

### Eighth Occasional Paper.

The Committee have reason to thank God, the Giver of all good gifts, for the encouragement which has been afforded them in the prosecution of their work during the past year. The general aspect of the mission, in all its departments, is more healthy and hopeful than it has been for some years. It is indeed still the day of small things, but progress has been made since the Report of last year, and cheering proofs have been received that God is with us.

#### PROGRESS MADE IN THE PAST YEAR.

The Committee call the attention of their friends to the case, mentioned in the Reports of the Missionary Pastor, of one who has been for some time an enquirer, and has this year found the truth as it is in Christ; and who continues through opposition and the threat of separation from her husband, faithful and steadfast. They refer also to the increase of enquirers who have come in to hear the Scriptures expounded and to converse;—to the improvement in the numbers at the College and the Primary School,—and last, though not the least of all, to the work of grace commenced this year in several of the young people of the congregation and the college.

#### CONFIRMATION.

A confirmation was held by the Lord Bishop of Montreal in the month of July in the Mission Church, when 24 candidates were presented, 6 being of French race; and renewed their baptismal vows by a public profession of their desire to enter upon the service of the Saviour.

#### TRIALS NECESSARY.

These encouragements, however, have not been received without, at the same time, trials and discouragements being always experienced. But the history of missions has always shewed that these are a necessary element in the work. To some extent at least must the words be verified in their completion which were quoted a year ago: "He that goeth forth *and weepeth*, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." The effect of trials is to lead to a more unreserved casting of ourselves upon God as our only help and strength. Our dependence must no longer be upon man but upon the Head of the Church.

#### HELP IN GOD.

If the extent of the country or the strength of the system which we seek to enlighten and evangelize be considered, the effort hitherto made may be indeed called, as it has been, a drop in the ocean, or, a whisper in a storm. But, when viewed as God's work, the whisper is as powerful to make itself heard, as was the still voice of Christ to calm the troubled elements on the lake of Galilee.

The great need existing at the present time is of additional labourers, men well qualified to act as scripture readers and colporteurs under proper superintendence. For this the prayers of Christian friends are asked. The Master has said, "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest to send forth labourers into his harvest." Christian friends, let us co-operate more cordially and diligently in doing so.

#### MISSIONARY PASTOR'S REPORT.

SABREVOIS, 30th May, 1862.

Rev. W. BOND, Secretary,

I now forward to you my report for the quarter ending with the present month, being the last of the second year of my stay in Sabrevois. In doing so I can say with more confidence than ever, that God is with us in our work. By the leadings of his Spirit some of the young people of the Protestant families have been led anxiously to enquire what they must do to be saved; some of these have found joy and peace in believing, and are, we trust, hopefully converted to God, and others are yet seeking Jesus. The number of such is small, but we trust it is only the beginning of a good work which will yet be felt by Roman Catholics around us. The means which it has pleased God thus to bless have been, apparently, affliction, and an earnest appeal to the consciences of individuals.

There are 22 persons, English and French, receiving weekly instruction preparatory to confirmation; though I do not expect that they will all come forward to receive that rite. They form three different classes, one of which I meet every Sunday morning, another in the evening, and the third during the week.

Owing to sickness among our own people, and the time given to teaching since Mr. Mauny left, I have not been able to do much among Roman Catholics this spring; yet the few visits I have made afford encouragement. I may here give one extract from my journal.

Tuesday, 11th March. Visited a French Protestant family, and while there a Roman Catholic