

FIFTY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Grande-Ligne Mission.

If our Mission enterprise has not made extraordinary progress during the past year, it is not for want of commotion in the field in which we labor, for both the Protestant and Catholic mind and community have been unusually agitated. We have had plenty of opportunity to fish in troubled waters. We profess to be fishers of men, obeying the command of the blessed Lord who has immortalized the little lake on the shores of which He chose His first disciples.

Not any more than they do we need aught save the inward calling of the Master to follow a work of evangelization and reformation. If we have His Spirit in abundance, we shall work spiritual miracles according to His gracious promise. John 14:12.

With but small means we have undertaken this great work in the face of immensely wealthy ecclesiastical corporations; with small numbers we have dared to go in the midst of a vast multitude, more or less hostile to our enterprise; because we have been obliged to show them that they are mostly deprived of the knowledge of the Gospel on which true Christianity must rest. Their religion is to a great extent traditional and superstitious, owing to the teaching and practice of their priests. We cannot possibly preach the Gospel without showing this.

Those who consider this work of little importance only show that they have not seriously examined this question; that they do not realize the great problems laying at their door, and with which they must grapple some day. There is such a thing as ignoring the great issues in the world and society in which one lives.