

THE
BIBLE ADVOCATE.

VOL. I.

MONTREAL, MAY, 1837.

No. 1.

PROSPECTUS

OF A MONTHLY PERIODICAL, TO BE ENTITLED

The Bible Advocate,

TO BE PUBLISHED UNDER THE SUPERINTENDENCE
OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MONTREAL AUXILIARY
BIBLE SOCIETY.

THIS work, as its name suggests, will advocate the increased circulation and perusal of the HOLY SCRIPTURES (for which it is to be lamented there is in this Province so much necessity), by diffusing important information on the subject, making earnest appeals to the consciences of Christians, and bringing into view the success which has attended those means in other countries. The interesting facts and anecdotes furnished by the operations of Missionaries will particularly be noticed; while the proceedings of the Parent Society and of all others connected with it, or engaged in the same cause, with the state of the Branch Associations of the Society in Montreal, will also form part of the contents of the Paper.

It is hoped, and may be expected, that Ministers of the Gospel, and the friends of Religion and Morality, will not only contribute to the design by furnishing original articles or other interesting matter to the pages of the ADVOCATE, but will also exert themselves to obtain Subscribers, and send their names, previously to the issue of the paper, to Mr. WILLIAM GREIG, 197, St. Paul Street, Montreal, to whom all communications (post paid) should be addressed.

TERMS: per annum when delivered in town, 1s. 3d. per single copy, or 1s. each for ten and upwards: when sent by mail, postage included, 1s. 9d. per single copy, or 1s. 6d. each for ten and above.

Montreal, April 3, 1837.

Extracts from the Report of the Sub-Committee, stating the advantages likely to result from the publication of THE BIBLE ADVOCATE.

1. Other Societies, infinitely inferior in importance to Bible Societies, have their pe-

riodicals, by which they sometimes very successfully support and advance their cause: your Committee, therefore, recommend that the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society should have its periodical, through which it may advocate its cause, and disseminate, within its sphere of operation, the salutary effects of the Bible on the minds of even the most uncivilized and barbarous.

2. So much of novelty is associated with a periodical, that the prying disposition, or idle curiosity, of many who care little for the Bible, might, when such a paper is brought before them, be sufficient to induce them to read it—and its reading might give existence to a desire to possess the Book it recommends.

3. The infidel and the atheist, who despise Bibles, and Bible Societies, might, from a scornful curiosity, be tempted to bestow a transient glance on the pages of such a paper, to obtain some slight information about the proceedings of those bodies; and to know what, forsooth, they could possibly say in defence of their cause; but which glance might possibly meet with something which would prove an arrow too penetrating to be resisted by any panoply furnished by even their creed. Therefore a periodical, such as that which is hereby recommended, if ably supported, may be calculated to do good in a variety of ways.

4. Those, friendly to the cause of truth, may have it in their power to do good by distributing copies of such a paper, or reading them to individuals, when they would fail to do any by either circulating or reading the Bible. For foreign news, or interesting intelligence, told in pointed and pathetic language, even of a religious character, are often read or listened to, when the contents of the Bible, because heard and told a thousand times, possess to them nothing sufficiently interesting to arrest attention. A BIBLE ADVOCATE, therefore, offers this further advantage.

5. A periodical paper may be employed as a very useful vehicle to communicate, from time to time, selections of Scripture, containing the most essential doctrines of revelation; and also of such passages as strikingly prove their Divine authenticity and superhuman sublimity and excellence. Thus it might be