

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY

OF

MONTREAL.

THE formation of the St. Andrew's Society, although its objects are strictly limited to charity and acts of philanthropy, was no doubt partly caused by political circumstances.

The peculiar nature of the events then (1834) in progress throughout the Province, and the contests for the Representation of the City of Montreal in Parliament, which were almost entirely trials of strength between the Anglo-Saxons on the one hand, and the Franco-Canadians on the other, caused a revival of that national feeling which to some extent is natural to all men, and is said to exist in an eminent degree in Scotchmen. It had long been felt that there was a want of concentration and unanimity, amongst the Anglo-Saxon community, for although its members on all leading points were sufficiently unanimous, yet the machinery did not exist whereby the views and opinions of the more prominent of "the British party" as it was called, could be diffused and impressed on the community at large. It is true, the Constitutional Association was formed for that purpose, and to a considerable extent was successful in accomplishing it, but experience proved that it did not possess that strong power of appeal to patriotic feeling which Societies strictly national would have.

While therefore, the formation of the St. Andrew's, as