

man who called himself "Holy!" However, she remained firm.

"Since my last arrival, five adults have expressed a determination to follow the teachings of the Bible; and I have every reason to believe that three of them have experienced a real change of heart, as well as a change of outward relations.

"Considering the work from a human point of view, there are many discouragements to be met with. As to the intrinsic difficulty of the work, I need not dwell upon it; and there are other drawbacks also; the two greatest are: the removal of converts to other places, and the deep ignorance which exists. When I came back I found that three families had left, besides three or four individuals.

"But now that the Church is opened, and that a missionary is likely to reside here permanently, we hope that it may no longer be the case.

"With regard to the latter, the only remedy is the establishment of schools. With a few exceptions I have made daily visits among my fellow-countrymen, and worked hard to help converts from going back.

"French services have been held every Sabbath evening since the Church has been dedicated; but lately, only a few have attended, owing, to some extent, to the bad roads and busy season, but especially to the opposition alone referred to.

"My most earnest request is that the prayers of Christians may ascend to the throne of grace for a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the efforts which are being made in connection with this mission."

MR. RIVARD'S WORK.

Mr. Rivard's is in the same strain. By constant visitation and discussion, together with the steady administration of the word and ordinances, he testifies that way is being made however slowly, against the prejudices of the people; and the hostility of their spiritual advisers, so far from being an hindrance is in some respects rather a stimulus to the cause!

For some weeks the priest feeling the weakness of the Roman religion with the people let no Sabbath pass without denouncing us and our work. By this means we have attained his end with some. But the greater number it serves simply as an advertisement, it helps us in our work, and contributes the sooner to crumble down the worm-eaten edifice of Rome. We are, therefore, the "forbidden fruit," and the people are curious and eager to see and hear us.

PROSPECT.

On the whole we may augur favorably of the future of the mission. We have two missionaries laboring in the one

field, a sufficient building has been erected for the stated worship of God, the ordinances are dispensed, and the preaching of the Gospel in both languages is being carried out regularly every Lord's Day. Besides this, house-to-house visitation and frequent gatherings of the people where practicable, are being vigorously pushed. Thus after many delays we may look upon the work of French evangelization as fairly inaugurated at last. Doubtless, at present, it is but the day of small things; the experiment being made is, in many respects, a novel or at least a little tried one; and to be thoroughly successful needs more appliances still, in the way of school-houses planted all through the surrounding districts, together with such an increase in our mission staff as will enable us to avail ourselves of similar openings elsewhere. Experience has shown that little or no results, of a permanent character, is to be expected from mere casual colportage work, and it is the opinion of the Committee, as embodied in a resolution appended to this report, that wherever fresh openings are to be entered on, it must be in like serious and sustained fashion, as in the case of Grand Falls.

FUNDS.

A glance at the state of the funds now becomes necessary, (vide Financial Exhibit). The cost of maintaining our two missionaries at Grand Falls cannot fall short of \$1300 per annum, and that of the missionary employed by the Pictou Local F. M. is about \$600 per annum, being an excess of \$700, at least, over the Acadia Mission collections for the year. The Home Mission and the G. F. C. Erection Funds have had to be heavily drawn upon in consequence, and two of the missionaries to be dispensed with during winter. The facts speak for themselves. If the Church is really in earnest in this great work to which her Divine Head is manifestly calling her, she will not let it languish for lack of material support, but by her liberality as well as her prayers, will draw down that blessing without which the work of the builder and of the watchman will be all in vain.

RECOMMENDATION.

The Committee recommended:

1. That Synod continue to prosecute the work at Grand Falls with vigor, and so soon as circumstances will permit, that it shall begin and carry on similar efforts in other localities such as Tignish and North Rustico, P. E. I., Tracadie, N. S., and Buctouche, N. B.

2. That all the French work should be carried on in the United Church under one Central Committee supervising the work through Local Committees in the respective Synods.