

observe from the answers to questions occasionally put when the Tracts are being returned. Two instances have recently occurred of persons, who for some time sullenly refused to take the Tracts, alleging 'they did not want such stuff,' but who have since voluntarily asked for them.

"While engaged in distributing, they have of late been frequently spoken to by some of the wretched inmates, who, in an evil hour, became victims to the artifices of the fiendish seducer, and, consequent on their fall, are now the pests and outcasts of the community. Many of them express the strongest desire to change their evil course, should any mode of their procuring subsistence be attainable. As yet there is no place of refuge they may fly to on leaving the prison, and, lamentable to state, they are again forced from necessity to their former paths of iniquity. The distributors would observe, that the experience of three years visiting the jail, warrants them to believe, were there a House of Refuge provided for these wretched but repentant sinners, many of them through grace might be reclaimed, and become useful members of society."

Tract distribution is on the whole a pleasing duty; it has its sweet and bitter, but the former greatly exceeds the latter. It is an excellent method for privately preaching the gospel, and, we doubt not, it is in many instances very efficacious in awakening the careless and impenitent. How often has an expression, nay, a single word contained in these little epitomes of the plan of salvation, been the means, under God, of turning sinners from the error of their ways, and saving immortal souls from eternal misery. And if no other good had been effected by their instrumentality, it would be abundant recompense for all the labour and trouble expended in the work to know, that very many of those who in the Tract taste of the *stream*, are led to drink deeply of the *fountain—the Bible*.

This duty is peculiarly the province of the Christian female: in most cases, when the distributor calls, there are none but women at home; and it is at once obvious, that enquiries cannot be prosecuted by male distributors with sufficient freedom. An extract from one of the monthly reports will shew what can be done by female distributors; it requires no comment, and is as follows:—

"While engaged in this delightful work, we found that the children of a number of families, residing in ——— Street, were, owing to the distance, unable to attend a Sabbath school; and a convenient room having been offered for the purpose, a school was at once commenced with eight children, and the promise of a much larger number in future. We would humbly hope, that by the Divine blessing, this may be the means of doing some good."