

REPORT FOR 1896.

In presenting their Fifth Annual Report, it affords the Committee much gratification to be able to assure you that, though the Society has not been greatly in evidence during the past year, it has accomplished a very creditable amount of work, in its various spheres of operation.

New societies have been established in the City of St. Thomas the Towns of Kemptville and Seaforth, Ontario, and in St. Mary's parish, Toronto; whilst communication has been had with other places, wherein it is sought to carry on similar work.

At the close of last year, we had a large stock of literature on hand, consisting of 10,212 publications of all kinds, so that we considered it prudent to restrict our importations. Consequently we purchased only 1558 publications last year, consisting of 94 bound volumes, 200 Prayer books, 208 Vesper books, 609 pamphlets, 400 copies of Father Searle's, "Plain Facts for Fair Minds," (everyone of which was disposed of) and 47 leaflets. We put into circulation during the year 5893 publications, which has reduced the stock on hand to 5877 publications. The grand aggregate of our circulation, since the formation of the Society, five years ago, amounts to 37,440 publications.

The Society's Depositories at present are Messrs. Durie, Jarvis, and Guillaume. The box in St. Joseph's Church has been the means of distributing 1263 publications, and the pecuniary returns therefrom are considered satisfactory. In our last report this box was referred to as a "venture," it has now developed into an "institution." Sales have also been carried on during certain seasons at St. Patrick's Church.