

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Committee, in presenting their Thirty-fifth Annual Report to the friends of the Society, desire to call attention to the progress of the work of God, committed to their charge during the past year. There has been no abatement of zeal or effort, on the part of the Committee or the Agents, for the conversion of our French fellow countrymen, and the circulation of the Word of God. As means have been provided, and opportunity afforded, every effort has been made to carry out the objects of the Society. The non-denominational character of the Society has been carefully preserved; and only those cardinal virtues of the Christian faith, in all their scriptural purity, which Protestant Christendom regards as essential to salvation, have been promulgated. The one aim has been to set forth Christ, and Him crucified, as the only and sufficient Saviour; the Bible as the only infallible rule of faith and practice, and the Holy Spirit as the great agent in renewing the heart.

From house to house, in city and country, Sabbath and week day, to old and young, these truths have been presented. Nor has God ceased to bless such effort, for the salvation of souls. The Gospel has been spread among the people; many have been convinced of the errors of Romanism, and many hopefully converted to Jesus Christ.

There can be no doubt that the French Canadian people are now more open to receive the Gospel than they were some years ago. They are becoming more independent, asserting the right to think for themselves on the matters of religion, and are perusing the Bible, notwithstanding the prohibitions of the priests, who see this dawning freedom of opinion, and set themselves to suppress it. Still the people will think, and read and inquire, and listen to the Colporteurs. No doubt this awakening is the result of education, the circulation of God's Word, and the evangelistic labors of this and other societies. The Lord is beckoning on to still more devoted efforts than before, with the fair prospect of still greater triumphs.

But it must be recollected that this work is carried on in the face of an opposition, powerful from its control over the conscience, its perfect organization,