

by your own Church, and ask you take it and read, that you may become wise unto salvation." Is there any unkindness in this? Mark the gratitude of those French Canadians who have accepted our offer and are now feeding upon the spiritual truths that are contained in the Bible. How might they not have reproached us hereafter had we left them in ignorance. You, they might have said, had a sovereign panacea for our evils, a precious medicine that could cure our disease, and you left us to die, you would not compassionate our condition, a false feeling on your part kept you from fulfilling the command of Christ.

The Committee have reason to believe that, should the Branch now cease to exist, it would have accomplished a work that can never be fully estimated but in eternity, but they see no cause for despondency as far as the future is concerned. God lives and His word is truth, and He has declared that it shall not return unto Him void. Since our last anniversary it has pleased God to remove from the scene of conflict a member of the Committee, the lamented Rev. Daniel Gavin. When we were last assembled on an occasion of this kind he addressed the meeting with an earnestness which we shall never forget. How little did he imagine that he was pleading for the last time the cause of the Bible. The Committee, while expressing their deep sense of the loss they have sustained, and their sympathy with his bereaved family and flock, would regard it as a loud call to themselves to work while it is day, remembering that the night cometh in which no man can work. If, from our own local interest, we glance at the progress which the cause is making abroad, we find abundant grounds and encouragement. In Canada, we learn from the reports lately given, the amount of Bible circulation has increased considerably. Eleven thousand four hundred and eighty-four copies of the word of God have been issued by the Montreal Society during the past year, it has one hundred and thirty Branches, and the income was £1399 12s. 3d. The total issues since the formation of the Society have been one hundred and eighty-eight thousand copies. The Upper Canada Society circulated during the past year, twenty-eight thousand seven hundred and sixty copies of the Scriptures. The American Bible Society, seven hundred and fifty thousand. Total issues, ten million six hundred and fifty thousand. Income last year, nearly £100,000. The Hibernian Society nearly two and a-half millions. The British and Foreign Bible Society thirty millions to present time. It is computed that these three Societies, the British and Foreign, the American, and the Hibernian, have sent forth forty-two millions and a-half of Bibles and Testaments. Never was the work progressing so favorably. Never were there such openings for the circulation of the word of God. In France, the issues of the Parent Society the past year have exceeded those of the preceding one by eighteen thousand seven hundred and eighty three copies, reaching a total of one hundred and nine thousand two hundred and thirty-five for the year, and from the commencement, two million four hundred and ninety thousand eight hundred and eighteen. The sales at the Paris Dépôt have amounted to £3270 sterling, of which sum £3084 represents the payments of *French purchasers*, of whom upwards of seven-eighths are members, *in name only*, it is true, of the Romish Church. "Whilst," says the Agent, "the Pope and his Cardinals were busy in Rome with the concoction of the famous dogma of the Immaculate Conception, and more particularly at the moment of its promulgation, a most extraordinary activity prevailed in the sale

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