

of the French Canadian missionaries have gone to France to aid in Evangelistic work there for a few months. The late Joseph Mackay offered to pay all expenses connected with their visit. The Ladies' Society maintains a French Protestant Home in Montreal,—supports an efficient Colporteur,—and several pupils at Pointe-aux-Trembles.

Concerning finances, the Board say:—

"\$22,487.18 were received during the year towards the ordinary work of the Board, \$1,677.46 for the endowment fund of the Pointe-aux-Trembles schools, \$5,517.71 (inclusive of fees, etc.) for the maintenance of the schools, and \$4,763.35 for the purchase of the Pointe-aux-Trembles property, making the total receipts of the year, \$34,845.70, a sum so far in excess of that of any preceding year as to call forth the deepest gratitude of the Board to the great Head of the Church who has put it into the hearts of His people to contribute so liberally on behalf of the work. To the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, for a grant of £200 sterling—to the congregations of the Church for contributions exceeding those of the preceding year by \$2,500 towards the ordinary fund—to the Sabbath schools of the Church for the handsome sum of \$3,300 towards the ordinary fund and the maintenance of the Pointe-aux-Trembles schools—and to the many generous friends of the Mission in Canada and in the United States and Britain, for contributions aggregating for the respective departments of the work upwards of \$10,000, the most cordial and heartfelt thanks of the Board are gratefully tendered. In pursuance of the policy adopted and steadfastly carried out, the Board close the operations of the year free from debt, with a balance in the treasury of \$169.05. As the salaries of most of the missionaries, teachers and colporteurs, are payable monthly, the Board express the earnest hope that contributions for the ensuing year be forwarded as early as possible, so as to render necessary the payment of interest on borrowed money. The estimated expenditure to carry on the work with efficiency for the ensuing year, is \$34,000, viz., \$25,000 for the ordinary work, \$6,400 for the Pointe-aux-Trembles schools, and \$2,600, the balance due on the Pointe-aux-Trembles property. This estimate is based on the staff at present employed by the Board, and an increase of twenty-five pupils to the number in attendance last year at the Pointe-aux-Trembles Mission Schools. It is greatly to be desired that the revenue of the year will exceed this amount to such an extent as to enable the Board to extend the work by opening up new fields, and admitting as many pupils to the Pointe-aux-Trembles schools as the buildings will accommodate.

The Board say that to be satisfied with anything less than the conversion of the French-Canadians would be to trifle with the gravest problem that has ever come up for solution in our Dominion.

Dr. McVICAR, stated from the chair, that so great is the labour devolving on the Secretary-treasurer that he is often kept in his office till 12 o'clock in the morning.

Addresses were made by Dr. BURNS, Mr. MITCHELL, Father CHINIQUY, and others, and the re-

commendations of the Board were unanimously adopted.

### Sixth Day.

The resolution proposed regarding religious instruction in public schools, together with amendments, was laid on the table.

The discussion on Sustentation and Supplementary schemes, resulted in the carrying of a motion proposed by Rev. J. M. KING, seconded by Professor FORRESTER, to the effect that a Committee be appointed to mature a Supplementing Scheme, which will then be sent to Presbyteries.

The report of the delegates to the Presbyterian Council, Philadelphia, was received.

An overture with respect to Evangelistic services was laid on the table.

### STATISTICS.

Mr. TORRANCE presented the report on Statistics, from which we give the following facts, it being noted that the returns are still defective. For example, three congregations in the city of St. John are blank in the tables, and so are five in the Presbytery of Montreal.

In the report of the Assembly's Committee, presented last year, the number of pastoral charges, including 25 in Manitoba, was given as 746, or 721 without, they are now reported as 730, an increase of 15, or, adding those of Manitoba, 767, an increase of 27. The number of vacancies is 88, 3 fewer than in last year's report, or 7 fewer if we take into account 4 that were in the Presbytery of Manitoba. The total number of ministers is 653, or adding 32 for Manitoba, there are 685, which shows 26 more than for the previous year.

The entire number of congregations or stations constituting pastoral charges is 1506, an increase of 166 on the returns of the preceding year. This shows an average of more than 3 to each minister of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, and this average holds good of nearly each of its Presbyteries, with the exception of St. John and Miramichi, in which the average is about 4 to each pastor, and that of Newfoundland, which has 3 ministers for its 4 charges. In the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa, the average is about 2 congregations or stations to each pastor; in the Presbytery of Ottawa it is 1 to 3. In the Synod of Toronto and Kingston, the average is likewise about 2; but the Presbytery of Kingston has only 20 ministers to 54 congregations or stations; Barrie, 23 for its 126, although it has but 27 pastoral charges. In the Synod of Hamilton and London the average does not reach 2, and the same proportion, on the whole, holds good of each Presbytery.

According to the returns that have come to hand, there are 65,103 families, representing, say, an aggregate of 330,000 persons connected with the Church, and 6,616 single persons, or, joining these numbers, say, 337,000.

The number of sittings is reported as 346,044, an excess of accommodation apparently for about 9,000, shewing that there is room in the buildings