

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 61st Annual Meeting of the Grande Ligne Mission was held on the 14th October, 1897, at 2.30 p.m., in the French Baptist Church (l'Oratoire), in the city of Montreal.

Mr. A. A. Ayer, the President, in the chair.

The meeting was opened with singing and prayer.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and adopted.

The Secretary then presented the Annual Report, the largest part of which was in print for the convenience of those present. The reports of the different fields were then read, analyzed one by one, with suggestions as to changes or additional facts, the Missionaries being there to give explanations. The report was adopted and referred to a committee for additional items and publication.

The Treasurer presented the Financial Statement, also the Report of Endowment and Building Fund, both of which were adopted and ordered to be printed with the report. The President stated that the plan adopted by the special committee last year for the reduction of expenses had resulted in the year closing practically free of debt; the Missionaries unanimously consenting to a reduction in their salaries had contributed not a little to this result.

The following persons were, on ballot, elected members of the Board for the ensuing year:—A. A. Ayer, Rev. T. Lafleur, Joseph Richards, Rev. Donald Grant, Rev. A. L. Therrien, Rev. G. N. Massé, Rev. M. B. Parent, Rev. E. W. Dadson D.D., Rev. W. T. Graham, Rev. J. H. Hunter, James W. Tester, J. C. Sims, Joseph Picard, Rev. Dr. Steele, Amherst, N.S., Rev. Ira Smith, London, Ont.

The following were elected as Advisory Board:—Rev. John Gordon, D.D., Philadelphia; Rev. W. N. Clarke, D.D., Hamilton, N.Y.; Rev. D. D. McLaurin, D.D., Detroit; Rev. A. G. Upham, D.D., Thos. Leeming, Brooklyn, N.Y.; S. P. Hibbard, Boston; John A. Cameron, Ottawa; W. A. Marsh, Quebec; Geo. Foster, Brantford; Rev. J. B. Warnicker, Toronto; Rev. James Green, Montreal.

The Board met at the close of the meeting and elected the Rev. E. W. Dadson, D.D., President; Joseph Richards, Treasurer; Rev. Theo. Lafleur, Secretary.

At 8 p.m., a platform meeting was held, presided over by the newly elected President, Rev. Dr. Dadson, who made a very telling address on the value of the work of evangelization, and expressed the hope that this Mission, and especially this meeting, might be the rallying point and place for the Baptists of Eastern Ontario and Quebec, who needed something to call all the churches together once a year. Rev. Mr. Grégoire (ex-priest) gave a very interesting address on the Virgin Mary, being made the fourth person in the Godhead, as set forth by recent Roman Catholic writers.

The address of the retiring President, Mr. A. A. Ayer, is published in this report. Stirring speeches were also delivered by Rev. M. B. Parent, pastor at Grande Ligne, and Rev. Donald Grant, pastor of the First Baptist Church, of Montreal.

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