

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MONTREAL ASSOCIATION
FOR THE
DISTRIBUTION OF RELIGIOUS TRACTS.

As there may be some to whom a slight sketch of the origin and design of this Association may not be uninteresting, we now subjoin as brief an outline as possible. Its formation was first proposed at a Ministerial Association meeting held in the beginning of the year 1839, and recommended "as an excellent plan for increasing the number of hearers at the different places of worship, promoting true religion in the churches, and arousing the inhabitants generally to the consideration of their eternal interests." With such a design this Association was shortly afterwards formed, but how far it has succeeded cannot be fully known until that day when the hidden things will be fully revealed, and when, we doubt not, it will be seen that the comparatively humble and unobtrusive labours of this and similar Societies have not been in vain.

The past year of its operations has been one of greatly extended effort. At its commencement, as a means for procuring additional assistants, an appeal was prepared, especially addressed to Christian ladies, and a copy sent to those ministers who have hitherto co-operated with us, with a request to read it to their respective congregations, and exert their influence in our behalf. Several of them promptly acceded to our wishes, and so ably seconded the appeal, that upwards of thirty members were added to the Association; the majority of whom were ladies, and who have since proved to be our most useful auxiliaries.

A considerable change was at the same time made in the plan of distribution. The City and Suburbs were divided into twenty-seven districts, of which the emigrants, seamen, and military each formed one; as many distributors as possible were appointed to each district, and every member expected to give a report monthly of his proceedings at the business meetings of the Association. This plan was adopted

in consequence
in many
but several
several a
was found
interest i
was desir
languidly
decided
are now
with grea

The A
Religious
of nearly
Society
the cost
gratuitou
the sums

Number
35,214;

Throug
rally bee

The la
conclude
he will e
momento
and adva
religion

This r
not, we
owing to
sphere o
otherwis
very scar
ing any g
been the

The p
by some
slight so
Tracts w
afterwar
depraved
it in piec
bitter ex
amongst
Tracts w
eventuall