fully occupied. Were a general agent constantly employed in each state in representing the cause of Christ in the churches, many colporteurs would be enlisted who could not otherwise be obtained.

"Colportage on the wharves and boats of our principal thoroughfares succeeds well. One colporteur is now employed on the wharves and boats at Cincinnati, and others at Louisville and Memphis. One object to be effected by these efforts on the boats, is to supplant the circulation of books of an injurious moral tendency by furnishing passengers with good books adapted to their spiritual benefit.

"Travellers when away from home, and among strangers, often cast off the fear of God, and devote their leisure hours on boats to reading bad books, and need to be reminded that the eye of the omniscient God is upon them, and that they are hastening to that bourne from which no traveller returns.

"Another object in laboring on the wharves is to supply immigrants with evangelical books and tracts. Immigrants approach the country in a listening attitude, expecting to be placed under new and better laws and influences, and to conform to the circumstances in which they are placed here. The moment of their first arrival in this country is the most favorable one to produce a good impression on their minds. If they are met on the wharves by a colporteur urging them to faith in Christ, and are furnished with a Bible, an evangelical book or tract, it confirms the report they have heard that this is a land of Christian liberty. On the other hand, if they are met on the shore only by land-sharks, deceived and robbed of their means, and hear little else than cursing and swearing until they reach the interior of the country, they conclude that America is no better, but worse than their fatherland.

"The colporteurs have recently been instructed to furnish every immigrant landing at the wharves, whom they can reach, with an evangelical book or tract. This will increase the amount of grants of publications, but the importance of the measure demands that it be done at the expense of Christian benevolence.

"Another object is to distribute tracts and books among the thousands of flat-boatinen and raftmen landing at these ports, and the crews of the steamboats.

"The moral results of colportage will be more fully developed in the detailed reports of colporteurs furnished you by them. This report completes the seventeenth year of my connection with the Society as an agent for effecting the circulation of its publications; which agency, in connection with associated assistance in volume circulation and colportage, has resulted in the circulation of 1,390,000 books, value \$326,815 18, scattered in more than half a million different families of the land.

"That God may enable us all, by his providence and blessing, with our present experience and increased facilities, to accomplish far more in the promotion of this work during the next ten years than the last ten, is the earnest desire of your fellow-laborer."

In the states of *Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa* some efforts were made as early as 1842-3, in connection with the agency of Rev. S. T. Wells; and for two or three years the enterprise gradually extended, under the supervision of the Cincinnati agency. But from 1847, when the Rev. Charles Peabody transferred his labors from Ohio to this field, much expansion has been given to the system in these great and growing states. Since that period valuable laborers have multiplied, and rapid progress has been made in reaching the wide-spread moral desolations. In reviewing his labors, Rev. Mr. Peabody writes,

"The most prominent thing to my mind in this history, is its providential bearings. To-day a field is opened all white for the harvest; and to-morrow, almost before the prayer, 'Lord, send laborers into thy harvest,' could go up, a laborer stands ready with a heart burning with a desire to save souls, and send abroad the blessings of salvation to every creature, and says, 'Here am I; send me.' It has been an interesting study to watch these developments of God's providence in connection with this great work. I will adduce only a few instances occurring the past year as illustrative of this interesting feature.

"I received a letter from Mr. C—— of Illinois, resigning his agency. Only the next day Mr. P——, who had been a teacher for years, but began to think the Lord called him to more active efforts for the salvation of men, came to my office with suitable recommendations, desiring to occupy the very field made vacant by Mr. C——. Again, Mr. M——'s health failed: almost immediately the Lord had another man, Mr. S——, to take his place in that darkest and most desolate corner of ——. On his way East last autumn, Mr. W—— expressed a wish to remove from the frontier counties of Missouri to —— county. I reluctantly consented, as he was on the very borders of civilization, and among that class of emigration which is continually rolling on before more permanent settlers, and which is generally very poorly supplied with means of religious knowledge. But two days had elapsed before I received a letter from Mr. D——, who was totally ignorant of Mr. W——'s wishes, proposing to take these very counties left by Mr. W——. I might multiply these illustrations; but these must suffice.

"There is room for *one hundred colporteurs* in these three states; and no less number can accomplish all that is to be done by the agency of this enterprise. I would recommend a distribution as follows: 40 for Missouri, 45 for Illinois, and 15 for Iowa. There are now about 250 counties and a population of 1,700,000 in these three states. If one hundred men were in the field at this time, they would each have a population of 17,000. But by the time our number of efficient faithful colporteurs shall increase to 100, the population will be 2,000,000, which will be 20,000 to each colporteur.

"We have now a noble band of men. What you saw of them at Chicago was but a fair specimen. The country is yet new, and the people scattered. Fewer families visited and smaller sales than in older states will be a consequence. But they are an efficient, laborious, praying band of men. My earnest prayer is that more such laborers may be raised up and sent forth into this part of the Lord's vineyard."

It will be seen by another part of this document that during the past year 52 colporteurs have been employed in connection with the St. Louis agency, for the whole or part of the year, 41 of whom continue their labors; and the circulation for this single year has exceeded 47,000 volumes.

Numerous laborers have been employed on the great *Thoroughfares* of the country, with most gratifying results. This movement became the more necessary because of the amount of light and vicious reading matter urged on the attention of travellers; and because of the multitudes of foreign immigrants crowding the steamboats and rail-cars. At New York, Albany, Buffalo, Cleveland, Sandusky, St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans, Mobile, Louisville, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and elsewhere, good men have visited boats and cars with books, and the sales have often far

exceeded those of the colporteurs in other fields, besides "casting bread upon the waters" gratuitously, which has "returned after many days."

Within the past six years *five hundred and thirty-one theological students*, from institutions of the various Christian bodies, have been employed by the Society as colporteurs during their vacations, and have performed a vast amount of valuable labor.

Arrangements for the careful *Supervision of Colportage* were early made. The "volume enterprise" had furnished a class of laborers whose familiarity with the principles of the institution, and whose varied experience admirably fitted them for the oversight of the several bands of colporteurs occupying large states or districts of country. But for this, the rapid expansion of the system might have been impracticable. While, with experienced and reliable "captains of tens and of fifties," stationed at important centres, as at Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Mobile, New Orleans, and St. Louis, serving as recruiting stations, magazines, and accounting bureaux, the little army could be multiplied with safety. Every superintendent of colportage has enjoyed a practical training in the details of the volume enterprise or the colporteur system. All of them have been in the service of the Society from five to seventeen years, and have earned the confidence of the Committee by their prudence and fidelity in their responsible trusts. The brief reports incorporated in this document of the progress and results of colportage in their several fields, furnish the best illustration of the efficiency and usefulness of this class of Christian laborers.

Besides this arrangement for the oversight of colporteurs, and the aid afforded by general agents in the same behalf, the Committee early saw the importance of bringing the executive officers into occasional contact with their fellow-laborers. To economize time and money, and to secure the benefit of mutual experience, it seemed wise to convene a number of colporteurs at a central point, for conference with a secretary and superintendent, and such general agents as might conveniently be present. Thus, in June, 1844, a *Convention of Colporteurs* in Michigan, assembled at *Adrian*, and in September the German colporteurs in Pennsylvania met the secretaries from New York and Boston at *York*. In connection with the latter meeting a county association was formed, which has continued its liberal coöperation to the present time. Similar meetings were held in 1845, at *Syracuse, Detroit, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and New York*. In August, 1848, a deeply interesting meeting of colporteurs was held in *Lewisburg, Va.* And in September and October, 1850, still larger and more important conventions were held at *Cleveland and Chicago*.

As a happy illustration of the character and influence of these several gatherings, we insert the report of one of the most recent and useful, held at *Cleveland*, Ohio.

SKETCH OF THE COLPORTEUR CONVENTION AT CLEVELAND.

Fifty of the laborers in the service of the American Tract Society, including two of the Secretaries; the Rev. Mr. Kirk, delegate from the American Tract Society, Boston; seven general agents; two superintendents; seventeen German colporteurs; and more than twenty English colporteurs, convened in Cleveland, September 24, 1850.

The Rev. Dr. Hallock was appointed Chairman; Rev. H. B. Holmes and Mr. H. N. Thissell, Secretaries; and Messrs. Cook, Goertner, and S. Wood, Business Committee.

The Rev. Mr. Kirk preached the opening sermon on Tuesday evening, by invitation of the convention; subject, *the unsearchable riches of Christ*. It was one of those solemn, fervid exhibitions of redeeming love which characterize the preaching of Mr. Kirk; and the application of his theme to the occasion was exceedingly happy. The key-note of the convention and of the work of colportage was rightly struck, and every subsequent exercise was in delightful harmony with it. A similar public service was held the succeeding evening in another church.

The business of the convention commenced on Wednesday, A. M., September 25, and, with barely sufficient intervals for meals and rest, continued five days, exclusive of the Sabbath. The first exercise consisted of a narration of the individual Christian history and experience of each member, and of the dealings of God with his own soul. No sketch could convey just impressions of this service. The internal life of fifty men frankly revealed, and the providence and grace of God practically illustrated in their history, furnished such a spiritual repast as is rarely enjoyed. Seventeen of these men were from Germany. Several had been delivered from Romish superstition; some from infidel or rationalistic errors. Nearly all had enjoyed the instructions of pious parents, and with few exceptions, they had been led to Christ in early life. Some had been battling with sin for a quarter of a century or more; others had been converted by the blessing of God on the labors of colporteurs here present. It was deeply affecting to learn from these narratives, that one valued German colporteur traced his conversion to the fidelity of another, who, in turn attributed his salvation, under God, to another then present. And as such facts were developed, the convention was more than once bathed in tears.

Such an illustration of Christian *unity* as was afforded by this meeting, has rarely been witnessed. Here were members of *ten* different evangelical denominations, namely, Congregational, Presbyterian O. S. and N. S., Baptist, Freewill Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Lutheran, German Reformed, German Evangelical, and Evangelical Association. Each told his story in simple language: no two narratives were alike. And yet, with characteristic diversity, there was entire unity in the great cardinal points of evangelical doctrine and experience. Not a word would have indicated to the observer the denominational affinities of a single individual, if the peculiar use of the word "penitent" in one instance be excepted. Ruin by sin and salvation by grace lay at the foundation of all. All traced their salvation to the Holy Spirit as the efficient cause, and gave all the glory of man's redemption to God as the author.

The delightful results of this exercise were manifest in all the subsequent proceedings. Each member seemed knit to the other in fraternal affection. Each knew

the other as Christians are too little wont to do, as a brother beloved. And through all the animated discussions of the body, not an unkind word or thought marred the perfect harmony of the occasion. The spirit of heaven pervaded the meeting, and the conviction became deep on all who attended it, that *God is here*.

About sixteen hours were devoted to these personal narratives, interspersed with devotional exercises. Then followed statements from colporteurs respecting their fields of labor, and the manner and result of their efforts. The varied adaptation of colportage, and the degree of success of different colporteurs, were strikingly exhibited, and instances of self-denial developed. One had conquered the difficulties attending the circulation of religious truth on the thoroughfares, and amid opposition and ridicule had diffused 4,000 or 5,000 volumes a year on steamboats. Another had sought out his German brethren in the inhospitable climate of Canada. Another had toiled eight years among the Roman-catholic Germans of Ohio and Indiana—not in vain. Others had gone to fields where irreligion and infidelity abounded. All had endured hardness, and some had perilled life itself for the gospel, and yet all rejoiced in the privilege of doing any thing for Christ. Such facts as the following showed the spirit that prevailed. One colporteur had laid aside \$50, to finish the ceiling of his small dwelling; but the church near him was unfinished, and he gave the \$50 to complete the place of worship, and still lived in an unplastered house. Another, illustrating the remark that it was the privilege of the Christian to turn his self-denials into joys, said that though he had lost an eye, and his companion the use of a limb in the service of Christ, they counted it all joy to suffer for Christ and the gospel's sake.

At a proper stage of the meeting, the secretaries discussed various important topics. The senior Secretary imparted full and valuable information respecting the early history of the Society, and the principles and proceedings in the publishing and foreign departments. The junior Secretary gave a sketch of the origin and progress of Colportage, and explained in detail the interior arrangements for facilitating the Society's plans of doing good. Replies were also given to hundreds of written or oral questions on subjects of practical interest. Nearly two days were occupied with these interrogatories, extending to every topic affecting the personal intercourse of the colporteur with families, and his various relations and duties. Perhaps the Society and its work never had a more thorough sifting; and it may be doubted whether it ever appeared to be more clearly of God.

As the field expanded before the minds of the convention, and the practical results of colportage were developed, the necessity of a greatly increased scale of operations became more and more obvious. And at last the subject was referred to a committee, consisting of the Rev. Mr. Canfield, one of the beloved pastors of Cleveland, and two of the members of the convention, who reported the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted after prayerful consideration.

"Whereas, notwithstanding all which has yet been done to meet the increasing religious wants of this nation, thousands of souls, not only in the newer, but also in the older sections of our country, are to an alarming degree destitute of the means of grace, and other destitute thousands are coming to our shores from foreign lands; and

"Whereas, from developments made in this convention, it is clearly seen that the labors of pious and self-denying colporteurs are eminently adapted to impart a knowledge of the unsearchable riches of Christ to multitudes ready to perish in their sins, and also to explore our moral wastes and prepare them to receive ultimately all the appointed ordinances of the gospel; and the Head of the church has greatly blessed them to the accomplishment of such results: therefore

“Resolved, That this department of benevolent effort, so worthy the confidence, the prayers, and the pecuniary support of the American church, ought to be enlarged by bringing more colporteurs into the field; and that NOT LESS THAN ONE THOUSAND of these pioneers and helpers of the gospel ministry ought to be commissioned and employed in our country without unnecessary delay.”

Besides the regular sessions of the convention, and the preaching on the first two evenings, a public meeting was held each evening. The meeting in the Baptist church on Thursday evening had reference to *the destitutions of the country*, and was addressed by two of the colporteurs, one of the Secretaries, Rev. Mr. Montgomery of Wisconsin, and Rev. Mr. Kirk. That in the First Presbyterian church, was devoted to the *immigrant population*, and was addressed by four German colporteurs—including the three who held the relation of spiritual father, son, and grandson—and by Rev. Mr. Rauschenbusch, one of the Secretaries, and Rev. Mr. Kirk. On Saturday evening a meeting in the Methodist Episcopal church was occupied with a discussion of the *condition and influence of the popular press* by one of the Secretaries, Mr. S. Wood, Rev. Mr. Goertner, and Rev. Mr. Rauschenbusch.

The pulpits of the Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Moravian and other German churches, having been tendered to the convention, supplies were furnished for them all by the clerical members of the body.

The closing public service was held in the Baptist church, which was crowded to its utmost capacity. The principal topic of the evening was *the responsibility of individual Christians*. Rev. Dr. Hallock, Rev. Messrs. Holmes, Goertner, Vail, and Kirk addressed the meeting with great effect. To a late hour not an individual left the house, but sat with rapt attention. In closing his address, Rev. Mr. Kirk, in behalf of the convention, gratefully acknowledged the kindness and hospitality of the citizens of Cleveland. Rev. Dr. Aiken and Rev. Mr. Canfield responded with much beauty of expression and tenderness of feeling—giving utterance to their convictions of the value of the colporteur enterprise, which had been developed to their minds in this convention as never before—charging the Secretaries to convey their thanks to the Committee for appointing the convention in this place, and proffering their churches and a hospitable welcome to any similar gathering in future. It was a touching scene, not soon to be forgotten.

A word respecting the manner and the measure of Cleveland hospitality. We came hither unheralded. No public announcement had been made of our purpose to meet. We had no denominational sympathies to appeal to, and no great names to attract. A company of plain, toil-worn disciples, gathered from eight different states, came here in Christ's name, to consult and plan for the promotion of Christ's kingdom. How were we received? Refined Christian homes were tendered to us with beautiful frankness and cordiality. Churches of various denominations were opened to us, and their pastors cheered us all along with their presence and counsel. Our welcome in this charming city has been such as to cheer us greatly, and to reward many a day of toil. Perhaps eternity may reveal the fact that the influence of the convention, and the prayers of its members for spiritual blessings on this community, have not been altogether lost.

In reviewing the incidents and proceedings of this important convention, the following reflections have suggested themselves:

1. Such a gathering of the disciples of Christ is worth all it costs, as a demonstration of real Protestant unity—not theoretic and speculative, but vital and practical. If fifty Christians, from different countries, and of ten different communions, can “dwell together in unity” during a week—pouring out all their hearts in the most confidential manner, and forming definite plans for spreading all of truth that

has immediate relation to edification and salvation—why may not *all* Christians cordially harmonize in efforts for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom? There is a way of peace: may God grant his ministers and people the grace to pursue it.

2. Conventions of this kind are invaluable to the colporteurs. Notwithstanding the ample supply of documents for the instruction of colporteurs, and the efforts to prepare them for their work by correspondence and personal intercourse of superintendents, general agents, etc., there are innumerable topics of practical moment which will only be discussed in such meetings. Instead of isolated toil, each laborer is enabled to profit by the experience of the others, and learns the views of the Committee and executive officers of the Society on all important points. And the spiritual quickening and refreshment of such an occasion give power to subsequent efforts. It is believed that all present felt, as quaintly expressed by one of the German colporteurs, that "his soul was *sharpened*" by the meeting.

3. General agents become familiar with the field, the men, and the work, and gather invaluable materials in such meetings for pulpit addresses. They also compare views with each other as to the best and most successful methods of accomplishing their responsible and difficult task, and go forth with enlarged conceptions of the enterprises they advocate.

4. The Secretaries gain a more intimate knowledge of the spirit and efficiency of their fellow-laborers, and of the wants of the country, and the adaptation of the Society's various plans of usefulness, than by any other process. They learn to appreciate the difficulties in the way of successful toil in different parts of the country, and can sympathize better with their associates in their disappointments or successes. And while there is a limit to the time and strength required to attend assemblages of this character, it is clear that occasionally the executive officers of the Society should go forth to different parts of the country and meet their fellow-laborers at convenient centres. They will find a blessing in it, and may hope to convey blessings to others. If possible, some members of the Committee should accompany them. The presence and influence of the respected delegate from the Society at Boston were invaluable to the convention and to the community.

5. As a means of multiplying the intelligent friends of the Society, such meetings are not unimportant. Again and again has the expression fallen from the lips of ministers and people in Cleveland, "Our views of colportage have undergone a change. Now we see the spirit and magnitude of the work, and it has a new place in our affections." The sincerity of such sentiments is attested by the fact that subscriptions have already been made in this city to the amount of more than two thousand dollars, with a delightful cheerfulness. Several gentlemen have proffered one hundred and fifty dollars each, and a spirit of liberality pervades the community. Our German brethren, few in number and of limited means, have given handsomely to multiply German colporteurs. Let the same facts and views which have been presented in the public meetings and official discussions of this convention be brought before other communities generally, and there will be no lack of means to sustain a thousand colporteurs, or to prosecute any other noble enterprise to which the providence of God may call the American Tract Society.

The Committee regard occasional conventions of the spirit and character of the above, as of great value, and as far more than compensating the expenditure necessarily involved. Could the beloved pastors of churches more generally attend these gatherings, and observe the character and spirit of the colporteurs, it is believed that their interest

would be deepened, and their confidence in the enterprise greatly strengthened.

The *provision for the support of colporteurs*, and the supply of the poor with publications gratuitously, has been furnished by charitable contributions. From the outset, the enterprise has rested on the basis of simple benevolence; and it has been sustained in a manner highly honorable to the piety and patriotism of the country. No sooner had the first colporteur been commissioned, than the late Mr. Charles Valentine of Cambridgeport, Mass., voluntarily assumed the payment of his salary. And from that period to the present, individuals or associations, male or female, have cheerfully assumed the salary of a colporteur, or provided an amount equal to his ordinary grants to the destitute; so that with the contributions at large among the churches, the requisite funds have been furnished to sustain all well-qualified candidates hitherto presented for the service. The whole number of such associations or individuals now exceeds two hundred. The largest donor for the support of this system has been Alexander Stoddart, Esq., of Mobile, who has paid \$3,000 annually for four years. The whole amount contributed *specifically for colportage* during the ten years, has been \$227,502; and the amount expended, exclusive of grants of publications, has been \$365,776. Acting on the principle of looking *above* and *abroad* for indications of duty, rather than within upon the treasury, it is an occasion of devout gratitude to God, that the Society, while pressing forward into nearly every opening field, and employing every suitable candidate—with no other reliance than benevolent aid—has never been left to serious embarrassments, or dishonored any claim upon its treasury.

The statistical results of colportage for the past ten years furnish the most complete illustration at once of the necessity and efficiency of the system. The whole number of families visited has been 2,168,793, embracing perhaps 11,000,000 souls, equal to nearly one half of our present population. With 1,103,314 families the colporteurs have engaged in personal religious conversation or prayer. Of the whole number, 374,320 families were destitute of all religious books except the Bible; and 137,711 have been found, since 1846, without the sacred Scriptures, of whom 84,707 have been supplied. Two hundred and twenty-four thousand nine hundred families were Roman-catholics or errorists of some other class. The statistics for the past three years show that 223,345 families habitually neglect evangelical preaching.

The number of books sold by colporteurs has been 2,424,630; while the total circulation of volumes for the past ten years has been 4,979,645.

Several million tracts have also been distributed by colporteurs. The number of books gratuitously circulated among poor, destitute, or erring households has been 652,668. Besides this vast amount of evangelical truth in a printed and oral form thus diffused over the land, the colporteurs have held prayer-meetings or addressed public meetings to the number of 60,578.

Had the statistics of the first three or four years been as full as in later years, the aggregate would be considerably enlarged. As it is, the thoughtful will find abundant materials for reflection, and the pious will see the occasion of devout praise from this condensed record of evangelical toil.

REVIEW OF THE LESSONS OF COLPORTAGE.

From this review of the brief history of Colportage, it is obvious that *the enterprise is of God*. His gracious hand is manifest in its origin, progress, and successes. His providence laid its foundations in atoning blood, and in the pressing necessities of a vast and growing nation. His grace has inspired the compassion and self-denial which have characterized its beneficent pathway. His Spirit has moved the hearts of so many of his children to consecrate themselves to these humble toils, and has crowned their labors with his blessing. He has opened the door of access to the unevangelized millions in their continent-wide dispersion. He has elicited the liberality of his people, and drawn their hearts out towards the destitute and the perishing. Devoutly and gratefully do we recognize that hand in all the past; joyfully do we cling to it for all the future. The child of Providence, Colportage leans on the paternal arm, and seeks the guidance of a Father's hand.

The facts of colportage for ten years furnish the amplest demonstration of the *reality and the beauty of Protestant Christian unity*. Members of not less than twenty different communions have shared in these toils—not one having been selected or rejected *because* of his denominational relationship: they have spoken ten different languages; they have mingled with all classes of our population; they have encountered sectarian prejudices, and infidel cavils, and papal boasts; they have addressed tens of thousands of public assemblies, and exhorted and prayed in a million habitations: but the cases are rare indeed of complaint of any departure from the catholic basis of the institution; while the harmony of mutual confidence and fraternal intercourse has almost never been interrupted. "The unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" has been delightfully preserved throughout. Thus they have had power

with God and man. The simple, sole errand of salvation has disarmed prejudice and overcome opposition, and gained unrestrained access to the perishing with gospel truth. The Lord Jesus Christ has thus been honored, in the partial answer of his memorable petition, "That they all may be one; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." The Committee are increasingly persuaded that it is only thus, by united action, that the gospel of Christ can be universally diffused among the neglected population of this and other lands.

The illustration of the *power of the press* afforded by the history of colportage is most impressive. The varied mechanical arts necessary to the speed and perfection of printing have advanced, until a single newspaper press will issue a thousand times as many words in a minute as a speaker will utter in an hour. Whatever may have been the might of this agency while in its infancy, as employed in the great Reformation under Luther—however potent in its youth in bringing religion down from the palace to the cottage, as wielded by the Puritans of the seventeenth century, or as employed by British Christians in antagonism to infidelity at the close of the eighteenth century, it remained for associated, systematic Christian enterprise in the noon of the nineteenth century, to develop the full power of this amazing instrument of light in its ripened manhood.

The grand idea of making the spiritual classics of our own and other times the popular literature of the world, and especially of our own continent; the aggressive movement by which the masses are reached and supplied, if need be, without money and without price, and the actual circulation of 6,567,795 copies of standard religious works by a single institution—an amount probably exceeding the number of such volumes issued in this country for the preceding two centuries; the supply of two hundred thousand families monthly with an evangelical journal like the *American Messenger*—with the ten thousand proofs of the utility and saving efficacy of the truth thus diffused, under the blessing of the Holy Spirit: surely no other demonstration is needed of the potency of the evangelical press as an agent of evangelization. And that power is cumulative. One book but prepares the way for another. The issues of these ten years but form the appetite and create the necessity for tenfold greater issues. And the complete power of the evangelical press will only be seen when *every household* shall be furnished with the holy Scriptures and helps to the study of its sacred pages, with an adequate library of the choicest spiritual authors, and with such periodicals as come freighted with intelligence of the progress of Christ's kingdom and with incentives to holy living and Christian action. Then it will be that a spiritual tele-

graph, stretching from one abode to another, will constitute the net-work by which the great family of man may be bound together in a common brotherhood, along whose wires the electricity of love, kindled at the cross, may flash around a regenerated world.

The entire *safety of employing the talent of pious private members of the churches in evangelical labors*, has been amply demonstrated in the history of colportage. Whatever apprehensions may have been entertained at the outset, and whatever dangers may attend the employment of lay talent without supervision or control, it may be doubted whether an equal number of Christian laborers in any relation ever toiled for ten years with less of drawback, or interference with other useful agencies. Scarcely a complaint has reached the ears of the Committee of the least collision with, or want of deference and respect for the ministry; or that unqualified men have passed from the colporteur ranks into the sacred office. On the contrary, with scarce an exception, those who have gone from this sphere to the pulpit, have been led by their labors to appreciate the necessity of mature preparation for the responsibilities of a station whose duties they have come to regard as among the most difficult and onerous in the world. Indeed, professors in colleges and theological seminaries have expressed with much unanimity their conviction that colportage itself is one of the best schools in which to gain a knowledge of human nature, become acquainted with popular error, acquire a spirit of devotion, and a zest for the appropriate studies preparatory to the pastorate. Many hundreds of students for the ministry, sympathizing in these views, have sought employment for their vacations; and have universally regarded the time thus spent as profitably employed as any other part of their preparatory course. Perhaps one-sixth of all the colporteurs have been ministers of Christ; and those not invested with the sacred office have invariably sought the counsel and friendship of the ministers and missionaries on their respective fields. With unwearied watchfulness in the investigation of the character and qualifications of candidates; with documents clearly defining the relations and duties of laborers; with a system of rigid accountability in all business transactions; with experienced supervisory agencies; with friends in all parts of the country to report any delinquency, and, above all, with the grace of God to direct, restrain, and control, we see not but there are as many safeguards around this as any other human agency. And with this growing conviction, we see few obstacles to the speedy enlistment of vastly increased numbers of evangelical laborers in this and various other enterprises appropriate to laymen; thus speeding on the work of the world's conversion to God. Tens of thousands of the redeemed are wasting their energies on worldly

pursuits, who are needed and should be engaged in active toils for the extension of the kingdom of the Redeemer.

The *indispensable necessity* of such an agency as colportage, in order to impart the knowledge of Christ to "every creature," is apparent from this history. Whatever might be possible, if thousands of additional ministers of the gospel were raised up and sustained, we have to do with the actual. It is enough to know that hundreds of thousands, even in the oldest and most favored parts of our country, yes, millions of our population, are not reached by the ministry of reconciliation, and in human probability will not be, to furnish the motive and the warrant for the employment of some auxiliary agency by which the light of life may be diffused. The coincident testimony of more than a thousand Christian men, visiting the firesides of the people in every state and territory of the Union, with no motive to other than charitable judgment—that in every township of every county explored, there are households or communities numbered by hundreds of thousands in the aggregate, who are regardless of the sanctuary and destitute of religious reading or Christian influences—ought to carry the conviction to every patriotic and Christian heart, if any thing can, that there is a field of amazing extent and importance for the employment of other than ministerial talent, the cultivation of which is as important as our national well-being and the everlasting salvation of immortal souls. Let the reader ponder the statistics of destitution. They furnish a sad and fearful census of ignorance and irreligion. Let them crowd the memory, and press on the conscience and the heart. Let them group themselves around the altar of prayer, and inspire the intercessions that ascend in the petition, "Thy kingdom come." Let them insinuate themselves into the patriot's hopes and fears as to the perpetuity of the Union. Let them have their influence in all the plans of benevolent action, and in the estimates of stewardship duties. And let the question be fairly met, *How, but for some such agency as Colportage, can these destitutions be supplied, and the present generation of the unevangelized be furnished with an oral and printed gospel?* The benevolent heart will sicken with the utter hopelessness of untold thousands for this life and the next, if an itinerant, book-bearing, fireside-preaching agency be obliterated from the system of means for evangelizing the world.

The efficiency of colportage as a means of evangelizing our *foreign immigrant population*, is apparent from this ten years' review. It is within this period that the flood-tide of emigration has set in, and that the questions relating to our duties and dangers in this relation have assumed an overwhelming importance. When no more foreigners arrived

than could easily be absorbed and assimilated to our population, each ship-load became an acquisition to our industrial strength, and could be acted upon by our religious agencies. But when whole neighborhoods and counties and even states became peopled with inhabitants of other languages, prejudices, and creeds—with no present supply of schools, books, Bibles, ministers, or churches, and with little prospect of being supplied for this generation—it became a problem of fearful interest, how these hordes could be brought under such influences as were indispensable to their temporal and eternal well-being, no less than to the safety and perpetuity of our institutions. The providence of God has led to a partial solution of this problem, in the wide-spread application of colportage to the various immigrant classes. There can be little doubt that competent men in adequate numbers can be found to hunt out every immigrant family, and explain to them the plan of salvation by a crucified Redeemer; that suitable reading matter, without limit, can be prepared and circulated with acceptance and profit: in a word, that the same system which is so suited to our unevangelized native population, may be turned to account for conveying moral and religious instruction to every class of these “strangers in a strange land.” And the fact that the great mass, especially of German immigrants, are intelligent readers, would seem to indicate that the press is to be largely instrumental in their evangelization, at least until an adequate ministry can be trained for their instruction.

An important lesson may be gathered from colportage respecting the proper and *successful mode of treating Roman-catholics* and other errorists. How necessary soever may be the controversies waged with systems of error and their champions, it is made clear by a large experience, that the better way of *truth in love* is alone successful in efforts for the spiritual benefit of *the people*. The heart has commonly more to do with error than the head. Direct dealing, therefore, with the conscience and the affections, is the speediest way of undermining false doctrines. And the facts of colportage will show that action on this principle has been blessed with almost if not quite as much success in the conversion of souls among nominal Papists and other errorists, as among nominal Protestants of the same general character. Indeed, some of the laborers who have “come again with rejoicing” bringing the most “sheaves” with them, have been almost exclusively devoted to the papal population. If, then, we have the key to the great battle between Christ and antichrist, in the simple idea of direct contact with the individual as a sinner needing a Saviour, and the exhibition of Christ and him crucified as his only hope—just as the gospel presents the

truth—eschewing controversy and bitterness of feeling—then may we welcome the outpouring of European millions on our shores without dread; for their coming will be the speediest and best way, as it is God's way, of their deliverance from the thralldom of error and of sin.

The influence of colportage on the *rising ministry* is impressively illustrated in this review. It will be seen that no less than 531 students for the ministry, connected with nearly fifty different colleges and theological seminaries, have been employed in colporteur labors during their vacations within the past ten years, with manifest advantage to the institution, the people, and themselves. They have gained money, health, experience, and spiritual influence. They have acquired a knowledge of human nature, without which the learning of the schools is of little more value than mechanical implements without the skill to use them. They have deemed the power of personal, fireside preaching often more efficacious than the more stately performance of the pulpit. They have been brought in contact with error in its living, popular forms, and can modify their future studies with reference to existing heresies. They have been made to understand systematic business habits—indispensable to future comfort in daily life. The *practical* element—so often and sadly neglected in the preparation for the most practical and useful of all professions—has found a training which is likely to affect the life-long usefulness of a candidate for the sacred office. In these, and other ways, have increasing numbers of our future pastors and teachers derived benefit from this system. And it is a result in which the Committee take great satisfaction; assured that the influence of the enterprises committed to their oversight, and all other evangelical instrumentalities, are chiefly dependent, under God, on an intelligent, pious, practical ministry for their wise direction and successful action.

The *incidental benefits* of this system will impress the student of its history. Aiming at the spiritual good of the masses, and having well-defined duties and relations, its ramifications extend to multiplied important interests. Thus the *Temperance cause* has received no small impulse from the 130,000 copies of the "Temperance Manual," and the millions of temperance tracts distributed, to say nothing of the personal exhortations and public advocacy of the Society's colporteurs. The *Sabbath cause* has had no inconsiderable aid from the diffusion of more than 700,000 copies of Edwards' "Sabbath Manual." The *Sunday-school* interest has derived some benefit by the organization or aid of many hundreds of these nurseries of piety, (320 in a single state,) and the supply of thousands of schools with healthful and saving literature, in libraries or separate volumes. The cause of *popular education* owes more than it

acknowledges to the wide dispersion of good books among the ignorant, and the thirst for knowledge thus awakened, for the multiplication of its friends and subjects. *The general cause of benevolence*, and especially the missionary cause, may attribute something of its prosperity to the wide diffusion of missionary memoirs, and such works as "Thoughts on Missions," and the premium essays on "Systematic Beneficence." Indeed, were the indirect blessings in such relations as the above *alone* considered, it is believed that colportage might substantiate its claims to a place among the important charities of the age. It is, however, as a direct, indispensable, and heaven-blessed agency for imparting oral and printed gospel instruction to the destitute, that the system claims regard in a review of its career. If it has not published a pure, Christ-exalting, soul-saving gospel in forms suited to awaken the careless, guide the inquiring, and edify the believing, among millions of the people who were previously unblessed with such heavenly teachings, then has every plan and purpose of the Committee been thwarted.

The future of colportage is known to God alone. We would not draw aside the veil; but believing the promises, trusting in the providences, and inspired by the prophecies of the Almighty, would press onward in the discharge of present duty. Whatever may be the developments of Providence respecting the application of this system to Central and South America, to the continent of Europe, or in connection with missions in Pagan lands, it is clear, from the experience of the past ten years, that colportage is demanded in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, on a vastly increased scale. It has required ten years to reach one-half our population, with the colporteur force hitherto employed; whereas every consideration of humanity and religion prompts to the speediest arrangements for the annual visitation, at least, of every destitute household.

In order to such an extension of the system as the country now demands, without reference to its prospective growth, the number of colporteurs now in the field should be increased to one thousand. And even then, if we include Canada and Mexico already partly traversed, the average field of each colporteur will nearly equal the state of Connecticut in extent, and will have a population of more than 30,000. Fully one half of this 30,000, on a general average, will be found unreached directly by other evangelical agencies. And is it too much to ask, that one man shall be employed for each 15,000 of the unevangelized accessible by our influence? Perhaps the total annual cost of colportage, on such a scale, would be \$300,000. Were 1,000 individuals, associations, or churches to contribute \$150 each, provision would be made for the salaries at the usual rate; and it is believed the friends

of the Society of every denomination would supply the balance in smaller contributions.

The Committee indulge the belief that the number of colporteurs might be increased to 1,000, were adequate means provided for their support. The ratio of advance from eleven men in 1841 to 569 in 1851, would speedily realize this number. There are thousands of pious men in our churches of requisite talents and discretion, who, if it were announced that they could be sustained in devoting all their time and strength to the good of souls, would gladly enter on evangelical labors. And can any one question the ability of Christians in this country to support all the men needed to reach the existing generation of the unevangelized with the gospel?

The action of the convention at Cleveland, cited above, and a memorial from the Maryland branch—one of the most efficient of the Society's auxiliaries—with other indications of Providence, taken in connection with the cheering results of the past ten years' labors, seem to make the course of duty plain, to proceed without delay to multiply colporteurs until every portion of the land shall be traversed at least annually, with these messengers of light. None can appreciate the responsibilities of such a movement more fully than the Committee. Angels might shrink from them. But they are not to be compared with the responsibility of leaving millions of our countrymen to live and die without the gospel; and suffering another generation of the unevangelized to pass from the stage unwarned and unblessed. The mute appeal of the swarms of superstitious foreigners in the midst of us; the famine of the word on every hill-side and in every valley of our broad land; the claims of the papal millions on our northern and southern borders; anxieties for our imperilled civil and social institutions; compassion for the ignorant and the erring, and, above all, grateful love for the ever-blessed Redeemer, impel the Committee to the speedy extension of this system of evangelization, until at least ONE THOUSAND COLPORTEURS are in the field. In this campaign, they throw the banner of the cross to the breeze, inscribed, "*Hitherto hath the Lord helped us*"—"The Lord will provide."

COLPORTAGE FOR 1850-51.

The Committee have rejoiced in the increasing evidences that God approves and blesses the humble endeavors to reach the destitute masses of our population with spiritual truth. No year has been more fruitful of good, under the blessing of the Most High. There has been a steady advance in the direction of the more neglected classes in all parts of the land. "*To the poor*" the gospel has thus been preached more widely, perhaps, than ever before.

The Committee regard the operations thus directed of paramount importance, as accomplishing the main object for which the Society was formed; as carrying out the gracious commands of the Saviour; and as contributing to the safety of our civil and social institutions. The chief dangers of a republic arise from ignorance, error, and irreligion. Universal suffrage and a free press necessitate unremitting exertions to instruct the mind and conscience of the masses, to ward off the assaults of error, and to purify the fountains of influence. But to accomplish this work, in a country now nearly equal in territory to all Europe, but with a population less than one-tenth in number, speaking a dozen different languages, dispersed over its surface, peculiarly demands an agency that may reach the people at their firesides with written and oral truth in their several tongues. Colportage seems to have special adaptation to such a condition of things. Drawing its laborers from the ranks of the people; breathing a kind, catholic spirit; employing plain, earnest, spiritual books; going from door to door, and dispensing the word of life in permanent forms, if need be without money and without price, it harmonizes with the genius of our republican institutions, while it is imbued with the spirit of a free saving gospel. Christian compassion and patriotic feeling, then, alike will find gratification in the progress of this system of benevolent action, and will trace the record of its annual achievements with gratitude and hope.

The statistical results of the year, as presented in the accompanying tables, are full of instruction and encouragement. They furnish a record of unwearied and well-directed toil in fields of great spiritual desolation. Could they be accompanied with the interesting written reports from the several colporteurs, which have animated the Committee in their labors during the year, and with the attendant evidences of the blessing of the

Holy Spirit on almost every field, their interest would be increased tenfold. But the Committee must refer to the current numbers of the American Messenger and other journals for particular illustrations of the usefulness of their agency, and content themselves with the insertion of the bare statistics.

The first table contains the names, fields, and a condensed report of the labors, for the whole or a part of the year, of *four hundred and thirty-four colporteurs in the regular service*, including those employed among the German, French, Irish, Spanish, Welsh, and Norwegian population. Eleven additional colporteurs, whose reports are defective, are not included in the list; and sixty-seven colporteurs have been recently commissioned, twenty-five of whom commenced their labors subsequent to April 1. The whole number of colporteurs in commission April 1, was 368.

The second table shows that 135 students, from forty different colleges, universities, and theological seminaries, have been employed for their vacations; making, with the 434 above, *five hundred and sixty-nine colporteurs* who have labored, for a longer or shorter period, during the year. Of the whole number in commission, 109 were for the *foreign immigrant population* of various classes, or for Canadians and Mexicans. The apportionment of colporteurs has been as follows: Vermont, 3; Rhode-Island, 2; Connecticut, 7; New York, 81; New Jersey, 9; Pennsylvania, 74; Maryland, 19; Virginia, 57; North Carolina, 8; South Carolina, 12; Georgia, 23; Alabama, 13; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 12; Texas, 6; Mississippi, 4; Arkansas, 4; Tennessee, 20; Kentucky, 12; Ohio, 62; Michigan, 12; Indiana, 49; Illinois, 31; Missouri, 22; Iowa, 3; Wisconsin, 14; Minnesota, 1; California, 1; Canada, 4; Mexico, 2.

The amount of time actually devoted to colportage during the year is equal to the labors of one man for *two hundred and thirty-five years*—notwithstanding the proportion of brief agencies by students for their vacations. The statistics of colportage by the American Tract Society, Boston, are not included above.

The whole *number of families visited* by colporteurs during the year, has been 505,422—exceeding the number visited the previous year by nearly 80,000—and embracing about 2,500,000 of our population.

The number of families reported as having been *conversed with on topics of practical religion or prayed with*, has been 238,864.

The number of volumes sold has exceeded that of any former year, amounting, as estimated at 25 cents the volume, to 451,951.

The number of *books granted to destitute families*, estimating them at one-sixth of a dollar each, and allowing this estimate to cover the tracts distributed, as appears by the tables, has been 127,888. Total of tracts

and volumes granted by colporteurs 34,680,861 pages, amounting to \$23,009.

The colporteurs have also held neighborhood prayer-meetings, or addressed public meetings, to the number of 13,300.

The statistics of destitution, superadded to the above statistics of labor, are deeply impressive, and deserve to be prayerfully pondered by every well-wisher to his country. The colporteurs report 90,779 families, embracing nearly 500,000 souls, as *habitually neglectful of the evangelical sanctuary*; some from isolation, others from prejudice, multitudes from sheer indifference. If to these we add the much larger number who hear the gospel only at intervals of four or eight weeks, or on funeral occasions, it will be seen how vast a proportion of the people are dependent on fireside instruction for the knowledge of the truth, and how utterly indispensable is some system for conveying the knowledge of Christ to the abodes of the people.

Fifty-four thousand three hundred families of Roman-catholics, German, Irish, French, and Spanish, have been visited, the way of salvation familiarly explained to them, and tracts, books, and Bibles placed in their hands, where prejudice did not prevent.

The number of families *destitute of all religious books*, except the Bible, was 68,027; and the number destitute of the holy Scriptures was 34,684, of whom 14,200 were supplied, chiefly through the liberality of local Bible Societies.

The labors of the year have been marked with signal blessings, in individual conversions, and in revivals of religion. On some fields the Holy Spirit has descended with great power, and the colporteurs have been in the midst of revival scenes for months together. See the report of the superintendent of colportage in Virginia, in a subsequent page.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1851.

COLPORTEURS WHOSE NAMES ARE IN ITALICS CONTINUE THEIR LABORS.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Catholics or fatal errors.	Families habitually neglecting Sabbath school.	Families compared with.	Whole number families visited.	Families destitute of Bible.	Fam. sup. With Bible or Test.	REMARKS.
<i>Myron Bronson</i>	VERMONT.	M. D.											
<i>Tertius Reynolds</i>	Chittenden	9	1,755	414	13	220	98	357	1,450	1,582	47	123	
<i>Edmund West</i>	Franklin	6	683	143	56	243	41	302	1,030	1,500	20	30	
	Grand Isle	11	1,149	391	51	150	135	278	448	1,114	38	45	
<i>John Clark</i>	RHODE ISLAND.												
<i>H. G. Dunkham</i>	Providence	12	1,074	225	51	10	36	70	502	906			Superintendent.
	Blackstone Valley	5	535	86	53	100	214	175	460	460			
<i>R. D. Dorrance</i>	CONNECTICUT.												
<i>D. G. Humphrey</i>	Windham	5	1,130	265	10	139	46	423	743	1,360	33	23	
<i>Rev. A. Simpson</i>	Litchfield	7	3,473	124			146	297	3,225	3,225			
	Middlesex	3	722	126	31	64	10	36	220	598	7	5	
<i>L. F. Ames</i>	NEW YORK.												
<i>Elias Arnold</i>	St. Lawrence	6	650	227	53	165	95	353	642	737	63	40	
<i>Carmi Benton</i>	Osage	9	1,806	265	37	9	1	186	845	2,195	1		
<i>Hanover Bradley</i>	Tioga and Tompkins	11	1,630	371	45	163	26	224	1,034	1,061	111	96	
<i>J. A. Burhans</i>	Allegany	12	1,173	288	34	254	95	400	1,125	1,745	142		
<i>Jacob Burbank</i>	Ulster	3	391	111	15	24	25	39	533	606	9	9	
<i>Rev. E. Burdick</i>	Wayne	9		18	3		2	12	90	114	6	8	
<i>Rev. Eben Colman</i>	Essex and Warren	15	366	67	16	15	8	7	220	335	2		
<i>H. Demarest</i>	Chatsaugue	12	2,007	555	17	253	24	935	471	2,218	38	8	
<i>Louis Ewiger</i>	Oswego	8	1,366	291	72	802	52	905	1,328	2,023	176	317	
<i>A. Haffnack</i>	Albany	3	442	176	12	35	13	37	231	1,338	42		
<i>M. Eisenman</i>	Buffalo	20	1,498	971	199	617	1,218	337	2,917	4,793	618	241	German population
<i>Rev. Wm. Goodell</i>	New York city	3	245	203	18	151	244	186	217	1,984	144	9	"
<i>Chauncey Hall</i>	Channing	11	2,099	366	81	37		265	620	1,564	132	78	"
<i>S. Kniskern</i>	Onondaga	12	2,171	841	39	527	110	522	1,357	2,225	46	43	"
<i>G. W. Abram</i>	Montgomery	3	845	385	2	63	24	136	497	617	9	15	"

E. A. Kirkland	1	12	507	23	9	6	239	354	13	6	
Jefferson											
W. Young	10	15	254	37	6	18	60	219	5	5	
W. Young	10	15	1,436	188	45	367	309	1,378	37	32	
Schoharie	12	1,236	842	99	600	885	1,310	920	1,620	170	23
New York city	3	132	25	25	133	146	204	752	848	206	Irish population.
John Murphy	10	439	191	569	810	1,605	3,333	3,636	5-96	49	German population.
C. A. Meyer	4	168	103	499	947	712	1,530	642	12	779	German population.
Williamsburg	9	20	1,394	717	33	383	138	888	2,069	230	291
Fulton and Montgomery	2	147	32	9	84	17	42	158	122	4	20
Niagara	1	332	62	9	84	17	42	158	388	23	5
Onondaga	1	13	330	97	23	44	71	500	500	6	Incomplete.
Wayne	5	754	295	43	73	44	71	1,150	20	10	4
Oswego	3	15	538	92	5	23	3	312	312	4	4
Chemung	11	9	1,173	432	40	55	334	439	249	199	308
Albany, Ulster, and Syracuse	12	1,794	394	12	165	270	323	596	4,810	208	34
Newburgh and vicinity	11	222	92	4	142	20	139	563	556	37	16
Monroe	3	544	153	13	869	1,365	1,738	117	2,609	152	128
New York city	7	15	4,240	639	40	498	1,500	577	1,291	1,507	152
Erle	12	877	298	42	1,131	1,244	1,788	3,216	4,983	506	75
Henry Veshlage	1	26	134	52	6	70	10	50	330	720	
New York city	11	15	825	251	60	1,737	2,621	2,786	2,503	5,060	2,026
J. F. Warnam	21	69	35	36				20	80	100	
Alex. Walling	8	22	1,236	579	8	478	98	566	1,316	2,302	9
Charles B. Walker	3	10	598	223	31	66	13	187	376	429	35
Stauben	3	4	277	77	4	95	17	140	493	509	13
George T. Waldo	2	6	401	166	14	109	7	137	178	516	28
Milo Warner	12	864	969	86	2,314	2,235	2,028	2,359	4,939	947	62
L. H. Wilcox											German population.
Matthew Ziegler											Irish population.
NEW JERSEY.											
Leonard Cole	4	4	874	38	14	13	7	17	391	756	
Hunterdon and Warren	6	5	1,584	114	31	66	322	263	572	2,913	
T. J. Evans	8	10	1,206	144	34	84	338	509	1,144	2,862	
G. W. Lloyd	1	22	80	24	10	75	49	123	238	40	1
Adams Miller	12	2,811	907	55	389	137	680	3,164	5,011	94	34
Salem, Atlantic, etc.											German population.
PENNSYLVANIA.											
EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA.											
E. M. Long	4	1,542	189	21	35	6	23	143	286		Superintendent.
Conrad Anthony	9	19	1,913	235	70	45	69	96	1,505	127	German and English.
J. K. Braker	1	5	194	136	112	2	5	81	228	17	7
John B. Buck	8	512	136	112	6	43	4	200	698	10	Imperfect.
Rev. J. W. Bralten	4	19	738	372	52	332	17	354	636	1,112	118
Rev. Amos Chapman	2	15	536	33							German and English.
Jonathan Focht	8	8	1,002	244	6	45	6	690	1,433		German—imperfect.
Jacob Gerhart	8	18	2,063	221	76	39	58	56	1,376	68	55
Abraham Greasimer											
Thomas P. Hackett											
S. S. Kennedy											

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1851.—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.		STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.										REMARKS.	
		Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Catholics or fanatical errorists.	Families continually neglecting evan. preach'g.	Families conversed or prayed with.	Whole number families visited.	Families destitute of Bible.	Fam. sup. with Bible or Test.	
PENNSYLVANIA—Continued.													
S. S. Long	Montgomery	M. D.	2,076	274	28	134	172	305	441	2,210	36	31	
Rev. J. B. Lyons	Chester	10	1,633	44	3	5	6	35	6	1,590			
Joseph Mason	Somerset	9	1,805	425	219	66	10	1,290	505	865	4	1	
Matthew McPaul	Kensington and vicinity	10	907	40	19		549	350	708				
B. B. Pelton	Crawford	15	100	36				28	35				
George Powell	Manayunk	1	166	36			144		8	804			
Peter Ruth	Northampton	3	436	36	17	8	3	22	43	615			
George Rathig	York and Adams	9	1,618	228	48	35	28	4	926	1,469	73	37	
Alex. Robinson	Philadelphia	8	379	74	79	28	1,094	252	1,091	7,164	5		
J. G. Sabie	Bradford	3	760	155	17	36	92	25	630	853	8		
Henry Schultz	Lebanon	2	439	33			1,340	15	140	470	25		German population.
Samuel Sipe	Perry	4	672	163	6	11	3	26	349	940	95		
Joseph Trumbor	Lehigh	7	1,409	156	29	107	90	111	627	2,251	142		German and English.
William Walker	Blair and Lancaster	2	1,688	135	7	107	9	70	225	396			
Thomas Yearick	Union	15	147	22			3		46	153	7		
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.													
H. N. Thissell	Westmoreland and Cambria	12	4,538	1,223	26	888	852	1,132	2,643	5,420	318	107	Superintendent.
James Boyd	Warren and Venango	9	1,558	630	61	400	52	360	565	1,570	1	24	
Rev. E. W. Beebe	Beaver	2	519	131	7	2	11	18	330	344	8	2	
J. T. Chambers	Indiana	9	1,506	139	34		11	3	69	952			
Rev. G. G. Collins	Pittsburg and steamboats	4	1,557	439	53	5	45	32	938	1,113	4		
Robert Davis	Alleghany city	12	831	657	59		1,340	1,340	468	3,989	431	171	German population.
John Hauck	Washington	1	232	12		6		4	3	122			
James Lutten	Clarion	2	201	108			16	17	39	396	6		
Wm. McCall	Merced and Lawrence	11	2,145	447	27	370	44	651	1,120	2,472	50	2	
Daniel McConnell	Crawford	4	949	179	39	75	40	51	336	1,904	30	55	
Robert McCrea	Fayette	10	1,573	922	73	450	83	476	400	1,195	30	8	
Rev. A. G. Osborn	Green	11	673	327	1	151	59	16	94	1,389	55	29	
Rev. W. A. Porter	Clearfield	10	1,512	357			19	30	130	187			German population.
W. M. Ready	Pittsburg	1	1,311	65	10	16	139	62	97	635	1,514	30	3
Frederick Schirman	Erje	10	1,907	351	29	389	323	75	92	324	30	9	
D. H. Senford		7	1,401	99	1		10	583	1,562	1,562	11		
J. M. Thompson	Butler	7	1,185	474	1		3	10	583	1,562	11		
S. P. Thompson	Pittsburg	4	567	119	4	39	46	50	106	716	17	4	German population.

	1,041	459	122	214	63	1,138	1,774	150	338
Jacob Weiser	12	1,041	459	122	214	63	1,138	1,774	150
Butler, Armstrong, etc.	5	382	87	45	2	77	249	559	2
MARYLAND.	6	19,482	87	45	2	1,484	5,811	1,003	240
Lower part of State	96	19,482	239	1,417			17,264	1,003	240
Eighteen colporters									
VIRGINIA.									
Jonathan Cross	13	1,170	875	138	3	1	7	105	3
Rev. Alex. Branch	13	1,010	271	33	171	144	616	779	23
Amherst	9	1,431	292	152	63	50	274	514	
Surry and Isle of Wight	3	725	177	66	20	82	178	44	42
Southampton	3	326	151	1	20	82	143	16	17
Richmond	1	252	109	51	20	21	66	103	16
Payette	5	508	284	63	101	22	655	571	9
Taylor and Preston	4	557	149	61	15	16	230	103	132
Lewis and Randolph	4	1,250	124	41	44	9	841	20	20
W. E. Cray	1	96	94	1	15	20	35	6	1
Rev. W. A. Crocker	1	362	56	5	4	1	79	205	6
Hiram G. Creas	1	115	13			1	46	96	4
Rev. Wm. Dillion	3	1,164	1,911				250	550	
Tazewell	9	1,003	723	52	159	20	384	710	51
Scott and Lee	11	946	468	55	2	3	352	404	7
Pitsylvania	6	861	333	77	127	20	315	370	26
Bedford	4	1,478	251	12	38	7	294	774	
L. M. Hastings	3	511	109	11	29	3	148	225	2
Buckingham	1	97	42	1	1	3	100	157	8
Tyler	5	338	75	90	35	19	275	337	
Charlotte and Campbell	2	416	130	15	56	52	104	204	27
Marion	7	100	15	10	25	5	21		14
Rev. A. P. Laiden	5	481	145	29	90	25	259	353	56
Rev. P. J. Lawrence	9	1,140	366	136	6	31	449	456	30
Campbell and Greenbriar	2	654	162	4	25	9	385	481	28
Fred. B. Moore	5	763	484	2	179	9	173	314	31
Rev. T. J. Myers	6	705	90	25	25	17	45	150	64
Rev. Wm. McGee	2	283	156	39	154	17	45	150	
Nansemond	7	1,041	516	95	167	97	433	1,180	12
Alleghany	9	646	277	61	21	3	604	1,611	35
Whealing and vicinity	5	1,155	634	28	146	26	288	1,263	38
Rev. Abraham Price	11	636	348	2	77	13	87	671	24
Addison H. Price	2	15	177	136	3	10	50	80	5
Thomas Fryor	8	1,320	464	7	120	6	105	500	33
Green and Madison	3	603	261	15	50	2	74	83	52
Amherst	1	73	20	12	2	20	74	83	7
Charles R. Ross	10	916	491	18	119	4	97	751	34
Thos. P. Reynolds	2	615	179	8	130	10	31	172	15
Rev. D. W. Scott	1	520	179	8	130	10	14	106	18
Tazewell	2	171	75	37			230	330	
Rev. D. W. Scott	1	520	179	8	130	10	14	106	18
Monongalia	1	520	179	8	130	10	14	106	18
John Stewart	2	171	75	37			230	330	
Rev. Wm. H. Starr	1	520	179	8	130	10	14	106	18
Norfolk	2	171	75	37			230	330	
Rev. Wm. Sturges	1	520	179	8	130	10	14	106	18
Henry	2	171	75	37			230	330	

Deceased.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1851.—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Families Romal errors.	Families habitually neglecting evan. preach'g.	Families connected with.	Whole number families visited.	Families destitute of Bible.	Fam. sup. with Bible or Test.	REMARKS.
VIRGINIA—Continued.													
Wm. C. Thurman	Rockingham	M. D. 1 10	133	61	1	22			43	72			
Rev. A. J. Warner	Cabell, Wayne, and Mason	9	692	465	104	108	10	104	805	1,083	19	12	
Rev. Matthias Wilson	Gibbs	2 15	332	144	6	34	1	5	255	316	23	3	
Rev. Samuel Walker	Mathews and Northampton	4 9	646	239	9	33		15	157	298			
J. W. Waller	Lugana	2	446	43	2	107	2	56	138	330	21	12	
Rev. J. D. Wolfe	Patrick	14	51	6	2				9	29			
NORTH CAROLINA.													
John N. Andrews	Guilford, Davidson, etc.	11	2,515	1,536	37	1,963	198	1,195	1,642	3,236	626	598	
E. L. Alexander	Mecklenburg, Union, etc.	15 23	1,135	241	5	319	2	4	1,111	328			
D. G. Bodenhamer	Davis, Watauga, etc.	1 3	1,211	112	73	384			831	1,022	157		
Rev. Milton Cain	Surry, Milton, and Ashe	3 19	38	141	27	108		2	311	377	77	137	
Isiah Deason	Bertie and Henderson	4	548	268	4	15	2	5	150	363	84		
R. R. Michaux	Bertie, Hertford, etc.	1 15	48	10	4	28		2	45	133	15		
J. A. McNeely	Mecklenburg, Catawba, etc.	4 7	1,463	181	10	105	44	57	86	962	37	12	Incomplete.
Rev. Wm. C. Patterson	Chatham and vicinity	1	149	13	12	37		14	73	97	33	12	Incomplete.
SOUTH CAROLINA.													
I. H. Bailey	Fairfield District	4	638	30	17				36	55			Incomplete.
G. B. Benedict	Kershaw District	2	312	36		23	1	8	24	115	6		
I. R. Crawford	Orangeburg District	5 25	445	113	1	1	8		244	563	18	18	
Rev. E. Dufford	Abbeville District	1 18	201	26	31	11		4	40	186			
C. P. Du Pre	Edgefield District	1 21	512	46	16	5			75	185	1	8	
R. H. Field	Lexington District	7 14	1,456	154		18	2	10	221	634	26		
Jesse B. Lowman	Williamsburg, Sumpter, etc.	3	472	41	36	6			36	110	7	1	
Rev. Fred. Rush	Williamsburg, GEORGIA.	4 27	185	131	57	35		5	164	198			Superintendent.
Rev. Henry Safford	Franklin and Madison	12	1,146	670					20	130			
W. O. Alexander	Batts, Jasper, and Morgan	1 29	1,263	33		4		13	1,044	1,116	20	66	
Rev. W. Byars	Paulding and Carroll	9	720	369	112	85	2	5	115	258	14	51	
Burton Crabb	Gilmer	1 6	351	79	16	9			30	444	44	30	
C. C. Chandler	Clarke and Jackson	5 2	501	208	3	18		18	251	615	26	10	
J. Creighton	Cherokee and Forsythe	4 10	437	75		56	1	190	720	1,235	155	86	
Rev. F. M. Haygood	Walton	9 5	1,107	561	82	227	5		769	709	87	70	Deceased.
Rev. S. Potter	Habersham and Rabun	5 27	731	52	28	5			404	709	64	72	
I. M. Ramsey	Franklin	5	627	188					5	102			
Rev. D. Yerner	Franklin	1 4	125	51	13	8		5					

<i>D. L. Wardlaw</i>	8	519	300	71	308	6	201	384	1,001	189	60	Superintendent.
<i>Rev. W. J. Wardlaw</i>	1	133	53	9	42	3	29	37	92	31	15	
<i>L. D. Wood</i>	2	279	85	16	10		20	125	311	18	17	
ALABAMA.												
<i>Rev. Alex. McGlashen</i>	12	3,377	408	3				735	1,675	178	46	Superintendent.
<i>George Blake</i>	12	1,416	627	144	144	3	78	404	726	112	35	
<i>G. L. Brown</i>	8	2,008	208	46	143	35	42	473	756	35	38	Partly in Canada.
<i>Dwain Campbell</i>	3	1,353	388	6	51	7	42	434	638	45	42	
<i>Mordock Gill</i>	11	2,517	294	3	226	7	121	306	1,228	24	15	
<i>John C. Hood</i>	8	1,542	253					325	735	67	2	
<i>Jackson and Marshall</i>	5	1,323	130	80	49	4		85	128	15	15	
<i>George Seiple</i>	6	1,331	304	51	240	98	250	418	819	140	36	
<i>W. P. St. John</i>	9	1,939	715	53	169	2	150	291	2,238	38	38	
<i>Blunt, Morgan, and Jefferson</i>	1	234	75	21			3	49	301	10	10	
<i>Tallahaga and Randolph</i>	4	465	133	95	4			94	179	22	16	Imperfect.
<i>Chambers and Russell</i>	1	409	119	5	25		18	64	139	16	16	
<i>Marion</i>	1	26										
FLORIDA.												
<i>Rev. J. Carraway</i>	3	129	27	3				14	54	2	2	Partly in previous year.
<i>Rev. J. H. McRory</i>	3	238	450	89	204	80	251	317	639	49	29	
MISSISSIPPI.												
<i>Wm. B. Harris</i>	10	1,845	173	129	116		44	1,032	1,308	65	52	
<i>Rev. John Haynes</i>	5	1,445	313	52	19			233	306	30	20	
<i>Honey Pierce</i>	10	5,941	666	10	292	118	377	1,065	1,628	206	114	
<i>John J. Pierre</i>	3	730	276	6	67		27	214	459	28	28	
LOUISIANA.												
<i>Heman Packard</i>	12	5,172	1,542	20		6	37	63	143			Superintendent
<i>Alberto De Tornos</i>	4	30	141		235	235	235	235	235	235	235	Spanish population
<i>Jules Hansjacob</i>	11	1,345	379	7	539	652	775	478	1,134	300	176	French and German.
<i>Rev. Z. Harmon</i>	4			31	6	21	12	78	137	10	10	
<i>Matthew Haas</i>	12	966	279	36	314	1,559	1,388	1,475	3,001	209	237	German population.
<i>H. J. Hoile</i>	12	297	28	5	119	461	15	837	2,400	155	45	
<i>Job Hobbs</i>	12	1,390	361	29	65	20	70	297	341	39	44	
<i>Christian Johnson</i>	12	645	306		568	1,323	1,655	7,714	7,714	71	53	German population.
<i>John G. Kost</i>	3	13	4		2	5	8	33	154	2	2	
<i>John G. Kost</i>	9	354	144	152	138	5,225	4,708	3,899	7,315	244	290	French population.
<i>Francois Morel</i>	1	43	196	6	25	30	50	5	105	5	5	
<i>N. S. Smith</i>	1	68	34		2	9	15	41	96	9	9	German population.
<i>Louis A. Frech</i>	1											
TEXAS.												
<i>Rev. N. P. Charlot</i>	2	53	98	13				98	41		6	
<i>Rev. F. E. Easter</i>	7	618	288	43	21		52	263	376	5	5	
<i>Thos. P. Gray</i>	3	48	48			41	9	8	283	11	12	
<i>Rev. D. C. Nevils</i>	9	1,246	223	71	210	5	88	260	551	119	75	
<i>G. S. Tompston</i>	1	237	50	12	11	2	20	69	112	4	4	Incomplete.
<i>J. V. Wright</i>	7	846	292	72	54	14	46	200	323	35	40	

Ann. Report.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1851.—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Catholics or fatal errorists.	Families habitually neglecting evangel. preach. R.	Families converted or prayed with.	Whole number of Families visited.	Families destitute of Bible.	Fam. sup. with Bible or Test.	REMARKS.
		M. D.											
	ARKANSAS.												
Rev. J. Buchanan	North-west part.	1 15	627	750					492	653	3	3	
Rev. T. T. Lutz	Philips, Monroe, and St. Francis	4 25	556	134	46	6		47	56	356	10	10	Incomplete.
Rev. E. J. Walker	South of Arkansas river	6	604	79					25	124	19	13	
Rev. J. Wilson	North-west part.	1 15	351	46	7	16							
	TENNESSEE.												
A. T. Bonham	Morgan, Rhea, and Marion	8 22	1,596	412	2	134			291	1,507	94	40	
M. G. Bonham	Rhea and Marion	2 12	409	99		44			80	257	18	9	
J. Bullen	Hawkins	1 20	278	59		2	1	1	51	152	1		
J. Cloyd	Ohio	7 15	833	197	74	225			92	615	40		
Rev. J. Crawford	Coffe, Grundy, and Franklin	12	2,568	963	156	412	24	450	716	922	72	41	
J. A. De La Vergne	White, Van Buren, and Bledsoe	10	1,497	619	38	1,096		229	747	1,319	191	50	
G. E. Eagleton	Rutherford	1 9	368	127		31	1	4	46	384	39	30	
Ira W. King	Jefferson and Smith	10 20	1,547	649	169	593		135	864	1,806	5	4	
Wm. A. Mathes	Jackson and Cocke	9 16	991	153	30	79	1	66	179	655	9	63	
Rev. D. G. More	Williamson and Hinchman	4 7	379	76	32	30			52	300	4		
Rev. J. F. McCutchen	Bedford and Marshall	7 17	1,149	191	67	98	2	143	828	1,411	10		
John McAmis	Chalhome and Grayson	5 20	919	458					76	470	26		
A. A. Mathes	Dyer	16	87	22									
H. Park	A. A. Mathes	1 10	438	58		5	1	5	136	183	10		
J. B. Payne	Murry, Giles, Williamson	8	1,992	271	4	15			300	1,442	9		
S. H. Shields	Giles	1 17	200	12		2			30	35	191	25	
T. J. Terry	Madison	9	5,073	672	17	685	3	216	1,430	1,471	312	293	
J. F. Walker	Waynes, Hardin, and Perry	2	405	11	14	38		19	78	160	15	6	
	KENTUCKY.												
J. Biakely	Campbell, Pendleton, and Brocken	9 22	1,291	413	57	290	75	550	967	1,209	51	51	
P. C. Brouder	Logan and Warren	7 30	1,377	394	25	6			404	653			
Charles Cain	Louisville, and 2,652 boats	12	4,533	885		6	1	16	41	93	84	178	
J. G. Claife	Green and Adair	9 6	824	640	17				298	409			
Rev. P. H. Hoffman	Floyd	2 169	220	53		150	3	140	89	215	80	72	
Jason Keith	Louisville and 144 boats	1	436	60									
Joseph Rice	Kenton, Boone, and Gallatin	2 4	296	118		17	84	46	341	544	41	15	
R. Sinnamon	Oldham and Henry	8 4	1,064	224		329	36	714	177	1,996	138		
Rev. J. M. Thurston	Morgan, Floyd, and Pike	9 15	1,133	919	78	1,016	2	390	1,024	1,383	565	565	
Rev. J. S. Ward	Grayson, Breckenridge, and Mead	8	1,188	129	44	5	4	51	170	413			Incomplete.

Author	Title	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200
Swety Wood	Holmes	19	167	314	2	11	2	94	102	133	Superintendent.																																																																																																																																																																													
J. W. Allen	Perry	1	247	40	17	10	5	15	75	185	"																																																																																																																																																																													
M. Bann	Lawrence and Jackson	10	1,436	356	13	103	12	115	290	361	"																																																																																																																																																																													
J. E. Blodgett	Galla, Williams, Hunt, and Fulton	4	540	210	14	110	83	174	495	608	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Switters Brown	Lucas, Williams, Hunt, and Fulton	6	778	257	3	284	97	140	1,200	1,246	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Hanna Brown	Sandusky and Ottawa	8	1,104	350	107	30	34	114	509	926	German population.																																																																																																																																																																													
Wm. Beerington	Sandusky and Ottawa	8	725	322	30	43	108	45	1,246	1,759	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Z. Benz	Cleveland and Clermont	9	1,970	290	10	56	92	389	470	2,007	"																																																																																																																																																																													
H. C. Coburn	Hamilton and Clermont	1	1,719	181	44	1	2	119	312	"																																																																																																																																																																														
W. G. Cobb	Legal and Chagoyale	6	1,369	436	27	400	74	561	849	1,770	German population.																																																																																																																																																																													
Wm. Degriss	Crawford and Wyandotte	6	905	112	15	33	6	10	392	669	"																																																																																																																																																																													
C. G. Gidd	Tuscarawas and Stark	6	778	120	3	33	784	793	2,281	"																																																																																																																																																																														
J. G. Gidd	Cincinnati	8	630	130	3	16	50	110	247	3,640	"																																																																																																																																																																													
J. H. Gidd	Marion and Hardin	10	1,059	224	13	16	13	152	326	377	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Thos. Johnson	Richland	6	1,083	274	7	39	7	140	610	1,020	"																																																																																																																																																																													
H. F. Keates	Fayette and Highland	3	1,134	150	17	16	6	17	92	85	"																																																																																																																																																																													
J. K. Miller	Cayohoga	2	886	398	40	21	6	17	143	620	"																																																																																																																																																																													
E. H. Merrill	Wood	1	367	40	21	6	17	92	85	381	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Rev. J. McCutchen	Miami	1	669	138	33	160	7	143	620	870	"																																																																																																																																																																													
H. Orison	Athens and Hocking	3	4	1,051	381	38	23	30	433	494	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Wm. Patterson	Huron and Lorain	6	24	1,051	381	38	23	30	433	494	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Rev. M. Palmer	Huron and Lorain	5	26	1,170	452	53	275	7	216	647	"																																																																																																																																																																													
C. Polescher	Tuscarawas and Stark	12	1,769	407	38	51	33	1	5-2	1,045	German population.																																																																																																																																																																													
Lager Ritty	Montgomery	12	131	267	5	135	1	15	15	15	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Jacob Shady	Seneca and Hancock	7	1,239	261	17	522	162	103	1,049	2,739	Incomplete.																																																																																																																																																																													
G. Sinsbaugh	Fairfield	12	1,720	549	77	162	25	136	311	1,494	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Rev. R. R. Salter	Defiance	7	743	347	136	74	11	125	1,637	1,637	Partly in Indiana.																																																																																																																																																																													
Rev. J. Swisher	Medina and Summit	6	22	1,317	210	35	81	264	371	551	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Rev. J. P. Smith	Wayne and Holmes	12	3,531	697	6	155	90	127	1,382	1,868	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Conrad Saura	Cincinnati and 2,618 boats	12	4,598	1,333	6	155	90	127	1,382	1,868	"																																																																																																																																																																													
J. M. Strafer	"	12	389	38	24	470	56	310	708	1,237	German population.																																																																																																																																																																													
Rev. A. Stewart	Paulding, Putnam, and Van Wert	3	3	438	32	32	470	56	310	708	"																																																																																																																																																																													
E. B. Stockdale	Clinton and Madison	5	8-9	133	173	5	19	218	594	41	"																																																																																																																																																																													
J. W. Stanley	Licking	9	2,243	906	14	35	52	8-3	1,870	1	"																																																																																																																																																																													
W. Q. Shannon	Pickaway	2	5	255	288	5	5	9	220	220	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Robert Shannon	Morrow	2	5	255	288	5	5	9	220	220	"																																																																																																																																																																													
H. M. Saxton	Columbus	2	137	8	8	7	50	7	50	7	"																																																																																																																																																																													
G. F. Twigg	Delaware	1	22	331	42	33	60	4	66	309	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Rev. S. Tucker	Union and Delaware	6	6	1,433	492	47	284	3	625	1,682	"																																																																																																																																																																													
R. Waterton	Geauga and Portage	8	17	1,640	523	106	3	625	1,682	1,682	"																																																																																																																																																																													
S. H. Wilson	Coshocton	5	9	931	215	2	13	130	284	2	"																																																																																																																																																																													
Rev. A. Kuhn	Crawford and Wyandotte	5	10	26	20	5	2	22	19	40	"																																																																																																																																																																													
EASTERN OHIO.																																																																																																																																																																																								
Isaac Brenneman	Mahoning	11	23	220	336	56	13	97	871	1,109	German and English.																																																																																																																																																																													
R. M. Churchill	Ashtabula	8	38	10	12	6	4	6	12	2	"																																																																																																																																																																													
John Duessa	Harrison	6	15	305	305	37	2	222	1,003	1,468	"																																																																																																																																																																													

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1851.—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families desir. books.	Families Rom. Catholics or false errorists.	Families habitually neglecting evan. preach'r.	Families conversed with.	Whole number families visited.	Families destitute of Bible.	Fam. sup. with Bible or Test.	REMARKS.
OHIO—Continued.													
Sylvester Fitts	Ashabula	4 15	774	157	29	14	2	39	309	1,292	4	1	
J. G. Fleming	Monroe	4 14	761	114	...	12	38	173	179	841	6	...	
E. Gablin	Trumbull	7 25	1,027	258	23	35	61	133	527	1,068	6	...	
I. Greaninger	Carroll	2 15	356	68	6	38	7	16	95	153	2	...	German and English.
Benjamin Jackson	Warren	9 13	2,382	263	14	25	16	30	1,271	2,343	33	20	
B. B. Pelton	Trumbull	6 15	100	36	...	...	...	...	28	35	...	...
Wm. Rose	Columbiana	6	1,732	357	...	...	...	...	335	820	...	...
Henry Shott	Monroe	6	422	117	20	27	12	23	338	688	17	19	German population.
MICHIGAN.													
James L. Andrus	Livingston and Wayne	9 12	130	50	16	74	14	...	715	715	44	...	
Elias Constock	Shiawassee and Clinton	4 21	463	198	31	65	6	182	630	763	32	4	
J. B. Chapin	Branch, Eaton and Clinton	7 10	785	407	109	177	101	172	1,743	1,829	71	33	
B. G. Cooley	Grand River Valley	4 3	503	97	...	...	...	...	374	526	3	2	
Elijah Clark	Calhoun	10 4	853	558	31	975	95	318	1,952	2,029	69	60	
Rev. D. R. Dixon	Washtenaw	11 4	1,557	596	72	196	28	445	1,113	1,698	121	97	
Ira Goodrich	Lenawee	3 6	614	60	8	90	13	91	479	702	...	...
Rev. George Hornell	Oakland	3 18	1,190	484	96	944	48	407	630	1,702	14	14	
F. M. Lansing	Hillsdale	7 10	685	302	12	698	107	680	1,206	1,702	113	...	
Nathan Parke	Berrian, Cass, etc.	3	376	241	12	201	...	298	455	642	30	20	
Wm. Ruckman	Washtenaw	12	1,514	925	110	225	99	362	1,310	1,771	60	94	
J. N. Robinson	Macomb, St. Clair, and Lapeer	8 7	1,130	332	36	93	83	700	1,175	1,533	...	...
INDIANA.													
F. Allert	Jefferson and vicinity	5	235	68	5	56	56	24	174	1,369	28	28	German population.
H. Barron	Hancock	3 4	465	122	...	...	...	115	386	622	145	137	
J. Baigen	Knox and Davies	4	362	81	7	15	44	11	352	656	68	5	German population.
T. P. Donaldson	Miami and Wabash	11 5	1,992	150	8	247	79	48	1,028	2,256	253	88	
J. Bradman	Posey and Vanderburg	1 20	172	77	8	3	8	20	121	152	5	2	German population.
J. E. Fisher	Vigo and Parke	8 15	682	398	69	114	209	178	1,538	2,075	60	40	"
J. K. Fuller	Wells and Whiteley	4 11	479	125	89	73	103	130	643	661	9	...	
J. G. Gale	Wells and Adams	2 15	666	134	22	97	14	64	296	739	26	26	
W. P. Guthrie	Switzerland and Ohio	4 17	908	188	6	163	2	86	295	1,000	48	16	
J. P. Griffith	Clark	5	802	146	21	20	150	19	200	1,090	136	149	
O. W. Hawkins	LaGrange, Noble, etc.	12 13	1,170	702	70	441	6	688	282	2,267	70	...	
Rev. J. Hoobler	Warren	1 15	257	43	13	21	...	62	92	164	5	3	Vermillion Co., Ill.
J. P. Huy	Howard and Carroll	3	420	212	24	30	...	50	74	277	13	6	

H. Klausner	11	20	1,402	666	120	694	2,100	1,768	1,086	6,946	899	7	German population.
H. Merrens	12	1,124	105	103	269	292	392	325	1,015	2,330	415	76	"
Louis Muetz	7	656	347	30	240	390	450	940	1,337	229	40	"	"
J. McChitock	3	7	206	70	1	2	75	132	1	1	1		
Rev. T. B. McCormick	3	685	186	50	380	13	396	925	698	160	4		
A. B. Parmelee	6	21	1,272	385	446	6	102	543	1,384	214	31		
Morgan and Putnam	5	6	1,363	300	116	8	258	782	957	1,635	112	59	Deceased.
A. P. Rouse	3	7	567	266	49	143	9	300	628	1,701	22	3	
C. C. Starbuck	9	27	1,904	502	4	63	9	300	426	1,021	83	31	
A. Shombaug	4	24	1,774	171	64	177	27	92	436	1,021	83	31	
J. A. Scherer	6	1,378	165	34	207	8	139	338	1,024	88	44		
A. Scherer	6	1,469	272	46	7	80	375	750	1,754	89	52		Incomplete.
C. Schaffer	11	15	1,216	200	78	188	137	198	1,197	1,754	89	52	German population.
L. Traupel	1	13	254	34	9	17	98	236	345	18	16		"
H. A. Winter	3	14	907	196	13	79	96	574	1,023	53	30		"
D. B. Woodburn	12	1,575	780	6	689	1	1,023	1,130	2,079	146	51		
ILLINOIS.													
Samuel Colcord	1	16	310	114	3	28	2	31	75	95	3		
Alexander Cowan	5	1	635	234	1	208	202	419	265	1,792	32		
G. S. Collam	9	588	271	1	272	1	241	353	1,277	81	76		
H. S. Dutch	4	2	509	41	1	2		38	53	1			
J. C. Drees	12	21	1,327	434	26	4	330	200	1,972	3,226	200	88	German population.
J. Eving	2	3	363	162	1	17	6	41	22	228	12	2	
J. P. Goodrich	11	12	2,206	466	4	228	308	749	1,195	2,281	208	58	
H. K. Goltke	3	21	273	166	2	11	43	18	102	282	31	1	German population.
A. R. Hamilton	8	9	926	192	14	137	228	85	425	2,206	27	126	"
Fred. Hartnagel	9	12	1,395	532	48	270	16	171	1,105	1,371	79	43	"
Lee, Bureau, and La Salle	11	1,297	480	42	310	208	271	1,091	1,358	83	2		
W. Y. Johnson	6	406	204	45	42	93	48	99	683	197	17	16	German population.
James Kohlberg	1	20	472	129	97	79	44	166	197	17	16		
Edwards, Wayne, and Wabash													
St. Clair, Monroe, etc.													
Charles Lobbig	12	1,307	378	36	142	31	240	942	1,318	131	101		German population.
Rev. A. Mczey	3	706	135	5	117	14	179	325	554	11	5		
James McNeill	8	15	791	170	104	68	19	170	375	38	14		
Rev. J. B. McCallen	9	12	1,703	461	15	474	6	511	869	1,744	163	71	
James McLaughlin	3	14	585	201	14	1	32	134	294	6	35		
W. P. E. Paisley	6	15	790	478	73	136	52	440	880	939	40	13	
Montgomery and Macoupin													
Lake and Cook													
Tazewell and Mason													
Rev. G. G. Sill	1	7	330	144	7	6	7	10	251	354	10		
Thos. A. Reynolds	3	10	892	411	10	32	31	24	191	607	28	8	
John E. Kendall	9	1,553	318	24	2	137	290	1,760	1,818	1,464	10		
E. S. Wilcox	8	1,571	249	21	8	30	252	839	1,464	10			
Nathan Weeks	3	521	162	7	113	1	132	260	630	165	123		
H. N. Wiley	9	1,696	193	19	224	11	79	897	1,349	69	4		
Charles West	12	2,080	430	92	179	21	352	503	1,447	26	62		German population.
J. H. Appel	12	1,708	503	37	3	23	289	1,152	1,445	38	8		German population.
Manitou, Cooper, etc.													
MISSOURI.													

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1851.—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Families Rom. Catholics or fatal errorists.	Families habitually neglecting evan. preach'g.	Families converted or prayed with.	Families visited.	Families destitute of Bible.	Fam. sup. with Bible or Test.	REMARKS.
<i>MISSOURI—Continued.</i>													
T. S. Allen	Chariton, Linn, etc.	10 25	2,288	522	255	225	32	378	507	1,535	180	117	
Rev. B. Baker	Callaway and Boone	3 15	589	206	26	99	99	38	154	381	58	58	German population.
H. H. Borgmeir	St. Louis and vicinity	8 28	970	190	24	18	190	53	548	1,534	11	7	
W. B. Carlock	Platte and Buchanan	2 25	558	72	28	6	6	1	108	233	3		
David Daizell	Green, Polk, etc.	4 8	494	110	15	9			97	404	8		
B. F. Dickson	Andrew, Holt, etc.	1 1	324	25	2	46	1	6	5	170	127		
George T. Gray	St. Louis	7 18	1,267	242	40	303	1,711	358	3,190	5,249	254	251	
Rev. Guy Henton	Lawrence, Dade, etc.	6 23	440	72	60	117		43	325	406	59	18	
Andrew Hoffmann	Gasconade and vicinity	3 5	337	101	6	3	91	197	250	560	62	9	German population.
Philip Hoffman	St. Louis and St. Charles	1 30	246	96	19	7	113	3	79	488			"
H. Homan	"	9 25	1,286	276	167	36	1,424	402	566	4,318	34	137	"
T. M. Johnston	"	1 23	205	140	12	90	13	12	100	246	58	44	"
Samuel Jones	Newton and Barry	9 13	940	472	40	433	87	122	634	1,348	352	237	
T. Lange	St. Louis	11	4,554	151				14	44	1,036	7	50	
John Morley	Marion, Rolls, and Shelby	4 21	688	198	27	21							
D. D. Park	Lafayette, Johnson, etc.	3 15	530	256	38	50	3	37	383	471	88	166	
John Rice	Ray, Carroll, and Caldwell	6 30	1,542	156	38	112	357	291	957	1,588	217	104	German population.
J. G. Urban	Perry	12	1,306	657	20	112	163	163	557	599	97	107	
D. Worcester	Atchison, Holt, etc.	4 12	963	306	41	169	7						
<i>IOWA.</i>													
Jos. C. Cooper	Lee, Henry, etc.	10 13	1,176	374	88	74	46	298	555	1,257	6	6	
Samuel Cotton	Jackson, Clinton, etc.	4 6	333	184		31	41	46	692	743	28		
W. B. Morey	Johnson, Cedar, etc.	10 23	1,386	234	44	67	27	41	1,017	1,274	27	10	
<i>WISCONSIN.</i>													
Peter Auburn	Mining district	7 15	543	242	136	9	9	500	1,072	1,180	248		Norwegian population.
L. W. Atherton	Milwaukee	5 25	1,130	423	20	7	30	146	638	683	19	10	
Jacob Conrad	Milwaukee and Washington	10 4	422	738	50	950	951	1,233	1,830	3,373	390	172	German population.
E. H. Fisher	Rock, Walworth, etc.	3 35	257	6	113	74	531	403	708	40	23		
S. C. French	Rock and Racine	2 17	278	278	4	96	4	170	224	432	22	19	
P. C. Holt	Racine and Rock	12	2,573	801	25	449	236	415	1,958	3,068	97	30	
Henry Johnson	"	3 19	197	57	25	113		354	234	847	85	21	Norwegian population.
Rev. J. Jenkins	Dodge and Portage	9 25	1,412	414	65	574	132	692	394	1,632	141	59	
Wm. P. Montgomery	Northern Wisconsin	8 10	1,444	867	55	988	346	1,039	1,332	2,067	229	44	
Rev. J. G. Miller	Jefferson and Sauk	10 15	917	500	61	301	111	458	756	1,169	130	11	German population.

G. G. Norton.....	Sank and Green.....	8 21	1,320	322	31	266	51	668	2,377	3,001	99	101
John Price.....	.....	1 15	150	60	6	44	13	80	100	255	7	2
Alex. Slicer.....	Fond Du Lac.....	1 15	154	80	3	31	12	.....	59	202	5	5
Conrad Wagner.....	Brown and Washington.....	7	734	322	32	549	520	970	908	1,316	282	65
MINNESOTA.												
Rev. J. F. Alton.....	.....	1 2	362	106	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
CALIFORNIA.												
Thomas J. Nevins.....	San Francisco.....	12	4,888	67	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
CANADA.												
Alex. Angus.....	Middlesex.....	7 6	1,843	108	7	30	103	138	141	1,378	.....	.....
Edward Jamieson.....	.....	2	246	19	4	47	647	3	7	2,114	500	105
George Lung.....	Home and Niagara.....	11 15	1,438	340	46	151	12	4	1,406	1,897	50	111
Henry Schneider.....	Welling District.....	13	859	388	122	518	141	.....	2,116	2,890	380	245
MEXICO.												
Dr. J. G. Junkin.....	Mexico.....	3 23	403	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Alexander Reid.....	Rio Grand.....	9	544	213	.....	4,660	4,339	4,648	145	4,660	4,196	438

COLPORTERS RECENTLY COMMISSIONED FROM WHOM NO REPORTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

NEW YORK—George W. Harsha.
 PENNSYLVANIA—J. Ansley, D. F. Heller, * J. H. Fink.
 DELAWARE—Alex. Miller.
 VIRGINIA—Rev. Wm. Starr, J. V. Rouse, W. Thomas.
 GEORGIA—Rev. L. E. Du Bose, Rev. T. Chaffin.
 ALABAMA—J. V. Levy, J. W. L. Smith.
 ARKANSAS—Rev. A. Stephenson.
 KENTUCKY—Rev. J. Bell, Rev. M. Standfield, Rev. J. Taylor, T. B. McChord.
 ILLINOIS—J. Whiting, Wm. Stander.
 OHIO—M. Kronmiller, H. Klein, H. Fehr, H. Pratt, W. Hamilton, D. S. Kissel, A. J. Imhoff, S. A. Bourman,
 Ohio—E. Kornbaum, F. A. Symes, D. Lehman, E. H. Grant, A. Geizer, J. Boras.
 INDIANA—R. A. Campbell.
 MISSOURI—J. Sneller.
 WISCONSIN—E. Dresser.

Total 25.
 COLPORTERS WHOSE REPORTS ARE DEFECTIVE.
 CONNECTICUT—A. T. Rose, J. Dilworth.
 NEW YORK—W. B. Dady, Rev. E. P. Cook, A. H. Van Frankem, J. C. Goddard.
 NEW JERSEY—A. L. Sullwell.
 PENNSYLVANIA—G. Roth, R. Fritz, J. K. Bloom, Rev. B. Oviatt.
 TEXAS—A. W. Long.

* Those in italics are students.

B. Broening, F. Lynn, J. C. Heleman, J. P. Nute, J. Shawman, J. S. Nace, J. A. Saunders.
 WISCONSIN—James Spence.
 TEXAS—T. M. Likens.
 CANADA—J. Moffat, Pierre La Haye.
 Total 42.
 COLPORTERS COMMISSIONED PREVIOUS TO APRIL 1, 1851, WHOSE TERM OF SERVICE WILL NOT COMMENCE TILL AFTER THAT DATE.
 NEW YORK—J. C. Laverty, J. Herrick.
 PENNSYLVANIA—J. Sanderson, J. W. Kreggle, William Utry, Uriah Cauthman.
 VIRGINIA—A. G. Fiddle, W. C. Sloop, C. Lentz, G. C. Probst, L. Seacrist.
 TENNESSEE—H. Coman, Rev. H. F. Taylor.
 KENTUCKY—S. Crane, W. Millesaps, Wm. Millesaps.

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE BY STUDENTS
IN COLLEGES AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES DURING THEIR VACATIONS.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of religious books.	Families Roman Catholics or Protestants.	Families habitually neglecting even preaching.	Families converted with.	Whole number Families visited.	Families destitute of Bible.	Fam. sup. with Bible or Test.	INSTITUTIONS.
CONNECTICUT.													
Samuel Johnson	New Haven	M. D. 20	215	74	4	55	16	50	343	20	25	2	Yale Theological Seminary.
J. W. Marcussen	German population	2	598	39	14	20	481	1,705	173	18	1	25	Amherst College.
George I. Straarns	Hartford	3	1,465	416	37	24	295	925	2,189	6	40	1	East Windsor Seminary.
W. R. Palmer	Tolland	2	1,925	294	22	34	235	507	1,114	6	40	1	East Windsor Seminary.
NEW YORK.													
Louis Gano	Chemung	2	386	121	17	3	9	33	507	4	13	4	Union Theological Seminary.
T. D. Hudson	Washington	2	591	55	1	10	6	86	212	4	13	4	Union Theological Seminary.
Myron Barrett	Columbia	2	429	527	13	65	8	194	583	24	1	1	Union Theological Seminary.
T. J. Lamar	Ulster	3	499	194	2	33	4	74	360	635	1	1	Union Theological Seminary.
T. J. Miller	Rensselaer	1	510	52	2	35	82	144	70	575	1	1	Union Theological Seminary.
O. Newton	Jefferson and Lewis	1	121	27	7	49	18	90	125	474	6	38	Union Theological Seminary.
J. W. North	Delaware	1	124	166	7	5	11	194	228	6	38	4	Union Theological Seminary.
J. M. Richardson	Jefferson and Lewis	1	213	56	15	65	40	120	295	405	3	4	Union Theological Seminary.
E. M. Richardson	Washington	3	854	100	6	35	44	49	115	639	6	6	Union Theological Seminary.
S. W. Roe	Westchester	3	256	62	8	3	2	295	307	6	6	6	Union Theological Seminary.
L. W. Walworth	Jefferson	3	974	520	25	68	10	168	457	407	13	6	Union Theological Seminary.
J. W. Hammond	Ossego	2	400	73	16	40	5	150	270	400	6	6	Madison University.
R. C. Brant	Madison	1	244	23	2	4	11	100	300	6	6	6	Madison University.
J. R. Nisbet	Cayuga	4	522	140	26	103	14	73	855	1,001	5	5	Madison University.
H. B. Sherman	Seneca	3	690	340	36	153	138	227	589	930	9	9	Madison University.
W. W. Sawyer	Onondaga	2	396	189	7	37	18	65	583	910	9	9	Madison University.
J. B. Smith	Livingston and Monroe	4	572	257	20	64	7	101	513	784	28	28	Madison University.
H. Steelman	Broome	6	1,154	456	23	35	9	290	655	932	9	9	Madison University.
J. H. Kent, Jun.	Courland	2	525	193	46	61	3	297	403	579	27	27	Madison University.
R. Telford	Wyoming	3	340	298	25	180	173	215	300	1,900	130	25	Rutgers College.
D. Whitaker	Port Jervis and vicinity	2	590	62	7	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
H. A. Rose	Delaware and Hudson canal	3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
D. E. Lent		3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
H. A. Rose		3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
G. P. Watrous		3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
G. M. Coudron		3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
Samuel Hirsch		3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
Augustus Schultz		3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
C. H. Winfield		3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.
L. E. Bernart		3	900	62	22	7	39	4	19	1,213	7	7	Rutgers College.

Charles Hartwell.....	2	17	648	91	11	152	185	211	172	635	68	34 East Windsor Seminary.
J. A. Woodhull.....	3	20	107	65	2	3	3	64	87	269	1	Yale College.
James Bolton.....	3	20	640	128	19	169	345	309	300	1,212	30	4 Union College.
A. B. Peffers.....	2	60	901	81	5	30	86	300	355	695	26	15 New York University.
A. M. Stowe.....	2	15	1,410	263	6	155	60	350	350	875	45	42 Auburn Theological Seminary.
W. W. Warren.....	3	700	760	93	5	92	35	319	442	895	25	3 Hamilton College.
J. C. Gibbs.....	3	107	107	18	19	59	16	142	384	805	25	Dartmouth College.
NEW JERSEY.												
John Muller.....	1	27	292	6	68	21	180	3	3	300	23	Rutgers College.
John M. Wagner.....	2	292	107	28	118	74	76	189	189	300	18	Nassau Hall.
T. McCauley, Jr.....	1	10	821	45	120	120	120	97	759	759	0	New Brunswick Seminary.
J. B. Wilson.....	2	771	771	41	3	6	9	12	15	490	0	
PENNSYLVANIA.												
T. N. Geiss.....	1	26	258	263	17	6	4	5	693	856	15	2 Gettysburg Seminary.
John Koos.....	2	130	130	39	2	9	9	17	296	396	2	
L. R. Staudenmeyer.....	3	417	417	142	14	146	17	61	374	46	110	
Lebanon.....	1	18	284	50	2	11	57	211	211	635	80	
Aug. Schultz.....	2	6	464	55	4	119	40	677	40	677	40	
J. N. Unruh.....	3	25	614	48	10	2	53	245	479	7	7	
E. Wurster.....	1	12	99	8	3	36	4	34	196	196	1	Jefferson College.
J. A. Campbell.....	1	5	401	60	1	12	103	55	13	635	13	
J. W. Hanna.....	1	15	542	100	14	4	4	167	380	380	4	
Thomas McCague.....	2	7	957	138	2	7	11	15	465	465	4	
Simon Mercer.....	1	7	262	32	2	2	2	10	137	1	1	
J. M. McElroy.....	4	15	126	36	4	4	14	22	110	2	2	
W. L. Mitchell.....	2	554	554	80	21	5	4	80	410	2	1	
L. B. W. Shryock.....	1	18	895	114	10	22	9	41	553	5	5	
J. J. Smith.....	1	15	60	20	20	7	7	41	41	41	7	
J. Wilson.....	1	15	401	96	39	23	75	92	224	20	20	Western Theological Seminary.
Christian Diehl.....	1	228	228	92	4	4	4	47	146	146	4	
W. A. Fleming.....	12	58	15	1	21	15	10	48	5	5	5	
M. W. Harvey.....	15	137	137	41	1	30	22	235	36	1	1	
Samuel Torrence.....	1	5	70	33	6	6	6	36	36	36	6	
James Young.....	1	5	189	37	22	22	51	213	259	259	25	
Erie Canal.....	1	10	95	6	6	3	3	60	60	60	3	
James M. Chambers.....	1	20	222	92	2	48	9	474	474	474	13	Washington College.
T. J. Taylor.....	1	20	368	34	6	5	3	48	100	153	13	Nassau Hall.
J. D. Reardon.....	2	24	332	42	1	9	67	94	94	94	9	Lafayette College.
Joseph Beggs.....	2	2	468	70	4	16	37	53	307	307	9	Canonsburg Theological Seminary.
John B. Strain.....	2	2	472	123	5	1	5	206	310	310	5	Madison University.
F. S. Lyon.....	2	2	472	123	5	1	5	206	310	310	5	New Athens College.
S. Ramsey.....	2	2	472	123	5	1	5	206	310	310	5	
VIRGINIA.												
I. W. Birchinel.....	1	171	171	92	9	9	83	134	9	9	9	Morgantown Academy.
S. Cook.....	1	18	165	99	6	40	51	194	16	16	16	Shem Institute.
W. m. S. McClaughan.....	1	2	257	33	1	3	28	105	105	105	1	
Roanoke.....	1	2	318	56	1	1	5	112	112	112	1	
W. E. Reynolds.....	1	10	318	56	1	1	5	112	112	112	1	

STATISTICS OF COLPORTAGE BY STUDENTS.—Continued.

COLPORTEUR.	STATE, COUNTY, OR DISTRICT.	Term of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or private.	Families con- ferred or pray- ed with.	Families resti- tute of religious books.	Families Rom- an Catholics or in- tal errorists.	Families habit- ually neglecting evan. preach'r.	Whole number families visited.	Families desit- tute of Bible.	Fam. sup. with Bible or Test.	INSTITUTIONS.
J. K. Rader.....	Botetourt.....	1	214	62	3	.....	.....	.....	37	117	.....	.....	Salem Institute.
J. S. Stithdeal.....	Franklin.....	1	148	37	1	23	.....	7	27	139	23	.....	"
J. E. Stinson.....	Lynch.....	1	320	95	7	58	.....	1	85	183	1	.....	Richmond College.
M. A. Parkinson.....	Fairfax.....	6	855	145	22	60	48	62	505	1,140	18	.....	Theological Seminary, Philadelphia.
Geo. C. Probst.....	Jefferson.....	1	346	66	7	2	5	97	165	.....	.....	.....	Georgetown Seminary.
T. T. Firas.....	Loudoun.....	1	213	28	3	3	1	3	67	133	1	.....	"
SOUTH CAROLINA.													
R. R. Small.....	Marion and Darlington District	1	177	90	.....	6	.....	.....	90	130	.....	.....	Oglethorpe University.
A. M. Small.....	"	1	174	30	.....	8	4	.....	73	108	.....	.....	"
A. Longbridge.....	York District.....	1	313	36	.....	.....	.....	.....	173	181	.....	.....	Columbia Theological Seminary.
J. T. Warner.....	Newberry District.....	2	352	49	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	.....	.....	Lexington Seminary.
GEORGIA.													
S. J. Bingham.....	Hancock, Washington, etc.,	15	138	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70	.....	.....	Oglethorpe University.
A. Campbell.....	"	2	828	314	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	514	.....	.....	"
W. J. McCormic.....	"	1	349	142	3	.....	.....	.....	100	472	.....	.....	"
S. Orr.....	Atlantic and W. Railroad.....	2	572	81	.....	2	.....	.....	225	350	2	1	"
T. I. Puryear.....	Houston and Twigs.....	1	301	65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	475	.....	.....	"
C. J. Stillman.....	Atlantic and W. Railroad.....	2	828	244	3	1	1	1	137	674	13	10	"
W. H. Davis.....	Elbert.....	20	165	30	8	3	2	9	115	115	.....	.....	"
G. W. Dews.....	Putnam.....	1	54	6	3	6	1	3	34	48	.....	.....	Mercer University.
W. B. Gallman.....	Cherokee and Forsythe	1	84	12	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	.....	"
W. H. Roane.....	Habersham.....	2	221	65	.....	3	.....	.....	125	185	9	2	Columbia Theological Seminary.
TENNESSEE.													
B. P. Griffin.....	Haywood.....	2	848	123	1	66	.....	65	236	240	28	9	Cumberland University.
J. S. Friaud.....	Sumner.....	2	700	154	44	58	3	.....	422	653	.....	.....	"
J. T. Leonard.....	Woodford.....	1	270	64	.....	107	1	50	200	200	.....	.....	New Albany Theological Seminary.
J. B. Link.....	Owen and vicinity.....	2	276	72	18	.....	.....	.....	142	230	27	20	Georgetown College.
OHIO.													
Thomas Hill.....	Green.....	1	439	162	15	140	12	125	150	434	16	1	Wittenberg College.
T. M. Hopkins.....	Brown.....	15	201	39	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	107	1	1	"
A. S. Kissell.....	Shelby.....	20	211	26	.....	9	2	7	80	260	.....	.....	"
A. Miller.....	Green.....	1	10	58	1	23	.....	22	10	139	2	.....	"
G. F. Stelling.....	Shelby.....	1	141	31	.....	10	3	4	5	156	.....	.....	"

Z. Wilson	Green	1 16	306	62	46	19	64	85	455	31	31	Wittenberg College.
J. M. Alexander	Ross	1 29	562	115	92	1	43	35	392	2	2	South Hanover College.
J. J. Wilson	Pike	2 15	410	50	53	4	17	79	201			"
James K. Large	Jefferson	21	167	27	6	1	31	25	311			Mount Pleasant Academy.
INDIANA.												
J. Bassett	Fulton	1 2	336	102	24	2	56	15	291	12	12	Wabash College.
E. R. Hart	Floyd	28	24	72	3	7	27	65	100	5	5	"
Wm. H. Robinson	Clinton	2	700	153	115	1	80	35	605	82	67	"
Wm. M. Blackburn	Jennings	1	291	90	3	13	11	139	225	5	3	Hanover College.
S. J. Bevell	Switzerland and Ohio	2 5	287	64	2	6	28	43	450	50	13	"
J. H. Burnes	Brown	23	113	25	2	50	5	23	115			"
J. Boon	Jackson	1 17	178	34	5				121	3	3	"
B. Gillner	Switzerland and Ohio	1 10	440	118	118	7	12	10	677	49	41	"
T. B. McCord	Jackson	1 17	179	31	64	1	20	14	272	27	17	"
Wm. H. Rice	Bartholomew	1	322	86	2				240			"
R. L. Reese	"	1	96	35	150		50	25	230			"
J. G. Symmes	"	1	188	90	60				334			"
M. F. Symmes	"	1	82	27	17	2	18	101	101			"
A. Wayne	Brown	23	102	36	24	15	30	46	167	11	7	"
T. Wallace	Jennings	12	102	36	24	15	30	46	167	11	7	"
L. C. Wallace	"	28	185	47	15	10	15	60	221	18	1	"
L. C. Mercer	Bartholomew	1	94	100	170		40	18	240			"
A. J. Imhoff	De Kalb	1 23	197	38	3	47	11	41	187	13	13	Wittenberg College.
N. S. Palmer	Cass and Clinton	4	1,902	208	2	4		105	436	2	1	New Albany Theological Seminary.
N. H. Pierce	Lawrence	1	175	64	4	20	5	35	198	9	9	Lane Seminary.
R. Gray	Rush	2 15	577	100	128	47	16	398	552	22	22	Miami University.
ILLINOIS.												
H. W. Biggs	Edgar	1 7	164	31	6	6		40	120	5	4	Woodward College.
L. E. Crawford	"	1 5	84	6					254	15	5	Jacksonville College.
Eli C. Fish	"	1 18	282	136	15	47		69	292	4	2	"
H. D. Platt	"	1 5	198	77	11	66		230				"
MISSOURI.												
T. A. Reynolds	"	3 10	892	411	10	32	24	191	607	70	2	"
J. Johnston	"	21	583	64	1	1	1	1	121			"

SUMMARY VIEW OF COLPORTAGE IN THE SEVERAL STATES.

STATES.	Colporteurs.	Time of service.	Volumes sold.	Vols. granted.	Public or prayer meetings.	Families destitute of all religious books.	Families Roman Catholics or fatal errors.	Families habitually neglecting evan. preaching.	Families converted or prayed with.	Whole number families visited.	Families destitute of the Bible.	Families supplied with Bibles or Testaments.
Vermont	3	26	3,597	948	120	613	274	937	2,998	4,236	105	199
Rhode Island	2	17	1,609	310	104	110	250	215	962	1,366		
Connecticut	3	15 28	5,374	513	41	203	202	756	4,198	5,082	46	28
New York	45	276 27	34,679	12,150	1,202	13,900	13,283	20,461	35,011	70,905	7,611	1,997
New Jersey	5	32 11	6,538	1,227	134	562	879	1,468	5,394	11,779	134	35
Pennsylvania	46	272 13	49,506	10,625	1,310	6,059	5,334	6,471	19,942	53,929	1,878	915
Maryland	19	101 6	19,864	4,916	347	1,462	2	1,561	6,060	17,824	1,023	242
Virginia	47	223 16	31,369	12,540	1,474	2,147	285	1,864	12,633	20,590	992	811
North Carolina	8	42 7	7,255	2,333	102	2,719	246	1,279	3,249	6,678	1,037	749
South Carolina	8	30 15	4,211	577	158	99	11	27	840	1,946	58	27
Georgia	13	65 23	8,229	2,777	343	772	19	567	4,021	6,994	570	483
Alabama	13	92 17	16,591	4,279	256	1,139	156	734	3,698	9,462	702	284
Florida	2	3	367	477	92	204	80	253	331	693	51	36
Louisiana	12	93 23	10,317	3,314	296	1,445	8,921	8,596	9,036	22,835	1,279	854
Texas	6	31 3	3,626	929	232	286	62	215	852	1,666	174	142
Mississippi	4	28 9	8,751	1,328	200	464	118	448	2,636	3,791	319	214
Arkansas	4	13 25	2,138	1,009	53	22	-----	47	573	1,133	32	26
Tennessee	18	103 14	20,119	4,260	587	3,400	33	1,320	6,290	13,145	855	461
Kentucky	10	69 7	12,611	4,012	274	1,813	205	1,939	3,571	7,215	919	821
Ohio	53	317 20	55,828	15,200	1,125	4,088	3,137	5,282	26,345	53,114	1,397	434
Michigan	12	81 7	9,339	4,196	524	2,195	534	4,069	12,608	15,743	552	254
Indiana	29	175 25	25,257	7,281	942	5,055	3,961	7,005	15,343	38,684	3,382	953
Illinois	27	177 4	25,535	7,162	697	3,173	1,799	4,782	14,992	27,977	1,471	772
Missouri	20	126 3	21,445	4,808	860	1,747	4,052	2,107	9,696	22,020	1,653	1,305
Iowa	3	25 12	2,905	792	132	141	104	385	2,234	3,274	61	16
Wisconsin	14	91 8	11,654	5,480	522	4,100	2,528	6,957	12,305	19,993	1,793	552
Minnesota	1	1 2	362	106	5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
California	1	12	4,888	67	53	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Canada	4	32 21	4,446	855	179	699	963	145	3,675	8,279	930	461
Mexico	2	12 23	947	213	-----	4,660	4,439	4,648	145	4,660	4,196	438
Total	434	2,392 11	409,400	114,895	12,464	63,767	51,877	84,968	219,597	454,962	33,280	13,538

SUMMARY OF COLPORTAGE BY STUDENTS FOR VACATIONS, 1851.

Connecticut	4	8 5	4,203	823	77	24	248	2,280	3,519	44	67	
New York	36	74 7	16,004	4,749	393	1,731	1,006	3,371	8,661	19,304	466	263
New Jersey	4	6 10	1,881	199	31	192	221	268	304	1,885	47	-----
Pennsylvania	28	40 17	9,520	1,904	75	339	544	450	2,699	8,800	216	133
Virginia	10	16 21	3,067	716	47	213	57	83	996	2,422	68	4
South Carolina	4	5 2	1,045	265	4	17	4	-----	338	447	-----	-----
Georgia	10	14 10	3,540	981	26	13	4	13	839	2,920	24	13
Tennessee	2	4 15	1,548	277	45	124	3	65	658	893	28	9
Kentucky	2	3 15	555	136	18	107	41	75	342	430	27	30
Ohio	9	10 27	2,577	633	73	359	44	323	473	2,381	52	33
Indiana	20	25 19	6,468	1,578	32	1,027	177	406	1,170	5,762	308	158
Illinois	4	4 5	728	253	11	81	60	-----	329	666	24	11
Missouri	2	4 1	1,475	475	10	33	32	25	191	728	70	2
Total	135	218 4	42,551	12,989	842	4,260	2,444	5,811	19,267	50,460	1,404	643
Total by Colporteurs and Students	569	2,510 15	451,951	127,884	13,306	68,027	54,321	90,779	238,864	505,422	34,684	14,201

In briefly reviewing the labors of the year by states, it is proper to remark, that the statistics both of the labors of regular colporteurs and students for their vacations are included. By referring to the tabular statement, the amount of actual service of each colporteur will appear, and the proportion of labor performed by each class. The limits of this document will not admit of the insertion, as heretofore, of particular facts from the reports of individual colporteurs, illustrative of the practical workings of the system; and perhaps the wide diffusion of such intelligence in the columns of the Messenger, supersedes the necessity of such illustrations.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY, BOSTON.

The cordial and efficient coöperation of this important institution has been continued. Embracing as it does one of the most intelligent, wealthy, and benevolent portions of the country within its field, it holds an important position with reference to the supply of means for extending evangelical truth among the masses in newer and less favored districts. Its steady efforts in the circulation of this Society's publications, and in contributing to its charitable funds, are constant incentives to enlarged plans of usefulness.

During the year ending May 1, 1850, its total receipts were \$60,024 28, including \$27,982 96 for publications sold; and its expenditures were, for publications, \$28,421; for colportage in New England, \$4,513; for colportage in the west, \$11,629; for foreign distribution, \$1,000; for agencies, \$3,221; for Bibles and other books sold, \$4,314; secretary, assistant treasurer, five clerks, and other assistants, \$4,954; rent and taxes, repairs, freight, postage, and all other expenses, \$2,360; gratuitous distributions, \$3,936 77.

Twenty-five colporteurs were employed in various counties of New England, for the whole or part of the year, who visited 35,726 families, with 16,829 of whom they held religious conversation or prayer. Fifteen colporteurs reported 4,068 families as habitually neglecting public worship, and 2,369 destitute of religious books. Of the families visited, 3,344 were Roman-catholics. The sales by colporteurs amounted to 31,636 volumes and 2,244 Bibles, and the grants to 6,207 volumes. The whole number of copies of the Scriptures sold by colporteurs and at the rooms, was 12,135 Bibles and 3,426 Testaments.

VERMONT.

Three colporteurs have been employed in the western part of this state—the eastern part being connected with the Society at Boston. The

number of families visited is about 4,200, and the circulation exceeds 4,500 volumes.

RHODE ISLAND.

Two laborers have been employed, one of whom has been much occupied in the care of auxiliary societies and in raising funds. About 2,000 volumes have been circulated by sale and gift.

CONNECTICUT.

Seven colporteurs, including students, have spent a portion of the year in this state, and report the visitation of nearly 9,000 families, and the circulation of about 10,500 volumes. One of the colporteurs was a German, who hunted up many of his countrymen, and was successful in his efforts among them.

NEW YORK.

Including 36 students for their vacations, there have been no less than 81 colporteurs employed a portion of the year. The whole number of families visited has been 90,200; the number conversed and prayed with was 43,700; the number of volumes sold, owing to the extent of labors among German and Irish immigrants, has been less proportionately than in many fields, amounting to 50,600; and the number of books granted has been 16,900. The number of prayer-meetings held, or meetings addressed, has been 1,655; 15,600 families were destitute of religious books; 14,300 families were Roman-catholics; 23,800 families were neglecters of the sanctuary; and 8,100 were destitute of the Scriptures, of whom 2,200 were supplied.

NEW JERSEY.

Nine colporteurs have traversed destitute portions of this state, visiting 13,500 families; with 5,700 they conversed and prayed, selling 8,400 volumes, and granting 1,400.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Seventy-four colporteurs, including theological students, have been employed in this large and important state, a considerable portion of whom have been Germans. They have visited 62,700 families; conversing or praying with 22,600; selling 59,000 volumes, and granting 12,500 volumes to the destitute. The number of Roman-catholic families visited

has been 5,800; destitute of preaching, 6,900; of books, 6,400; and of Bibles, 2,100, of whom 1,038 were supplied. Mr. E. M. Long has devoted a part of his time, in Eastern Pennsylvania, to the supervision of colportage, and Mr. *H. N. Thissell*, in Western Pennsylvania. The latter in reviewing the labors of the year, writes,

“Of the fifty-eight men who have labored during the whole or a part of the year, but one, Deacon Asa Smith, has fallen by the hand of death. A number of valuable men have been engaged as permanent laborers. In the raising up of men we cannot but recognize the hand of God, as many might accumulate the wealth of this world, did they continue their regular employments.

“The total circulation exceeds that of the past year by \$2,000; and 44,953 families visited, exceeds the number in the former year by 10,800; while the time employed has exceeded the former year by 13 months; 1,699 families have been found without the Bible, and 956 of them supplied; 3,927 families of Roman-catholics have been visited; and 6,213 families have been reported as habitual neglecters of the sanctuary.

“Many poor mountain regions have been visited, and much time spent in reaching those who live in remote places, difficult of access. The brethren in the Virginia portion of this field, have spent much time in this way. The lumber region of Pennsylvania has been penetrated to some extent, and many families supplied with religious reading, who would have remained destitute but for the visit of the colporteur.

“A colporteur has visited the steamboats departing from our wharves, in connection with his labors in the city. The success gives encouragement for further operations. About 1,000 boats have been visited, and nearly 1,200 volumes have been circulated, besides a large number of tracts. There seems to be an increasing demand for religious reading among travellers, while the colporteur frequently meets those who cheer him in his noble work; yet there seems to be little diminution of the moral poison, which is met in great abundance at every turn; and sometimes five or six venders of such trash may be seen on one steamer. We have also made arrangements to have the canal-boats and rafts visited during the summer. A few months more will complete our connection with Cincinnati by railroad. This will make our city still more of a thoroughfare, and will increase the importance of this branch of our work.

“The foreign population has had a share of our attention, and the work has been carried on with some degree of success. The great masses of evangelical Germans are accessible to the colporteur, and many seem to appreciate the work highly. During the year, two Germans have been added to our list. Another, speaking both English and German, has entered the work in a field where his labors were very much needed. Mr. H—, who has labored so efficiently among his Roman-catholic brethren, is still at his post, and the Spirit of grace still attends his humble, self-denying labors. His efforts to circulate the Messenger among the Germans have been very successful, 600 or 800 going into their families every month.

“Another German has travelled over six or eight counties, looking up the scattered German neighborhoods, in many of which he has been received with great kindness and cordiality; and notwithstanding he has had to travel long distances from one point to another, he has effected larger sales than any other German who has ever labored on this field.

“The students who engaged in the work from Jefferson college, and others, rendered valuable and efficient aid. They are young men of talent and influence pre-

paring for the ministry, and will be firm friends of the cause wherever they are located.

"The Messenger is doing its appropriate work in preparing the minds of the people for the colporteur. Its circulation has been greatly increased in some counties, and the colporteurs have entered upon the new year with new resolutions to extend its circulation.

"In the more remote regions, in the pineries, and among the mountains, considerable attention has been paid to Sabbath-schools. Quite a number have been organized and supplied with libraries to the extent of their means, in value from \$3 to \$15.

"The convention at Cleveland had a most beneficial influence upon all our brethren who were able to attend it. We think it very desirable that there should be another convention during the present year, in such a place as would admit the attendance of all on this field who were not at Cleveland."

MARYLAND.

The Maryland Branch have prosecuted their labors with great efficiency. Nineteen colporteurs, including students, have been employed, who have visited 17,800 families; conversing or praying with more than 6,000 of the number. The number of volumes sold by the Branch has been 19,800, and the number granted 4,900. Fourteen hundred families were destitute of religious books, and more than 1,000 were destitute of the Bible.

VIRGINIA.

The remarkable blessing attending the Society's operations in Virginia during the past year, will warrant a somewhat full record of the facts as reported by the superintendent, Mr. Jonathan Cross. It is believed that no one can peruse such a statement as the following, without loving the system of means thus owned of God, nor without praising that grace which employs the "weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty."

"In no year since we began," writes Mr. Cross, "has the Holy Spirit more signally blessed our efforts than during the one just closed. A steady advance has been made in the direction of the destitute and neglected classes of our population. The labors of the year afford a demonstration of the facility with which those who have hitherto been neglected may be evangelized. No matter how ignorant, prejudiced, or erroneous, no matter what diversity of faith, locality, or color, the experience of the past has shown that the Spirit of God blesses the kind, faithful, prayerful presentation of truth in an oral or printed form, if borne to the firesides of the people.

"We have constantly kept before the minds of our fellow-laborers, that our work is designed especially to reach the destitute and neglected

who are far from God and holiness. My own labors throughout the year, with the exception of two weeks, have been confined to collecting donations, obtaining information in relation to the most destitute portions of the state, looking up suitable men to labor, ordering books, and settling the accounts of the colporteurs. During the year I have visited the following towns and counties: Alexandria, Winchester, Shenandoah, Monroe, Greenbriar, Alleghany, Bedford, Campbell, Halifax, Charlotte, Prince Edward, Cumberland, Elizabeth City, Dinwiddie, Norfolk, and Richmond, besides many others through which I have passed, but only tarried a day or two.

“More liberal donations have been collected this year than in any previous one, and there are indications of a deeper interest throughout the state. With few exceptions, the ministers have been cordial, and I have seldom met with any Christian whose character for piety stood fair among his fellow-men, who has refused his aid, while philanthropists are large contributors and warm friends.

“It has been my privilege during the year to converse with hundreds of intelligent men from every section of the state where our books have been scattered. I have heard but one opinion expressed in regard to the system of colportage. Wherever faithful labor has been performed, there is a corresponding improvement in the morals of the people. Intemperance has been checked, and Sabbath-breaking restrained; schools are increasing and churches building, and many who had neglected the preached word are becoming regular and attentive hearers, and, better still, ‘doers of the word;’ and, as an effect which always follows moral culture, dilapidated buildings and fences are repaired, enterprise encouraged, and the value of property is increased. All this is true on a general scale. Some special facts as an illustration will, I hope, be interesting to you.

“**THE RECLAIMED DRUNKARD.**—About a year ago I met a drunkard, and one of the most degraded of his class. I talked to him some time and gave him tracts on intemperance and ‘Baxter’s Call;’ saw him several times within a few weeks, still adding a few words and a tract. After this, I lost sight of him for nearly eight months. I then met him again, but did not recognize my old acquaintance in this well-dressed man. I offered him a tract, however: he thanked me, and then made himself known. ‘Ah,’ said he, ‘I was nearly gone when I first met you. I tried to follow your advice, but could not live without some whiskey. I have tapered off finally, and I pray to God both night and morning, and hope to get to heaven at last.’ And truly he was an altered man, if not a new creature in Christ.

“**THE CRIPPLE.**—Another old man, a poor cripple, unable to go to church, destitute of any kind of books, whom I visited and furnished with cheap volumes and tracts, on my last visit told me he had now found peace, while tears of joy ran down his furrowed cheeks.

“A wealthy lady who gave me \$20, and who has promised to contribute the

same annually, told me that a tract of eight pages was the means of her conversion.

"AN OLD SINNER SAVED.—During my stay on the mountains last summer, I went to a very destitute neighborhood, and held a series of meetings for prayer and exhortation. The Spirit of God seemed to be there, and some professed to have found the Saviour. Among them was a woman 75 years old, who told me that since she was 18 years old, she had not been one week free from concern about her soul. I gave her the 'Anxious Inquirer.' Three days after she began to read it, she said to me, 'How hard it is for an old sinner to be saved; but that book has explained it all to me. Oh what a precious Saviour I have found.'

"THE STRANGER.—The first day of the meeting, a man who was seldom seen in the house of God, passing by and hearing a stranger's voice in the house, came in, and took a seat near the door. In a few minutes he began to weep. At the close, I gave him a tract. He attended each day; on the fourth he professed conversion. His aged mother was present; he sprung to her, clasped her in his arms, and prayed for her salvation, although they had not been on speaking terms for years.

"THE SWEARER.—While assisting at a great revival nearly two years ago, some young men were in the habit of coming late at night for the purpose of escorting ladies home. I gave one of them, who was profane, the 'Swearer's Prayer.' He took it to his room, became deeply concerned on reading it, came next day as an inquirer, and is now apparently a sincere Christian. His testimony is that the tract was the means of saving him from destruction.

"CANAL-BOAT SCENE.—Last spring, while travelling on board a canal-boat, some of the most profane men I ever saw were in company. Not satisfied with swearing, they at last took to scoffing in a most awful manner, shouted and prayed in mockery, and tried to excel one another in ridiculing sacred things. After consulting a gentleman as to the expediency of interfering with such desperate characters, and receiving the advice not to meddle with them, I concluded to follow my own counsel, and threw some of the card-tracts on the gaming-table. They were severally entitled 'Death,' 'Hell,' 'Eternity.' Some of the men blushed; one, however, a little more hardened, asked a blessing in mockery over them. But it was plain that they were not easy: soon a few refused to play, and left the table. Late in the evening, one of the most aged and hardened among them was taken suddenly and alarmingly ill. His companions all left him alone. He was threatened with apoplexy. The other passengers either did not care to approach him, or were afraid to do so. I used the only remedies within reach. On reviving from the stupor somewhat, the poor old sinner became awfully alarmed, as well he might be, and began to cry out, 'O Lord, have mercy on me.' I talked to and attended him till we got nearly home. He seemed to be in deep concern about his soul. He told me, two weeks after, that the moment his eye fell on the title of those tracts he became terror-stricken. He had been very intemperate, but left off drinking. I have recently lost sight of him; but to all appearances he was a reformed man. Though poor, he gave me two dollars to aid the cause which he said 'had saved him.' I have scattered tracts in stages, steamers, rail-cars, and hotels, and by the wayside, and as the result I have in very many cases seen profanity and gambling cease, and the drunkard forsake the bar.

"NELSON IN TEXAS.—I was recently told by a pious widow that she had a son in Texas, who at one time was sceptical. A Christian man put into his hands 'Nelson's Cause and Cure;' he read it, and wrote to his mother that 'his views were changed; that it was a wonderful book, and that it had been the means of his salvation.' This lady bought ten dollars' worth of books to send to her son, and for him to lend to others.

"THE RAILROAD AGENT.—An agent of a railroad company, of high standing as a Christian and gentleman, told me some days since, that a few years ago he was utterly careless about his soul. He had a pious mother-in-law, who was always putting tracts in his way, which he generally read, but secretly. One Sabbath he found a tract in his room as usual: he read it, then laid it down; but not feeling satisfied, he took it up again and reread it. To that tract he attributes his first permanent convictions. Soon after he found peace, and has been an efficient member of the church for the last eight years. He keeps a constant supply of tracts in his office to distribute. Many cases of good resulting from the reading of those tracts, he told me, had come under his own observation. One he related as follows: 'A man from the mountains, who came once a year to trade, and to whom he gave 'The Mountain Miller,' on his return the next year, told him with deep expressions of gratitude that the tract had been the means of the conversion of three souls—himself, his wife, and daughter.' If all religious men who hold public offices would follow the example of Mr. —, how much good they might accomplish with small means.

"A PLANTER'S NARRATIVE.—A wealthy planter of North Carolina recently told me that a colporteur came by his house. His son, who was assessor of property in the county, bought from him a number of small books and tracts, and took them with him into one of the most degraded communities in that state, where there were no churches, no preaching, but few readers, and where little regard was paid to the laws of God or man. At every house he gave tracts: those who could not read got others to read to them. A deep interest was soon apparent; ministers came and preached to them. 'And now,' said he, 'there is scarcely one person over 15 years old who is not connected with some church. They are building places of worship, establishing schools, and the character of the people has undergone a total change. This has all been effected within eighteen months.'

"FACTS FROM COLPORTEURS.

"Permit me now to embody some of the facts as related by my fellow-laborers on this field. To state them all would make a volume of many pages.

"Mr. F— writes, 'On my field not far from 300 persons have connected themselves with the different churches within the last year. Wherever books and tracts were distributed, conversions have been most numerous.' He gives the testimony of different ministers to the increase of congregations. He sold and gave 50 copies of the 'Temperance Manual,' which have been read by more than 200 persons, 20 of whom after reading it joined warmly in the temperance cause, and many more have quit drinking. He mentions a lady who bought the Temperance Manual and gave it to her intemperate husband, who is now reformed. This book, she says, has been the means of restoring peace and comfort to her once troubled and distressed family. She bought 10 copies to give to others, with the hope of producing similar results in other afflicted households. He states that he found but four infidels, and they were all reading Nelson. One young man, after reading Home Evangelization, has determined to prepare for the ministry.

"He writes, 'In some parts of my field the most appalling destitution prevails. No attention has been paid to education. Vice and immorality reign. They deny the colporteur even the rites of hospitality, and will not let their children receive the gift of a religious book. I visited one family who were fond of reading; their stock of books was principally novels. I could not prevail on them to buy, so I gave them

the tract on novel-reading, talked and prayed with them, and left. A few weeks after, I received an urgent request to come back and visit this family; I did so, and this time I sold them \$10 worth of books, including the Family Library. The tract on novel-reading has produced similar effects on others.'

"Mr. B—— writes, 'I have found much destitution and ignorance. Whole families of 10 or 12 persons don't know a letter, and many who can read a little, have not a page of any kind, and unless books are given to them they must remain so. At the first house I visited, after I commenced labor as colporteur, a mother and daughter were both led by the blessing of God to embrace the Saviour, and are now striving against the corrupting influence of the other members of the family. At the next house I met a woman who told me that she had sought the Saviour often, but had finally given up. I urged her to come to church, and seek again; she did so, and is now numbered with the people of God.

"I shall never forget the case of one woman on whom I called. She had no books, was too poor to buy, and wanted them much. I found she was concerned, and gave her the 'Anxious Inquirer.' The tears started in her eyes; she turned aside to weep. If I ever felt encouraged it was then to pray for her salvation. I trust ere this she is happy in the Lord. I offered the Sabbath Manual to a young man. He swore he had no time to read. I inquired, 'What do you do on Sunday?' 'Hunt squirrels,' was the answer. Said I, 'Will you read the book if I give it to you?' 'Yes,' said he, 'I will.' You who live in the midst of a refined and religious community, can form no idea of the manner in which the Sabbath is trifled with among us. Often have some of our leading religious men refused to buy a religious book or take a religious paper for their families. I know of but one place in this county where there is preaching more than once a month. In view of such destitution, there is one point fully settled, namely, that the rescue of this county must depend in a great measure on colporteur labor. The system has already wrought wonders for us. I find Baxter, Flavel, Alleine, Doddridge, Edwards, James, etc., in many families; they were carried there by my predecessors in this good work, and great is the change they have wrought in many instances. I seldom find any religious books except those of the American Tract Society. The temperance cause has advanced with rapid strides of late. Our villages which used to be crowded with the vendors and the drinkers of ardent spirits, have of late changed their aspect. The dram-shops are mostly gone, and a drunkard in the streets is rather a rare sight. The temperance documents have done much to effect this great change.' This colporteur was brought up in the community he describes.

"**BOOKS ARE NEEDED AND ARE READ.**—A ministerial colporteur whose field embraces three counties lying along the Ohio river, writes, 'No one place on my field has preaching every Sabbath; some enjoy it once a month, others not at all. Consequently, many are far from God, nor can I see how they can ever hear the gospel unless some one carries the good news to their homes and firesides. The number who are *deprived* of gospel privileges far surpasses those who are reported as habitual neglecters of the sanctuary. Many who do attend have to go a distance of 5, 8, or 10 miles. I have made it a rule to visit all, rich and poor, saint and sinner, and to leave with each family some book, by sale or gift, with such personal effort as I am enabled to make. There is nothing more apparent than that the books are read attentively. I have frequently met with books several miles from where I sold or gave them, having been read and loaned from one to another, with the name of each reader marked on the cover. 'My children,' said a father, 'have read all the books we got from you, and we want more—they are such good books.' 'The books we got from you, and your visit,' said a widowed mother, 'have been a great blessing to

me and my children. I was much strengthened by reading Baxter's *Saints' Rest*. Two of my children have been awakened by reading the books, and have professed faith in Christ; and the reading of the *Child at Home* has made quite a change in my son.'

"THE TEMPERANCE DOCUMENTS have done wonders here in stopping the manufacture and drinking of ardent spirits. The drunkard has been raised from degradation. One of them recently, in a public address, said he must ever regard 'Dr. Beecher on Intemperance' as the means of his recovery. A minister wrote to me, 'I want you to pay us another visit, and bring some more of those good books; those you distributed here have been greatly blessed; it is pleasant to visit my people and witness the increase of piety which I must ascribe to the reading of them.'

"I think,' said an old man, 'there is some hope for the —— Bottom yet. It has truly been a hard place. Different ministers had tried it for a time, and given it up; and for some time previous to your coming here, the Sabbath was a day of revelry; but now they read the books you left among them, have begun to build a church, and have engaged a preacher.'

"Mr. A. P—— writes, 'On a part of my field there is no regard paid to the Sabbath; labor goes on among the lumbermen as on other days. On other parts of my field which have been visited, there is an improvement. Reading has increased. I have aided seven Sabbath-schools. On another part there has been a great work of grace. Several hundred have been added to the different churches. Books and tracts have aided much in this glorious work. Some blessed God for 'Baxter's Call,' others for the 'Anxious Inquirer,' and others for tracts put into their hands.'

"A MINE UNDER A DISTILLERY.—Rev. Mr. L——, who has done more voluntary colporteur labor than any minister in the state, sent me recently the following facts.

"Last fall, before the books arrived, a member of my church was preparing to go into the distilling business. The new apple-mill was made, the tubs filled with the ground pumice, and all things in full tide of preparation. I felt inclined to do something in that line myself; so I placed a magazine under the still in the shape of Edwards' *Temperance Manual*, and made a personal application of the torch of truth to the conscience of the owner thereof; and then what an explosion! Why, it blew the old still clear out of the neighborhood, and capsized the pumice into the pigsty; and I predict that the devil, nor any of his emissaries, will ever squeeze another drop of liquid fire out of an apple in that quarter.' He adds, 'This however is a good man, and needed only to be convinced that he was doing wrong; but not so with all. It is common for church-members here to engage in this ungodly trade.'

"An aged minister and colporteur writes, 'I have supplied nine Sunday-schools, which, together with the books circulated, has caused a great increase of readers, and I think good has been done. A very profane sinner to whom I gave the *New Testament* is now, at the age of 45, learning to read for the sake of obtaining a knowledge of the Bible. Six months ago I sent a book of an awakening character to a poor woman. I have been recently informed that she has professed religion. I have found many families destitute of the Bible. A poor woman told me she had not had one for 11 years; I gave her one and a *Sabbath Manual*. Also gave a *German Testament* to a poor widow who had only a few leaves of the Scriptures. Supplied some Germans with books, who told me those were the first books in their language they had seen for 30 years.'

"THE OLD BRICK CHURCH.—Rev. Mr. B—— writes, 'While it has been a year of labor and toil with me, often separated from my family many days at a time, yet it has been a year of rejoicing. Nearly 250 have professed conversion, backsliders have

been reclaimed, and infidels are confounded. Many who, 15 months ago, were never seen reading a religious book, are now found poring over our books. One old man who had not read 400 pages in 40 years, told me he was reading 'The Saints' Best' for the fourth time. In one neighborhood where I visited, there stood an old brick church which had been forsaken for years, and bushes and weeds surrounded it. I commenced preaching, and distributing books and tracts, and the people soon concluded to repair it. There is now regular preaching in the old brick church, and 20 members. Other similar cases have occurred.'

"Mr. S— writes, 'Three hundred and six have been added to the different churches on my field this year. There are encouraging indications in many quarters that the Spirit is about to be poured out; have supplied eight Sunday-schools with books.' Mr. M— writes, 'One hundred and eighty-two have been added to the churches on my field. I have aided eight Sunday-schools.'

"THE CHANGE.—Rev. Mr. M— writes, 'The place I mentioned in my last, where I found 40 persons who had never heard the gospel preached, has now preaching twice each month; they also have a weekly prayer-meeting, and are trying to get up a day-school—the first they have ever had. A woman to whom I sold a number of books, told me they were the means of salvation to three of her boys. The minister who received them to the church, remarked to me that it was the most delightful sight he ever witnessed, the mother bringing her three sons to be prayed for. A young man told me that in a revival where a number were brought to Christ, 'Pike's Persuasives' had done a great work; it was loaned from one to another, and several became awakened by it.' Mr. R— writes, 'To my knowledge more than 50 have been added to the churches on my field, and I have heard from but a small part of it. I have aided seven Sabbath-schools. I was told by one man that the books had been blessed to the salvation of his daughter; and many have told me of good accruing to themselves and others by reading the books.'

"Mr. F— writes, 'One hundred and forty-two have been added to the churches on my field, mostly at continuous meetings. My sales have been small and my grants large. Many are very poor and destitute, and unable to buy.'

"Mr. B— writes, 'If I could draw a true picture of what I have seen during the past year of the destitution of religious reading in this county, in one of the oldest states in the Union, it would astonish all who looked at it. There are heads of families, and wealthy ones too, and clusters of families who cannot read a word. There were but four Sabbath-schools in the county when I commenced as colporteur; now there are 10. There was then no prayer-meeting; now there are three. To my belief, there have been 110 hopeful conversions. I spent four days at one meeting where 20 professed Christ. I saw sufficient to satisfy me that our books had a powerful influence, in the hand of God, in bringing sinners to repentance. Many cases fell under my own observation of the impenitent, old and young, male and female, being savingly awakened by reading the different works of our Society.'

"Rev. Mr. S— writes, 'I have been but one month in the service, but have visited 151 families, and 20 vessels lying in harbor, and have scattered the publications by sales and grants over land and water, in hospitals, prisons, taverns, and sailors' lodgings.'

"Mr. J. W. W— writes, 'Though this county has had regular preaching for more than half a century, and has a Bible depository, I found persons who, though they were able to go anywhere else, had not been to church for years. Nearly 100 families out of 330 were destitute of all religious books except the Bible, and 28 without that, most of whom I supplied. In the hands of the Universalist, I put 'Universalism not of God,' as an antidote to 'The Star in the West.' With the sceptic I left

Nelson. Baxter, and James, and Pike, have found their way to souls who were hungering for just such food, and the tear of the penitent showed how acceptable they were. I met a father and son in the road. The father was a professor of religion, but could not read; the young man could read, but was not a Christian. I opened 'Baxter's Call,' and read the doctrines of which it treats. The son seemed anxious to get the book, but neither of them had any money, and I gave it to him. As I bade them farewell, and turned away, the old man said, 'God bless you,' in such a fervent tone as went to my heart and started a tear of joy. I would not exchange such simple ejaculations, coming as they do from grateful hearts, for all the cheers which statesmen receive.

"The only religious book except the Bible a poor woman had was N. W. Dickerman. 'Ah,' said the old woman, 'tis my daughter's book; she reads so much in it when at home!' Thus are your publications prized in the cottages of the poor as well as in the stately mansion.'

"One day a man said to me, 'Your Almanacs will never do any good; no one ever thinks much of an Almanac.' On the next day I heard of a young woman who had received her first serious impressions from reading one of your Almanacs that I had given her two weeks before. A woman to whom I had given the tract 'Gospel to the Poor,' said she had read it again and again. I hope and trust it has been to her the means of a change of heart. A young man with whom I conversed and found to be serious, and to whom I gave the book 'Repentance Explained,' is now a professor of religion. A few days ago I met a man who inquired, 'Have you any more books like the one you gave M——? He said it was of great benefit to him, and I want one.' He bought it and several others. A young Roman-catholic to whom I sold the tract 'Colporteur and Roman-catholic,' said, 'It knocks us down as fast as we get up.' He meant to throw it into the fire, but somehow he still kept it.'

"A SOFT ANSWER.—'At a cabin where I stopped, a Roman-catholic come in. After looking at the books, he began a violent assault on Protestants generally, and closed with this true remark, 'There is but one God and one true church, and all out of it will be lost.' I told him I wished to have no controversy with him, but asked him to listen to me a minute. I then read a few questions and answers out of Watts' Catechism, 'What is it to repent?' etc. At the close he said, 'I ask your pardon, sir: that is the best I ever heard on that subject; I think you are a minister, sir.' I spoke to him of the necessity of regeneration, and begged him to pray for a new heart, that he might have an interest in the atoning blood of Christ. 'A soft answer turneth away wrath.'

"Rev. Mr. F——, who has been thirty years in the ministry, writes, 'There has been a constant revival on my field for the last five months; more than 500 have professed conversion. Secular business was suspended for days together; it looked like the days of Pentecost. Two years ago, when I began to labor in this field as colporteur, very few had any religious books or Bibles, or indeed any means of obtaining them. I have scattered on this field more than 500 works, one-half of which I have given away. How far the dissemination of the books has been instrumental in promoting the revivals, eternity alone will disclose. But certain it is, that any thing like it has never been seen or heard of in this region before. This I do know, however, that many have testified to the great good done by the books. I have formed or aided 15 Sabbath-schools, and have supplied the poor children in 20 day-schools with the Tract Primer or some other suitable book. I found a young man in the woods making rails; gave him Baxter's Call: soon after he professed religion, and has been the means of doing much good among others. A man to whom I gave a Temperance Manual, and whose intemperate habits had nearly brought him to a drunk-

ard's grave, says that book was the means of arresting him in his downward course. He is now a sober, decent man.'

"Mr. A. H. P— writes, 'During this year I have visited 1,500 families; some in the lonely valleys, and others in the city of R—. I called on a man 70 years old, who I was told would not bear any one to talk to him about his soul's salvation. I read, talked, and prayed with him; he shed tears, seemed penitent, and thanked me for my visit and instruction. Have been laboring for the last two months in the city of R—: visited here 644 families, sold and gave 841 volumes, distributed over 4,000 pages of tracts; have found many poor, destitute, wicked, ignorant people, such as are found in the lanes and alleys of all cities. I called at a house where the family seemed to be composed of two women, two girls, a drunken sailor, and an Irishman. When I entered they were drinking and swearing. At first they did not seem to notice me. I spoke to them of their rebellion against God. They had no Bible or book of any kind, no chair, and but a few rags in a corner for a bed. Gave the sailor a Temperance Manual, and each of the others a book or a tract. Next day took them a Bible; found them all sober; they had been reading the books. I read some to them out of the Bible; urged them to repent and turn to God. Passed the door soon after; the sailor was reading the Bible to the family. Called on a Roman-catholic family; none could read; the woman expressed a desire to have a Bible, and said she could get her neighbors to read it to her. Gave her one, and a Tract Primer; the children are trying to learn to read in it. Have called frequently since; read and prayed with them; they invited me to call as often as I can.'

"Many more facts," Mr. Cross adds, "similar to those presented might be added, but perhaps I have already surpassed the bounds of an annual report. You will see by referring to the reports themselves that I have condensed considerably, and also that many of those good men can labor better than they can write.

"STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.—During this year we have sold 29,517 volumes, amounting to \$7,379 21; have given to the poor 12,067 volumes, amounting to \$2,011 14; visited 18,707 families, with most of whom we had religious conversation and prayer; have found 2,115 families destitute of all religious books except the Bible, and 801 without the Bible; have held 1,292 meetings, mostly in destitute places—half of the laborers are preachers; found 1,247 families who neglect evangelical preaching; and have organized or aided 73 Sunday-schools. Forty-six laborers have been employed, some during the whole year, and others for a part only.

"COST.—The aggregate of labor performed amounts to 19 years. Total expenses for services, freight, tolls, ferriage, meals, and lodging, is \$5,235 17. Grants, \$2,011 14. Amount of funds collected in the state to meet this demand is \$4,751 68, leaving a balance drawn from the parent Society of \$2,494 63.

"We commence this year with a larger corps of laborers at work than we ever had before, and to all appearances the expenditure will be greater. Sixty-one counties are embraced in the labors of the year just

closed. In that field, THIRTY-ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FOUR new members have been added to the different churches. How far your publications and the labors of colporteurs have been instrumental in bringing about these results, we do not undertake to say. We know, however, of no place where books and tracts have been freely distributed, where there has not been a more than usual ingathering into the church.

“About 55 individual conversions are reported, which were brought about through the direct agency of a book or tract. Still, our great encouragement is, that the reading of the Society’s books has led many to the house of God, and thus brought under the influence of the living ministry those who, without this instrumentality, would in all probability have never been reached.

“STATISTICAL RESULTS FOR SIX YEARS.—I have drawn a statistical report of the amount of labor performed in Virginia during the six years and four months, as follows: labor performed equal to 75 years and one month; volumes sold 135,982, amounting to \$33,995 38; grants to the poor 51,410 volumes, amounting to \$8,586 83; meetings held, 5,391; families visited, 74,000; families destitute of all religious books except the Bible, 11,485; and 6,309 families destitute of the Bible, 5,047 of which we have supplied, either through grants from auxiliary Bible societies, or from private individuals. We have found 6,820 families who neglect preaching; and 2,067 who have embraced error in some of its forms. We have organized or aided, by donations of books in poor, destitute neighborhoods, 320 Sunday-schools, where old and young have become pupils. There might be seen the child of ten years, the young man and woman of twenty, and fathers and mothers, with the aid of glasses, taking their first lesson in the first book they had ever owned, and that book placed in their hands by a colporteur. In these Sunday-schools a thirst for knowledge has been created; through the influence thus set in motion, day-schools have sprung up, where the children of the poor are taught, and often the only book within their reach of an elementary kind is the Tract Primer, and that too furnished by the colporteur.

“In many instances families were found, numbering from five to twelve persons, who did not know a letter of the alphabet; they wanted no books, of course. The colporteur would open some book, read a passage, and exhibit some of the pictures. The eyes of the children would sparkle; ‘Mother, get me that book—I want to learn to read it.’ What mother can resist such an appeal? The book is bought, or received as a gift. In a little time the child is in school. Such an occurrence as the above has been very common in the experience of our colporteurs.

“The first religious visit to hundreds of log-cabins has been made by a colporteur of the Tract Society. Many have heard their first sermon from his lips; and to judge by their terrified appearance, sitting still or standing, and not unfrequently the children running about while the man of God is on his knees, we might conclude that it was the first *prayer* they had ever heard.

“Pages might be filled with facts showing the instrumentality of books and tracts in the conversion of sinners.

“Numerous testimonials from gentlemen of high standing, both ministers and laymen, could be brought to prove the good done. A lawyer of Western Virginia, of eminent piety and high attainments, said to me, ‘Five years ago, there were hundreds of bookless habitations in the region of country where I reside; but now, every cabin has its Tract Society books; and I am often surprised at the acquaintance the people manifest with their contents, as well as at the great change which is perceptible in the morals of these same people.’

“A gentleman from a different part of the state and a land agent for several counties, made the following remark: ‘In every house I enter, in my constant travels, I see some of your books. The people are delighted with them; they will show them to strangers, as we are apt to do with any highly prized article.’

“In different places where Sabbath-schools were organized, they proved the nucleus of a church, where there is now regular preaching; and in some cases old, dilapidated, forsaken church buildings have been repaired, and regular worshipping assemblies now meet there to hear the preaching of the word.

“The operations in Virginia have cost the Society \$19,488 93, being much more than has been collected in the state for the aid of the Society.”

NORTH CAROLINA.

Eight colporteurs have visited 6,600 families, and conversed or prayed with 3,250, selling 7,200 volumes, and granting 2,500. More than one-third of the families were destitute of religious books, and about one-sixth were without the Bible.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Twelve colporteurs, including students, have visited several of the districts of this state. The number of families reached by each has been much less than in more densely populated portions of the country. The

destitution of the means of grace in some parts of the state is very great. The circulation has exceeded 6,000 volumes.

GEORGIA.

Twenty-three colporteurs, including ten students, have visited 9,900 families, with a considerable portion of whom they conversed or prayed; volumes sold, 11,700; and volumes granted, 3,800. *Rev. H. Safford*, superintendent, alludes in his annual report to the difficulties which have attended the work, to the occasions of sadness in witnessing prevalent destitution, and to the encouragements arising from the diligence and energy of his associates, from the obvious improvement in temperance and Sabbath observance, from the general acceptance of the publications, and from the evidences that the work has been blessed of God in the conversion of sinners and the revival of religion in many places. He quotes many facts from the reports of his fellow-laborers of the same general tenor with those previously inserted from the Virginia colporteurs, showing that the work is one, and that a blessing attends it wherever prosecuted.

ALABAMA.

Rev. A. M'Glashan continues the superintendence of colportage, in connection with his other duties, at Mobile. Thirteen colporteurs have visited 9,460 families, and have sold 16,600 volumes and granted 4,200. About one-eighth of the families were destitute of religious books, and about one-tenth were without the Bible.

LOUISIANA—TEXAS—MEXICO.

Mr. Heman Packard, the valuable superintendent of colportage for this field, gives a sketch of the labors of each of his associates, English, French, and Spanish. He notices the providential escape of one in Mexico, "from the plot of robbers and the bullet of a highwayman;" alludes to the difficulties of another in Western Texas, "from the prevalence of novels in wealthy families, and the sly workings of Infidelity, Universalism, and Romanism;" speaks of revivals of religion as accompanying the labors of another in Texas; and of another still, in Texas, he writes, "Nearly five hundred souls have been hopefully converted on his field the year past, and God has been pleased to make our publications instrumental in promoting this good work."

Of a laborer in Louisiana *Mr. Packard* writes, "The publications have done much good on his field. Some have been led to seek the salvation of their souls; the swearer has left off his oaths, and the whiskey-drinker his drams." Of a French col-

porteur he writes, "His field is a hard one. Hot suns, drenching rains, deep mud, overflowed bayous with an occasional ducking in them, nights spent lost in a swamp, with a zeal that is constantly urging him onward, seem to wear out his frame too fast. A few of the French we hope have already been converted, and the foundation of future good we trust has been laid. In spite of the secret machinations and public denunciations of papal priests, he has been enabled to scatter much light among a people who have long sat in the region and shadow of spiritual death.

"Another spends the morning among the shipping, and the afternoon among steamboats. Our steamboats carry the publications up every western river, and our steamships across the gulf to Texas, Mexico, and California, and our sail-vessels to the different nations of Europe.

"Mr. S—— and son volunteered a month's service, to visit the islands on our coast, and I furnished them a boat and books. They carried the printed gospel to some who would otherwise probably have died without it. Some were furnished for the first time with means of instruction for their children. One man was visited who had lived alone on an island for thirteen years. O Lord, sanctify these islanders through the truth thus sent them.

"When I contemplate what God has done for the south-west by means of our Society, I bless and praise his holy name. When I look around on the many thousands yet unblest, and consider the mighty work yet to be done, the past sinks into insignificance. What are a dozen laborers among so many? May God increase his laborers a hundred-fold, and his blessed saving influence a thousand-thousand fold."

For statistics of this field, see tabular statement.

MISSISSIPPI.

Four colporteurs have visited 3,800 families, with most of whom they conversed or prayed. The sales of volumes amount to the number of 8,800, and the grants 1,328.

ARKANSAS.

Four colporteurs have spent a portion of the year in this state. See statistical table for a condensed statement of results.

TENNESSEE.

Twenty colporteurs have visited 14,000 families, with about half of whom they have held conversation or prayer, selling 21,600 volumes, and granting 4,500. The number destitute of religious books exceeded one-fourth of the families visited.

KENTUCKY.

The number of colporteurs, including students, has been twelve, who have visited 7,600 families, sold 13,200 volumes, and granted 4,100 volumes. About one-fourth of the families were previously destitute of all religious books except the Bible, and about one-eighth were without the Bible.

OHIO.

The number of colporteurs, including students, has been 62, who have visited 55,500 families, conversed or prayed with 26,800 families, sold 58,400 volumes, and granted 15,800. The number of prayer-meetings held or addressed is nearly 1,200. Roman-catholic families visited, 3,200; destitute of preaching, 5,700; destitute of religious books, 4,400; destitute of the Bible, 1,450, of whom nearly 500 were supplied.

Mr. Seely Wood continues the efficient supervision of colportage. His report, embracing a full view of the work on his field for the past ten years, including the last year, may be found in a previous part of this document.

MICHIGAN.

Twelve colporteurs have been employed, who have visited 15,700 families, conversing or praying with 12,600 of them, and circulating 14,500 books, by sale or gift. One-seventh of the families were destitute of all religious books, although portions of the field had been previously visited by colporteurs. Nearly one-third of the families were destitute of preaching.

INDIANA.

Forty-nine colporteurs, including twenty students, have visited 44,400 of the scattered families—a considerable portion of them Germans; have sold 31,700 volumes, and granted 7,800. Six thousand one hundred families were destitute of religious books, and 3,007 were without the Bible. Seven thousand four hundred families habitually neglected the house of God.

ILLINOIS.

Thirty-one colporteurs have visited 28,600 families in this state, selling 26,000 volumes, and granting 7,400. One-sixth of the families habitually neglected the sanctuary, and one-eighth were destitute of religious books.

MISSOURI.

Twenty-two colporteurs, including several for the German population, have been employed in this state in connection with the agency at St. Louis, who have visited 22,800 abodes, circulated 22,900 volumes, and granted 5,300. About one-fifth of the families were Roman-catholics; and a considerable portion were destitute of preaching or religious reading.

The Rev. *Charles Peabody*, general agent and superintendent of colportage in Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa, is much encouraged by the progress of the work on his growing field, and seems animated with the purpose to cultivate its entire extent at an early day. His position is one of great responsibility, and is increasingly appreciated by ministers and intelligent laymen. It is manifest that St. Louis is destined to be the commercial centre of a vast agricultural district; and that it must also become the seat of benevolent operations on an extended scale. The Committee indulge the hope that existing and projected arrangements, in connection with the valuable agency of Mr. Peabody, will provide for the efficient prosecution of this Society's portion of evangelical labor in the "far West."

Speaking of the results of the past year, Rev. Mr. Peabody writes, "Some 65,000 volumes have been circulated in nearly every part of my vast field. There have been, during the whole or a part of the year, 52 colporteurs in service, who have labored 313 months and 17 days. There are now 41 in actual service, namely, 19 in Missouri, 20 in Illinois, and 2 in Iowa. Some of the good seed scattered in this region, even before the present colporteur system was much developed, has within the past year, in the precious revivals that have occurred, showed evidence of vitality, and borne fruit to the glory of God."

IOWA.

Three colporteurs have visited nearly 3,400 families, conversing or praying with two-thirds of the number, and effecting a circulation, by sale or gift, of 3,700 volumes.

WISCONSIN.

Considerable efficiency has been given to colportage in this new state within the year, among the American, German, and Norwegian population. Fourteen colporteurs have visited 19,900 families, where ten years ago not half so many families existed. They have conversed or prayed with 12,300 families, and circulated 17,100 volumes, by sale or gift. More than one-third of the families neglected preaching, and nearly one-fourth were previously destitute of all religious books, except the Bible, while almost 1,800 families were destitute of this sacred treasure.

MINNESOTA.

A colporteur has entered this distant territory, but his reports are yet incomplete.

CALIFORNIA.

The facts respecting the "Pacific Tract Society," and the labors of the Society's colporteur at San Francisco are briefly recorded in another place. The Committee have sought to supply additional laborers, in response to the earnest and reiterated appeals of this important auxiliary; but the pressure of other claims, and the difficulty of securing competent men for so remote and responsible a field, have hitherto prevented the accomplishment of their wishes. It is hoped that suitable men will soon be found to enter on one of the most interesting agencies in the world.

The same call for men has come from Oregon, without a response as yet.

CANADA.

Four colporteurs for the English, French, and German population of Canada have been employed, whose labors have been welcomed and successful. They have visited nearly 8,300 families, and circulated 5,300 volumes, by sale or gift. The fact that books are admitted into the provinces without duty, and that good books are scarce and expensive, with the increasing interest in religious things, would seem to encourage the extension of the Society's agency more widely among our provincial neighbors.

"THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY," LONDON.

This Society, of whose operations for the first fifty years, as recorded in its "Jubilee Memorial," so full a notice was given in the last report of the American Tract Society, is still prospering in its widely extended labors. It issued the last year 198 new publications, and put into circulation no less than 19,245,441 copies; its grants, in money, paper, and publications, amounted to £8,150 8s. 6d. (upwards of \$39,000,) including grants in part of 662 libraries in Great Britain; and its total receipts were £61,327 8s. 8d. (about \$294,000.) The Rev. Nicholas Murray, D. D., of Elizabethtown, N. J., and Rev. Seth Bliss, Secretary of the American Tract Society at Boston, have recently been commissioned as delegates from this Society to its ensuing anniversary.

The auxiliaries of the London Tract Society at *Montreal* and *Toronto* are advancing in their operations, and manifest a deep interest in the labors both of the London and American Societies.