

R E P O R T
OF
THE STATE OF THE FRENCH EVANGELICAL MISSION,
MONTREAL,

ADDRESSED TO THE PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL IN CONNEXION
WITH THE SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

Fathers and Brethren,

In laying before you an account of what has been accomplished since my connexion with the Presbytery, it is gratifying to be able to state, that our labour for the evangelization of the Canadian Roman Catholics has not been undertaken without the sanction of the great Head of the Church. That His blessing has hitherto rested upon my humble efforts, gives ground of confidence that in due time a still richer harvest will be vouchsafed.

It is unnecessary that I should dwell upon the opposition which I have met with, both from open adversaries, or pretended friends of the truth, or from the coolness of some who have looked with suspicion upon my efforts since I was more openly dedicated to the work of the ministry. Opposition from enemies to the truth was to be looked for; and if some of the friends of Christ have exhibited a want of sympathy arising from no just cause, this may be ground for deep regret, but not for despondency. The seed of the kingdom will, by God's blessing, take root and spring up, and bring forth fruit abundantly. To Him be all the praise.

For a long time I had felt deeply anxious to collect from the mass of my hearers a little flock, in whose piety I had confidence; to form as it were a centre around which others might be clustered and be firmly bound to the Rock of Ages. Every day's experience showed me more and more plainly that such a separation was imperatively necessary, as well for my own comfort and the good of my hearers, as for the advancement of the work among the population generally. It was necessary to have a *point d'appui*, a defined strong-hold, a light which might be visible to all around; and to be able to gather even a little church of living members, was the object of my earnest prayer.