

THIRD REPORT
OF
The Toronto Ladies' Bible Association.

APRIL, 1849.

In presenting this the Third Annual Report of the operations of the Toronto Ladies' Bible Association, the Committee consider it unnecessary to go into any detailed explanation of the objects for which the Association was formed :—it is sufficiently known to those of the community who take an interest in Religious Societies, that it was formed for the purpose of aiding in the distribution of the Holy Scriptures, particularly in this City, upon a general plan, projected for similar Associations by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Your Committee in carrying out the objects of the Association, during the past year, have followed the course adopted by the Committee of the preceding year, sub-dividing the City into Districts, and procuring, as far as possible, collectors for each District, whose duty it has been, to go from door to door, in the endeavour, to induce persons of all classes and opinions, to become periodical contributors to the funds of the Association, either by free donations or subscriptions for Bibles or Testaments.

Some of the collectors of the preceding year, have during the year now closed, resigned for various reasons, but your Committee have been enabled to supply their places by other Ladies; and your Committee with gratitude to Almighty God, express their belief that at the present time, the Society is in a condition of as much vigour and activity as at any period of its existence, notwithstanding the apprehension formerly entertained by some, that the Society would sink so soon as the excitement created by the novelty of the enterprise should wear off.

The past year has been one of severe pressure upon the humbler classes, amongst whom, in a great measure, the operations of the Association are carried on, and this state of things has produced a corresponding effect, in a sensible degree upon the success of the collectors, who have been often met with this apology for postponing the time of contributing, while a disposition to aid the object of the Society has been manifested.

Notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, however, your Committee have much pleasure in reporting, that during the year 73 persons have become subscribers, some for Bibles and some for Testaments, in addition to 323 during the two previous years, making a total of 396 who have become subscribers since the formation of the Society, and who either have been, or will be supplied through means of it with the Word of Life.

Of this number a portion had already possessed that precious word, and have become subscribers for various reasons; some for the sake of having a large family Bible; some because age had rendered it difficult for them to use their old Bibles; some because their families required an additional copy, and some