

## WHERE ARE THE MISSIONARIES WANTED?

The *Semi-Weekly Leader*, a Protestant journal of Upper Canada, thus concludes a review of Dr. Nelson's Prison Report:—

"This report affords at least one source of gratification. It shows that crime, in Lower Canada, has for some time past exhibited no progressive ratio of increase. In Montreal, there has been no increase for the last eleven years; in Quebec, for some years past, there have been fluctuations in the numbers of prisoners, but no steady increase. At Three Rivers, the number of prisoners has decreased since the penitentiary was established. In the Perce gaol the numbers have not increased; and at New Carleton there has been a steady decrease for the last five years. To what cause this happy declension of crime is to be attributed, or whether it is likely to continue, we are left to conjecture. Cause there must be, or some of the most populous districts of Lower Canada would not show a decrease of crime for a period of ten years during which the number of inhabitants has been greatly augmented."

Of course there is a cause, and that cause is simply the moral, and religious, influences which the Catholic Church, when not interfered with by man, is able to bring to bear upon the people. It is to the Catholic Bishops, and Catholic Clergy, of Lower Canada, and to them alone, that is due the credit of the steady decrease of crime amongst, or in other words, the steady "progress," in virtue and true civilisation of, the French Canadian portion of our population.—But of what other country can it be said, that—for the last ten years, there has been a great increase of population accompanied with a steady decrease of crime? Certainly not of any Protestant country, and, least of all, of those countries whose progress is continually held up as a subject of Protestant boasting, and as affording a glorious contrast to the "unprogressive" habits of the benighted *habitants* of Lower Canada. Decrease of crime with an increasing population cannot for instance be affirmed of the United States. The only question there is—in which of the great cities is crime the most rapidly increasing? The *National Intelligencer* says:—

"Until lately it has been doubtful in which of the three cities of Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York, crime has thriven with the greatest rapidity of growth, with greater impunity, and with more desperate ferocity."

And concludes by awarding the palm of blackguardism to New York, in whose prisons eight persons "were on the verge of an ignominious death," and in which city scarcely "a day passes that we are not compelled to chronicle some new instances of the malicious or fatal use of deadly weapons." Certainly there is "progress" in the United States; not in peace, order, morality, or religion—the elements of all true civilisation; but a "progress," and a very rapid "progress," the other way.

In Great Britain the population has of late been decreasing; of course we shall find a corresponding decrease of crime. Not at all—says the Protestant press in general, and the *Commercial Advertiser* more particularly. The latter journal, after weeping over "the fearful demoralisation of the people of Great Britain, Scotland in particular," concludes his lament over the iniquities of his people with the following words:—

"The increase of drunkenness, and consequent crime in England and Scotland has, of late, attracted the notice of the clergyman of all denominations."

The same authority assures us that, in Glasgow, the commercial capital of Protestant Scotland,—"9, out of every 12, at least, are drunkards"—a statement which is corroborated by other statistics, from which it would appear, that 20,000 of the population of Glasgow go to bed drunk every Saturday night; and, that of the remainder, a very large number are far too drunk to be able to go to bed at all.

In the *Canada Temperance Advocate* we find the same testimony, given by a Scotchman, a writer in the *Peekshire Advertiser*:—

"Drunkenness in Scotland possesses as thorough an organisation, and has an agency as numerous and well-appointed, as any system of idolatry that ever has held, or does at present hold, mankind in bondage."—Where are the blessings of our constitution? asks the writer—"when such multitudes of our countrymen are held in such cruel bondage, sunk in ignorance and grovelling in vice." . . . Drunkenness is neutralising all the blessings of our free institutions, wasting all the advantages derived from the superior intelligence, skill, and industry, of our people, sinking us in the scale of nations, and making us a by-word amongst all people."—The italics are our own.

Most certainly, if there be any reliance to be placed on human testimony—and we hope that we may not again be accused of libelling Scotland, for citing it—there is "progress" in Protestant Great Britain, and above all in ultra-Protestant Scotland, but a very different kind of "progress" from that which is going on in Popish Lower Canada, and which excites the surprise of the *Semi-Weekly Leader*.

Now we would ask the reader, after having read the above evidence—evidence be it remembered taken solely from Protestant sources—to give a straightforward answer to our question. "Where are the Missionaries mostly wanted?" In Popish Lower Canada, where—with a steadily increasing population—there is a rapid, and steady decrease of crime? Or in Protestant Great Britain where—with a decreasing population—crime is rapidly, and steadily on the increase—where, in the language of the *Peekshire Advertiser*, as given in the *Canada Temperance Advocate*, such multitudes of the people are "SUNK IN IGNORANCE AND GROVELLING IN VICE"?

This question, which is worthy of serious attention at all times, is peculiarly apposite at the present moment. Next week is the great week for our evangelical brethren; it is the HOLY WEEK of Non-Catholicism, the religious exercises of which consist, in lying and slandering, and the practice of hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness; it is the week in which the blessings of Protestant "progress" and the abominations of Popery, will be desecrated upon by hired mountebanks, and buffoons, self-dubbed reverend; in which "Moral Reformers," not themselves "reformed,"—at least we have no reason to believe that they have ever given the first signs of reformation, by refunding a portion of their dishonestly acquired wealth—will appear on platforms to deplore the im-

morality and wickedness of the Popish *habitants* of Canada; when we shall behold fraudulent bankrupts—knaves in fine linen and superfine broad-cloth, seated in the high places of the synagogue—sleek-faced cheats, who, if they had their deserts, would now be expiating their misdeeds in grey jackets, and coarse duck frocks, at Port Arthur, or Norfolk Island. But the morality of the conventicle has something about it "very peculiar." If a man be but wealthy, he is looked upon as a saint, and its chosen heroes are rogues, who would be driven with kicks, and shouts of execration, from every society, not totally dead to all honorable and gentlemanly feelings. However, we may be thankful that it is so. The characters of the leading proselytisers are well known to, and appreciated by, our honest, though poor, Canadian *habitants*; and such is the contempt and loathing for the emissaries of the swindling managers of the Montreal Provident and Savings' Bank, which that knowledge generates, that but little impression is made by the lying tracts, and spurious Bibles, which are hawked about our country districts. The Canadian *habitant* has generally a fine sense of honor, and will not allow himself to be perverted by the agents of men for whom he has justly a most thorough contempt; and it is certain that the unenviable notoriety which the publication of the "Official Report" of the Commissioners of Inquiry into the affairs of the above-named Bank—has earned for several of the most conspicuous of the evangelical clique in Montreal, is, one of the best preservatives against the contamination of their doctrines. Should any of the sanctimonious gentry here alluded to, think themselves harshly dealt with, we are ready, to make good all our assertions by copious quotations from the "Official Report" of the Legislative Assembly; but perhaps they will prudently bethink themselves of the old adage, and avoid all unnecessary stirring up of a very dirty business.

Of course the above remarks are not applicable to all who may figure during the evenings of next week as Canadian reformers: many no doubt may be sincere, but mistaken, men. It is to these that we address ourselves, asking them—"What is it you want to convert Canadians to? and what the mischief do you want to convert them from? Do you not see that the *habitants*, for whose religious welfare you profess so deep an interest, are far more moral, far more virtuous, and therefore far more highly civilised, than your own countrymen in the United States, in England, and Scotland? Whilst crime, and consequently barbarism, are advancing in the latter countries with giant strides, in Popish Canada, you have the testimony of Protestants that, the population is steadily augmenting in numbers, and that crime is steadily diminishing. Why interrupt such a work as this? Why try and degrade the French Canadians to the level of Yankees, and of those people—"sunk in ignorance and grovelling in vice"—of whom we read in the Scotch papers? Why, above all, attempt to weaken that moral and religious influence, that authority of the Catholic Bishops and Clergy, to which alone the peace, order, morality, civilisation—decrease of crime, and "progress" in virtue—of the people of Lower Canada are owing? Send your missionaries, your *colporteurs*, and Bible peddlars, to the denizens of the back slums of New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore; if they do no good, they will do but little harm amongst them; for, if all accounts be true, it would puzzle even a Sandwich Island Methodist missionary to make them more the children of the devil than they are already. But as you respect common sense, keep your agents away from Lower Canada, where the people are already—aye, and in spite of you—virtuous and peaceable, moral and improving: you can but pollute and corrupt, even should you succeed; and the only boast that you will ever have cause to indulge in will be this:—

Whereas we found the people of Lower Canada increasing in numbers and virtue, we have left them Protestants—Protestants like the debased wretches of New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore—Protestants like the drunken thousands of Great Britain—"sunk in ignorance and grovelling in vice."

Letters have been received by the Bishop of Montreal, dated St. Francisco, the 12th November, from the Rev. G. Huberdeault, announcing the safe arrival at that place of the Reverend gentleman, and the five Sisters of Charity, who started from this city on the 18th of October last, on their way to the Oregon territory, where it is proposed to found a religious establishment similar to that which we have the happiness of possessing in the Providence Convent. These letters give very interesting details of the voyage, and of the hardships to which the Sisters were exposed during their journey across the Isthmus, which occupied six days. Leaving the steamer, they proceeded in flat-bottomed boats up the river San Juan d'el Norte, where the party suffered much from the climate, and the crowding together of a great many persons with little, or no accommodation; providentially, they escaped all attacks from the cholera, although that fearful disease was raging all around them. The latter part of the journey was performed on mules, wretched animals, mere masses of bone, badly bound up in hide. Having, however, procured mules sufficient for his party, the Reverend Mons. Huberdeault, armed with a long cane with which, by good-luck, he had furnished himself at Montreal, commenced driving the miserable creatures through the swamps, and quagmires which constitute the Isthmus roads; diversifying the proceedings agreeably, by stopping from time to time, to drag some of his fellow-voyagers out of the mud in which the mules have a trick of depositing the unwary rider. Arrived on the Pacific, they had to wait several days for the steamer, during which time they suffered greatly from the intense heat, and after all, were obliged to continue their voyage with the loss of a considerable

part of their luggage, as the mules on whose backs it had been packed had knocked up on the road. The party arrived however in good health and spirits at San Francisco, where they were to remain several days, as the steamer which was to carry them to Oregon had not arrived. The nuns were kindly received and taken care of in the Convent of the Sisters of Charity at San Francisco, whilst his Lordship the Bishop, hospitably furnished quarters to the Rev. Mons. Huberdeault, in the Episcopal Palace. They expected to leave San Francisco about the beginning of December, and earnestly recommended themselves to the prayers of the faithful in Montreal, to whom they are attached by so many tender reminiscences, and amongst whom they so long labored as the devoted servants of the Lord.

We have been requested by "A Friend" to explain how it is—that the Orders conferred by Protestant bishops in the United States, are not recognised in Protestant Canada, and that a Protestant clergyman, so ordained, cannot be admitted by an Anglican bishop to practice within the pale of the Anglican establishment—whilst the Orders conferred by a Catholic Bishop, no matter in what country, are at once recognised, as valid Orders, by every Catholic Bishop throughout the globe, and the Priest so ordained, can, the sanction of the Bishop of the diocese being obtained, perform his sacred functions in every part of the world. Supposing the facts of the case, in so far as Protestant ordinations are concerned, to be as our querist represents them, we offer the following explanation. A Priest ordained by a Catholic Bishop is a validly ordained Priest, everywhere, and forever, because he is a Priest of a Church which is Catholic, and which therefore recognises no geographical or political limitations; whilst the Anglican establishment is merely national or Non-Catholic, and therefore is limited, and determined by geographical, and political accidents. If this explanation does not satisfy our querist we recommend him to apply for information to the *Canadian Churchman*.

Members of the Catholic Institute, whose subscriptions for the current year are not paid, are respectfully requested to remit the amount due to Mr. Sadlier, Treasurer, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE MONTREAL POCKET ALMANAC, for 1853. By J. Starke & Co., No. 9, St. Francis Xavier Street.

For a copy of this excellent pocket directory, and general index, we have to thank the enterprising publisher. It accurately indicates all the public establishments of the city—religious, commercial, legislative, judicial, and professional; insurance, exchange, and registry offices; and gives the national, benevolent, literary, and all other societies of Montreal, with the public institutions, and railroad statistics of the Province. We cordially commend it as a useful assistant to all anxious of accurate information on our onward course.

J. C. BECKETT'S COINING HOUSE CALENDAR FOR 1853.

In design and execution this surpasses any or all of the kind we have ever beheld. As an honest, true Temperance Advocate, we have endeavored to render Mr. Beckett a due tribute of respect; but as a Typographer, he outstrips all praise, and makes it halt behind him."

## PROGRESS OF MONTREAL.

Our Quebec contemporaries have frequently amused themselves with furnishing their readers with causes for the decadence of Montreal, some of them of very fantastic kinds, too. But while they furnished good and sufficient reasons, why we must be ruined, our city continued to increase in magnitude and population. Even the dreadful conflagration of last July has only furnished occasion for fresh improvements. The poor wooden shanties, which disfigured our older suburbs, have been destroyed never to re-appear, and in their places have arisen neat brick houses, covered with metal, which give an air of comfort to streets, whose straggling irregularity was formerly felt to be painful to the passenger. Some few good stone houses have probably been lost not to be, for a long time, replaced by anything so good; but, in general, the burnt, we may now almost say rebuilt district, has assumed an air of neatness and comfort to which our streets were formerly strangers. St. Mary Street, in the Quebec Suburbs, is built on the left hand side nearly throughout its length, and on the right hand side, with few exceptions. The cross streets thence to the water side have also been generally rebuilt. On the other side, so much progress has not been made in the cross streets; but favored by the very mild fall, a great deal has been already accomplished. Campeau Street, for example, is nearly reestablished, together with the little street running out of it on the left hand, known as Perth Street. The other streets, in that ward running Northward, such as St. Nicholas Tolentine, Amherst, Wolfe, Montcalme, Visitation, St. Ignace, and Voligeurs Streets, have all a number of new buildings; but the arrival of winter, will check operations there, and till the springs, they will be single houses rather than streets. We regret to see no signs of an immediate intention on the part of the proprietors to rebuild in Dalhousie Square. It seems as if that fine site would be some time before it will be again covered with such handsome edifices as formerly distinguished it. In the St. Lawrence Ward, the progress made in re-building is not less than in the St. Mary and St. James' Ward. In St. Denis Street, we observe that Mr. Boyer has completed his stone houses, on nearly the same footing as formerly, of the corner of Dorchester Street. We see, too, that Mr. Grenier is just roofing a very fine row of brick buildings on the West end of the Viger Market, having greatly improved on those which formerly stood there. La-guachetiere Street, westward from St. Denis Street, is also nearly rebuilt, and Dorchester Street is still more nearly completed. In St. Catherine's Street, too, Westward of St. Denis Street, and at the corner of the two streets, several new houses take the places of the old ones, and the same may be said of Sangui-net Street, though, at present, a great deal remains to be done in that Street. Probably Dorchester Street is the one of this ward where the greatest activity has

been shown. Upon the whole, we may hope that many months of spring will not pass over before the burnt district will be completely effaced, and handsome brick houses universally take the place of the wooden cottages, which were so mercilessly destroyed.

Turning to the other end of the City we see still more pleasing signs of progress—for there it is advance without retrogression. The whole of the space between the Lachine Canal and the river side has been for some time nearly fitted up with Mills employing the water power. The Messrs. Tate have we think recently erected another mill, which seems to exhaust the sites suitable for that purpose at that part of the City. But kindred establishments are rising rapidly higher up the Canal at St. Gabriel lock. There a number of gentlemen known as the St. Gabriel Lock Company, at the head of whom is Mr. Gould, having purchased the whole of the water power, and a large tract of land on each side, have cut canals round the lock, so as to employ the whole of the surplus water. They have thus created a number of mill sites, many of which are already occupied and others will shortly be so. At this point we have Allen's Chair Factory; Ostell's factory for doors, windows, and all similar articles used in the internal and external joinery work of houses; Weaver's Cloth Factory; Ogilvie's Grist and Oatmeal Mill, Scott's Nail Factory; and last, not least, the unfinished but rapidly advancing establishment of the Montreal Manufacturing Co., who are about to make India Rubber articles of all possible patterns. The Company have erected a building about 100 feet long and five stories high, and they will add a most useful industry to those at present exercised in Montreal. We learn that a Cotton Manufacturing Company have secured another site and will begin their buildings in the spring. In the same neighborhood the Board of Works is constructing a very large Basin as a Dock for vessels.—We cannot close this brief notice of our city improvements without speaking of the two new Catholic Churches, now just on the eve of completion. One of these is situated on the bank of the Canal, near the Wellington Bridge. It is built of a dark colored stone, and strikes us, who view it with non architectural eye, as more remarkable for the excellence of its proportions, and its capital site, than for any novelty in its particular features.

The other, in Visitation Street, will be the most elegant piece of ecclesiastical architecture in Lower Canada. It is Gothic in style, with a beautiful arched portal, and the main wall is supported by flying buttresses, rising over the aisles. The pillars are of stone, instead of the wooden shams which have hitherto disgraced our finest edifices of this kind, and, throughout, this Church promises to be a credit to the architectural taste of the city.—*Montreal Herald*.

FLOOD IN GRIFFINTOWN.—The ice before this city shoved violently on Tuesday, and caused so great a backing-up of the water, that Griffintown has been inundated. One consequence of this is that the inhabitants of the Emigrant Sheds—victims of the fire of last Summer—have been compelled to retreat from thence. Yesterday morning the Mayor and the Rev. Messire Villeneuve, who had been superintending the removal of some of these poor people, were crossing a part of the flooded streets near Point St. Charles in a canoe, in which were ten or twelve other persons, when about half way across, in consequence of some mismanagement on the part of the passengers, the canoe upset, and the whole were precipitated into the water. We understand that there was some danger of the lives of several of the party; but they were fortunately all rescued. Messire Villeneuve showed a great deal of activity in aiding one of the women, who, but for his assistance, would probably have been carried under the ice.—*Herald*, Jan. 20.

A lad named Alexander Desève, was drowned about 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, while skating upon the creek between Messrs. Dow and Mathewson's. The body was recovered about 15 minutes after he broke in, but life was already extinct. Parents should be cautious about allowing their sons to skate just now, especially upon the creek, where the ice is always treacherous.—*Herald*.

SKATING ON SUNDAY.—Example goes far in ruining youth. An exhibition by about 150 lads was given on Sunday last. Where are the River Police?—*Commercial Advertiser*.

We are utterly ignorant of any law which prevents people taking exercise by skating any more than by riding or walking, on any day that they please. We do not think that even the blue laws of Connecticut contain any anathema on this mode of locomotion. The proper time and place of it rests with every man's conscience. In England, we have seen hundreds of most respectable persons skating on a Sunday, and no one, that we ever knew of, imputed it to them as a crime. By all, but bigots, great latitude will be allowed as to the observance of the Sunday; for, in that particular, the professors of every religion disagree with each other. The Jew, the Mahomedan, the Roman Catholic, the different Protestant Churches, have all their own opinions, or their own practices, and so that the one does not annoy the other, or in any way break the peace, or interrupt public order, there is no pretext for interference.—*Transcript*.

Toronto, 17th Jan.—J. G. Bowes was again elected Mayor of Toronto to-day. This is his third year, in succession, in the Mayoralty.

## Married.

At London, C.W., on the 9th inst., at St. Lawrence Church, by the Rev. Mr. Ryan, R.C., J. E. Murphy, Esq., Merchant, to Mary Anne, only daughter of the late Michael John McDonnell, of Montreal.

On the 10th inst., at the Parish Church of Cornwall, C.W., by the Rev. J. F. Cannon, P.P., Mr. John R. McDonald, contractor on the Prescott and Bytown Railroad, to Miss Catherine Ann McDonald of the Parish of St. Raphael, Glengarry, C.W.

On the 10th inst., at the Parish Church of Ste. Foye, Quebec, by the Rev. P. Huot, P.P., John O'Farrell, Esq., Advocate, to Mary, second daughter of the late Martin Nowlan, Esq., of Ste. Foye, Quebec.

## Died.

At Alexandria, Glengarry, on the 20th December 1852, at the residence of his brother Alexander McDonnell, Esq., Merchant, James McDonnell, aged 27 years and six months, youngest son of the late Ewen McDonnell of Perth, C. W.

At his residence, Glencoe Cottage, Carleton Bay, Ottawa, C.E., on the 5th inst., aged 62 years, Archibald McDonald, Esq., J.P.

In this city, on the 14th inst., Mary Maher, daughter of Mr. John Maher, aged 6 years 5 months and 3 days.

In this city, on the 17th inst., Mr. Donald Rose, aged 57 years, late of Wick, Cathness, Scotland.