## PRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

(Continued from our last)

BELLE RIVER, ONFABIO.

In this field, situated in Essex, the most westerly County of Ontario, ground was broken towards the close of last summer, Mr. A. F. Rivard being the missionary appointed to commence the work. He spent considerable time in visiting the district, and enquiring as to the spiritual condition of the people. The village lies on the Great Westein Railway about fifteen miles east from Windsor, and thirty west fron Cuatham. It contains a population of about four hundred, the large majority of whom are French Catholics, by which class also the surrounding district is chiefly settled A gentleman in the village baving gratui tously offered three lots for a church property, the English people are auxious to have a place of worship erected as speedily as possible, towards which they have been promised liberal assistance from outsiders. Mr Rivard succeeded in securing the use of an unoccupied house for a temporary place of worship. Partitions having been removed and seats procured, a comfortable meeting place was improvised, in which services were held by him, attended by both French and English, and it is hoped with good re-sults. The Missionary of the present summer, Mr. T. A. Bouchard, speaks of the field as a very promising one, and as a good centre for evangelistic work among the French Catholics of the surrounding district, who are far from bigoted, but willing and anxious to attend his services and receive his visits. He preaches in Belle River every Sabbath, and alternately at two other stations in the immediate vicinity. He had recently organized a Sabbath School, with an attendance of fifteen to begin with. Throughout the County of Essex—where are upwards of 10,000 French speaking people—as well as in the westerly section of the neighboring county of Kent, there are good openings for several French missionaries, provided the men and means were at the disposal of the Board.

ST. ANNE, KANKAKRE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

This field, the former home of the Rev. O. Chiniquy, presents no features calling for special notice in regard to the work of the past year. The Rev. Joseph Paradis taken charge of the pulpit during most of the year, the entire expense of supply being defrayed by the people. The attendance continues about the same as in the preceding year, viz: an average of two hundred in the morning and one hundred in the evening, the number of communicants beevening, the number of communicants or-ing one hundred and fifty. The day school has been carried on with great offi-ciency under Rev. C. Lafontaine, Mrs. Thomas, and Mr. George Pelletier, the three teachers, assisted by several monitors. The teaching is thorough. Besides the ordinary elementary branches, particular attention is given to the moral and religious training of the pupils, the Word of God is daily read, and the Westminister Assembly's Shorter Catechism is regularly taught, both in French and English, in all the classes of the senior department. The average attendance has been nearly one hundred during the year. The Sabbath school has an attendance of one hundred and thirty, including several adults who avail themselves of the opportunity thus presented of adding to their stores of religious knowledge.
The General Assembly last year gave

power to the Presbytery of Chatham to transfer this mission to the American Probyterian Church A deputation of Presbytery visited St. Anne in July, to endeavour to effect a union between our own congregation and that connected with the American Church. The litigation with the Roman Catholic Bishop as to the Church pro-perty, prevented a formal union taking though the congregations are very friendly and have met together on the Lord's Day during a considerable part of There is a prospect of the litithe year. gation evacing before long, when it is hoped the union will be effected, and the whole mission transferred, if deemed desirable, to the American Presbyterian Church.

Since the above was written, the Board learns, by a letter from Rev. C. Lafontaine, that in the last week of May, St. Anne wa visited by nine priests, who held special services every day for a whole week, but in vain, so far as our congregation was ing been moved from his steadfastness.

QUEBRC CITY. It is gratifying to be able to report that there is now a French congregation in connection with our own church in this strong-hold of Remanism. The congregation was formerly connected with the "Synod des Egliess Evangeliques." In the end of last summer the people, along with their minister—Rev. L. Langel—applied to be taken under the care of the Board. The application was granted, and the chairman visited Quebec in October and completed arrangements for the transfer of the mission. The English friends in Quebec have sion. The English triends in Quebec nave organized a local committee, and guaranteed the salary of the missionary to the extent of \$600 per annum, the balance (\$400,) being met by the funds of the Board. A beautiful and commodious church edifice, erected at a cost of upwards of \$600 wes completed in the saviguant of \$8,000, was completed in the early part of the winter, and opened under encourage ing circumstances in the month of November. The entire expense of the building has thus far been defrayed by the Quebec friends, there only remaining a debt of about \$1,800 upon it. The site selected is most advantageous, and the opening of the church—the first and only French Protestant Church in the city—marks an epoch in the history of French evangelization in the ancient capital of Quebec. Mr. Langel having received and accepted a call to Switzerland, his place has been supplied by the appointment, temporarily, of the Rev. B. Ouriere, a gentleman thoroughly qualifield in every respect for so important a field. Mr. Ouriers entered upon his duties shere in the begining of May. He reports a membership of thirty. Services are held regularly in the morning and evening of every Lord's Day, the attendance varying from forty to seventy, including a few Roman Catholics at nearly every sevice. The city is almost wholly under the oc troi of the priests, the entire Protestant population numbering in 1871 but 7,000,

whereas there are upwards of 52,000 Roman Catholics. In such a field, the work necessarily is uphill, requiring strong faith on the part of the missionary and his little band of devoted followers. To the eye of sense it would seem utterly futile to labor with any hope of success among a people so fanatic and priest ridden, but there is nothing too hard for the Lord, and with all its discouragements, there are not awanting indications of better days to come in this Popish stronghold. The organization of a Protestant Defence Alliance, or some similar society, for the protection of converts from Romanism, would probably tend to advance the interests of the work, and the establishment of a good primary and high school for French Protesiants would e of decided advantage—a boon which it is hoped will soon be supplied.

OTTAWA CITY.

In this city, the capital of the Dominion, our missionary—Rev. M. Ami—continues to labor with great diligence and fidelity. The congregation have had during the year to face many discouragements, chiefly arising from the depression of business and the consequent scarcity of work, necessitating the removal of several families in search of employment to other parts of the Dominion and to the United States. The English speaking congregations of the city have generously come to the assistance of the poorest of the converts and relieved their temporal wants. Another great felt want is a suitable place in which to hold the Sabbath services. There being no church edifice, the congregation meet in a hall rented for the purpose, at an expense of \$75 per annum.

the deeply interesting annual report of the congregation, which the limits of this report prevent appearing in full, the following extract in regard to the place of meeting is taken:—"The site of the ball, opposite the Convent of Notre Dame, undoubtedly prevents many timid Roman Catholics from coming to hear the gosnel It is difficult to be found, and having no acknowledged place of worship, we can-uot expect to attract to our services the Roman Catholic portion of our French fel-

low-citizene.' The Board express the hope that during the ensuing year, the English-speaking Protestants of Ottawa will set on foot a scheme for the purchase or erection of a suitable place of worship for our French Presbyterian congregation - the only French Protestant congregation in the capital. Notwithstanding the depression of business, and the consequent poverty of the congregation, they have raised among themselves during the year upwards of \$100 for the support of ordinances, besides forwarding a contribution towards the ordinary work of the Board; and, notwithstanding the disadvantages in connection with the place of meeting and opposition of Romanists, "the Church," as the report states, has numerically increased by the conversion of several Roman Catholics. Twelve persons have publicly abjured Romanism, and our session has received thirtuen new members, eleven of whom were by profes-sion of faith." In addition to the services on Sabbath, there is a Sabbath School and Bible Class conducted by Mr. Ami, to gether with a weekly prayer meeting, and other meetings occasionally on week evenings in the house of one of the elders.

OTTAWA CITY, WEST END.

To assist Mr. Ami in his arduous labors, and with a view to open a preaching sta-tion in the western part of the city, the Board has appointed a student missionary -Mr. Joseph Allard-to Ottawa for the summer. Having only entered the field a few weeks ago, it is too soon to speak of his work further than to state that a new preaching place has been opened on the Flats, with a fair attendance to commence with

Since the reception of the annual report of the congregation, a devoted elder of the church has been called to his rest. Mr. Ami has frequently referred in his monthly statements to the devotion of this elder. In communicating the great loss sustained by the congregation in his death, he thus vrites:-"It is needless for me to enter into any details of the last moments of our deceased brother. Lie laive was long to hope a living one, and his testimony to hope a living deepel unshaken. His deceased brother. His faith was firm, his spiritual progress was astonishing, and his death a perfect triumph."

MONTREAL, CANNING STREET CHURCH. Owing to the dimensions of the work in this city, and the number of laborers employed in connection therewith, together with the fact that the head quarters of the Board are here, the Church generally is more familiar with the progress made during the year in Montreal, than in any of the other fields occupied by the Board. In the beginning of the year services were confined to the one church—Russel Hall—conducted by Messrs. Chiniquy and Doudiet To provide accommodation for the rapidly increasing number of converts from Romanism, the Board secured an eligible site on Canning street, in the west end of the city, on which they erected a large and substantial brick-cased church, capable of accommodating six hundred persons. The church was opened for public worship on the 14th nuary, the Rev. Dr. Robb, of Toronto, rendering signal service in connection therewith. The opening services in the morning and afternoon were conducted in English, and the evening service in French the attendance being large at each of the diets, especially in the evening, when the church was filled to overlowing. The Rev. O. Chiniquy was placed in charge of the new church, and the Rev. Mr. Doudlet was appointed to that of St. John's Church, (Russell Hall,) Rev. Mr. Ouriere assisting him by conducting the morning service Mr. Chiniquy has occasionally been assisted by the Rev. O. Camerle, an ex-priest of Rome, whose application for reception is before the General Assembly. That the Board acted wisely in erecting the church, has been abundantly evidenced by the remarkable success attendant thereon. Sabbath after Sabbath the numbers worship-ping there have been well maintained, the church generally being comfortably filled, especially at the evening service. It is somewhat difficult to estimate the number of converts to Protestantism during the year in connection with Mr. Chiniquy's labors, but it is safe to state that at least 250

families have been brought under the sound of the Gospol. the Lord's Supper, was administered in the new church in April. Of the converts from Romanism a large number applied for membership. After careful and minute examination of each applicant individually, one hundred and fifteen were received into fellowship with the Church.

The Communion Service was one of deep sciemnity, and will long be remembered by those privileged to take part in it. The centre pews were occupied by the communicants, and the side seats by a large and apparently interested congregation, among whom were several Roman Catho-lies. The venerable appearance of the "old man elequent."—himself for many years a priest of Rome—as after clearly explaining the nature of the ordinance and the solomn obligation reating upon those who partook of it, he broke the bread and distributed it and the wine to the people; the sight of the communicants—nearly all of whom a few months previously were in the Church of Rome—as they commemorated the death of a crucified Redcemer, and the subdued aspect and chastened demeanor of the throng of spectators, could not fail to create a lasting impression on nearly all present. It was, indeed, a night to be remembered -- a season for which to thank God and take courage.

At the opening of the church a Sabbath school was organized, the attendance at which has averaged about forty-five. Separated from the church proper by means of folding doors are two large class rooms, in one of which a day school is conducted by Mr. L. F. Richard, a missionary of the Board, the number in attendance having during the winter reached as high as

forty.

The regular weekly prayer meeting on Thursday ovenings has been well sustained, the numbers present ranging from 150 to 800. On one of the stormlest nights of the season the Chairman and Secretary of the Board, in company with a minister of the Church from Ontario, unexpectedly visited the prayer meeting, when upwards of 200 by actual count, were present. This congrogation from its commencement has defrayed all internal expenses, such as fuel, light, Sabbath school requisites, etc.

MONTREAL, ST. JOHN'S CHURCH (RUSSELL HALL.)

While the new church has been thus a success, it has not been so at the expense of St. John's Church congregation, for the attendance there has not perceptibly decreased. The Rev. Mr. Doudlet reports the attendance as large all through the winter, the church being "frequently filled to its utmost capacity." As in Canning street so in St. John's Church, the attendance at the weekly prayer meetings is very large; these meetings, Mr. Doudiet reports " sel-dom being inferior in numbers to the Sabbath gatherings."

Lord's Supper was dispensed once in this church during the year, the num-ber communicating being seventy five. Several applicants for admission were refused, the Session judging it necessary to give the applicants a longer probation. According to the latest revised lists, about 180 families claim connection with the congregation. The people, though generally poor, have raised for current expenses about \$60 for the four months ending 80th of April. They have also during the year given a handsome collection towards the ordinary fund of the Board, besides a liberal sum towards the Canning Street Church, and a small contribution to the House of Refuge.

A Bible class was conducted by Mr. Doudiet during the winter. The Sabbath school has a roll of thirty-two scholars. Concerning spiritual results, Mr. Doudiet reports large numbers as having professed to him to abjure Romanism during the year, and adds that of these he believes God year, and adds that of these he believes cod has changed the hearts of about a score. Since the appointment of the Rev. Mr. Ouriere to Quebec, Mr. A. B. Cruchet as-sists Mr. Doudiet in St. Jehn's Church, sharing the services and pastoral work with him.

It cannot be denied there are imposters in a work of this nature. Many for the sake of obtaining relief from the Protestant House of Refuge or from private charity, profess to have become converts to Protestantism. But impostors of this class are by no means confined to French Canadians, being a commonly re those who most persistently seek relief from a House of Refuge are many of them the very soun of society. The Board have sought during the past winter, as far as possible, to preven imposition in this di-rection, being extremely desirous to en-courage and foster a spirit of independence and self-reliance among the converts. They have employed a staff of paid visitors. Alphabetical lists of all French applicants Alphabetical last of all Fronce applicants for aid, with their addresses, have been kept. These have been thoroughly and systematically visited. The Secretary has met weekly with the visitors to compare notes and rovise the lists. Mr. Doudlet, the Bible woman, and generally one of the visitors have attended the House of Refuge each day that relief was distributed, and no means have been left untried to prevent imposition. In the office of the Board there is kept a list of all the French Protestant families in the city, with their addresses, and more especially with the families claiming connection with our own Church. During the present summer, in addition to the ordained Missionaries, there are three French students engaged by the Board, along with a Bible woman and the Matron of the Ladies French Evangelization Society, by whom all the French Pro-testant families are being regularly visited and instructed. In the early part of last winter the congregation worshipping in St. winter the congregation working the John's Church (Russell Hall) were frequently disturbed on Sabbath evenings, and by disturbed through the windows. The stones thrown through the windows Board asked protection from the civic au-thorities, which was given, and the disturb-ance soon ceased. Since then there has been no open persecution of the congrega-tion or the Missionaries, yet the converts personally are exposed to persecution, their ituatious being taken from them, and in the depressed state of business it is generally impossible for them to obtain others.
The distress and suffering caused in this way are incredible to all but those who are personally cognizant of the matter. It as-

suredly requires considerable faith and courthe part of a Roman Catholicir this oity with a family dependent upon him to cast in his lot with those identified with our French Protestant congregations.

THE LADIES' FRENCH EVAGELIZATION SOCIETY.

This important auxiliary of the Board has been in active operation during the year. The Society leased a house in a central part of the city for a Mission House, and engaged the services of a lady as Ma tron. In the Mission House a mothers' meeting was held each Monday, conducted by the Matron, with an average attendance of twenty.

On Wednesday afternoon a Bible reading was held, conducted by a Bible woman, under the supervision of Mrs. Prof. Campbell, the numbers of Franch Canadian wo men attending during the winter ranging from seventy to one hundred.
On Saturday afternoon a young girls' class

for sewing and religious instruction was conducted by Mrs. A. B. Stewart and the Matron; the number availing themselves of this opportunity of receiving good was about The Matron's time is chiefly spent in

visiting, especially where there is sickness or distress, and in distributing relief chiefly in the way of clothing to those of the converts who are destitute.

The monthly meetings of the Society have been well sustained, several of the most active ladies of the various congregations of our church in Montreal taking part therein.

The total expenditure for the year was

As the Society purpose publishing a report of their work in the fall of the year, together with a full financial statement, it is only necessary here to commend their work to the sympathy and liberality of all our people, and to solicit on their behalf donations of clothing, bedding and contri-butions in money—the former of which should be forwarded early in October, ad-dressed Miss Gordon, Kildonan, 1059 Sherbrooke street, Montreal.

JOINT ENGLISH AND FRENCH WORK.

One very important feature in regard to the Frence evangelization work of the church, is an connection with its bearing on Home M sion work, especially in the Province of Queboc. The fact is apparent that, apart from the city of Montreal and one or two other points, the English population is reachly decreasing, and there are at present yoarly decreasing, and there are at present a large number of districts with a sparse English speaking Protestant population whose places are gradually being taken by French Romanists-where, if Gospel ordinances are to be maintained at all, it must be by means of missionaries able to minister to the wants of the English speaking section, and at the same time to make inroads on the French community. In such districts it is to the interest of the English speaking Protestants to have a missionary who can preach in both languages, so as to ensure their having ordi nances maintained among them at all while at the same time it is in the interests of French evangelization to have the co-operation and moral support of the English speaking community in making in-roads on the masses of French Romanists by whom they are surrounded—without which co-operation and support it would in many instances be hazardous to undertake mission work at all. In some of these districts the number of English-speaking Protestants is so rapidly diminishing, owing to emigration and other causes, that if a foothold is to be maintained, active, energetic steps must be taken to plant missionaries qualified to conduct services in both lan-guages. The future of our Church in the Province of Quebec depends, under God, not so much upon our Home Mission Committee, in granting supplements to sustain ministers in weak and struggling English. speaking coogregations, as upon cordial cooperation and united action on the part of our Home Mission Committee and our Board of French evangelization in giving the gosnel by means of missionaries able to speak in both languages to the English and French communities.

FRENCH POPULATION OF THE DOMINION.

An erroneous idea exists in the minds of most of our people as to the field for French Evangelistic effort. Many suppose that it is confined exclusively or nearly so to the Province of Quebec. A glance at the census returns of 1871 shows that in the province of Ontario there are upwards of 75,000 French-speaking people. While these are scattered all through the Province— there being some in every one of the ninety electoral districts—there are grouped together from one to two thousand in each of no less than sixteen different, townships, and unwards of two hundred in each of

aixty-eight other townships.

In the Province of New Brunswick there are 45,000, and in that of Nova Scotia, 88,-000 French-speaking people. If to these are added the large numbers in the Province of Manitoba, as well as those in Newfound-land and Prince Edward Island, it will be seen that French Evangelistic effort needs by no means be confined to the Province of Quebec. Indeed there is scarcely any limit to this department of the Church's work in the Dominion. The task committed to the Board of French Evangelization is assur-edly a heruclean one, and one that will tax to the uttermost the energies of the Church for many a long year to come. Self-inter-est, the political, social, moral and religi-ous liberties of our children, and the future destiny of our Dominion, all demand that vigilant and unremitting effort be put forth for the evangelization of the 1,250,000 of our French-speaking fellow-citizens, the vast mass of whom are at resent ignorant of the way of salvation through a crucified Redeemer.

FINANCE.

From the full financial statements secompanying this report, it will be observed that the receipts for the past year from all sources for the ordinary fund amounted to \$80,578.79. Of this amount \$1,977.55 was received by Rev. Dr. McGregor in Halifax, and \$28,601.24 by Rev. R. H. Warden in Montreal. For building purposes there was received by Mr. Warden, \$4,104.69, making the total receipts for the year for all pur-poses, \$84,688.48, in addition to the balance

on hand at the beginning of the year. total payments amounted to \$37,167,47, leaving a balance on hand in Moutreal of \$1,284.09, and in Halifax of \$463.58. The Board observe with great satisfaction the large amount contributed by the Sabbath Schools of the Church, and bespeak the continued interest of superintendents and eachors. Included in the receipts is the sum received from the estate of the late Mr. Vm. Hall, of Peterboro, amounting to nearly \$10,000, which was expended in part payment of the debt on St. John's Church (Russell Hall). To the executors and heirs of the late Mr. Hall the warmest thanks of the Board and of the Church are due. The thanks of the Church are also due to Mr. James Oroll for the gratuitous use of his office to the Secretary during the greater part of the year; to the Rev. W. B. Clark, of Quebec, the Rev. J. J. Casey. of Eigin, Que., and R. Sellars, Esq., of Huntingdon, Que., for several sums forwarded to the Que., for several sums forwarded to the Board, being the proceeds of lectures delivored by these gentlemen in various places; to Messrs John Sterling and David Morrice, of Montreal, who came to the help of the Board in an omergency, and obtained ac-commodation from the Bank for a sum sufficient to tide over the difficulty; and to the British American Presenterian for the frequent use of its columns to advocate the claims of the Board. To the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland for a grant each of £200 sterling, and to the Prosbyterian Church of Iroland for a grant of £100, the Board is under a deep debt of gratitude; and especially to the Rev. R. Campbell, M.A., of St. Gabriel Church, Montreal, who generously consented to visit Britain for a period of five months in the interests of the work, and whose mission has thus far been crowned with success; and to his session and congregation, who cheerfully acquiesced in the appointment of the Board, and gave Mr. Campbell the necessary leave of absence.

In summing up this report, it is impossible to review the work of the past year without being constrained to say, "What has God wrought?"

The continued prosperity of the work in the fields formerly occupied by the Church; the large addition of ten other fields which during the year have been placed under the care of the Board, including such important centres as Danville, Joliette, St. Hyacinthe, Quobec City, and the new congregation in Montreal; the raising up by God of mis-sionaries admirably adapted for these fields; the remarkable increase in the contributions to the funds of the Board in a year of unexampled commercial depression; and, above all, the large increase to the number of converts, and the general prosperity and advancement of the work of French evange. lization in connection with the Board, all call for the deepest and most heartfelt gratitude to the Great Head of the Church. This is the Lord's doings, and it is wonderful in our eyes."
To maintain in efficiency this most im-

portant department of the Church's work, the Board earnestly solicit the prayers and sympathy and increasing liberality of all the friends of the Mussion, and above all, the continuance of the divine blessing and favor without which all claims.

favor, without which all else is vain.
All of which is respectfully submitted,
D. H. MACVICAR, LL.D., Chairman. R. H. WARDEN, Scoretary-Treasurer. 210 St. James St., Montreal, June 1, 1877.

## Bandom Beadings.

Wor to those who are engaged in the commission of unlawful deeds, for they can-not trust their nearest accomplices.

My heaven upon earth is communion with God; and therefore nothing else would be my heaven in heaven.—Rev. T. Adams.

"How long is it since your conversion?" said one to another. The reply was, "Nearly six years." "Do you think you will hold out?" "I don't hold; it's a strong arm that holds me."

WE can not walk in two ways at the same We can not follow our own will and the will of God. We must choose the one or the other. We must deny God's will to follow our own, or we must deny self and self-will to follow the will of God.

BACKSLIDING is generally gradual-like the ebbing tide, wave after wave breaks upon and it seems impossible to tell, by any two or three separate waves, whether it is the ebb or flow; but watch a few moments, and the outgoing waters soon tell their own tale.

THE old couplet savs: "When God erects a house of prayer

The devil builds a chapel there But to suit the fashion in which many conspicuous churches manage their affairs, it should now be said or sung:

"When God erects a house of prayer The devil puts a mortgage there.

You know, going into heaven will be like ships going into harbor. There will be some tugged in almost by miracle, "saved so as by fire;" others will be going in just with a sheet or two of canvacs-they will "scarcely be saved!" but there will be some who will go in with all their canvass up, and unto these "an abundant entrance shall be ministered into the kingdom of their God and Saviour."-Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.

WE will not see much that is attractive and helpful by simply looking inwards. Standing at the mouth of a cave and gazing towards its depths, we see but little and cannot see far. It is when we turn the other way, and in the landscape lying before, all brilliant in the sunshine, that we find that which is worth our sindy. Let us look away from our-selves to Jesus, and studying his person and work, we will be gladdened with visions that will bring an eternal joy.

WHENEVER there is a revived condition of soul there will be a renewed devotion to Christian effort. When the sluggish believer is stirred up by the grace which reasimates his spirit, he will address himself to some presided and the which the will be wi self to some practical work by which he will express his gratifude for the blessings sens him, and his wish to honor his gracious hims, and his wish to honor his gracious Master. "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" is the language alike of the newly converted man and the re-awakened Chris-