

French Canadians; but about the year 1865 attention was directed to the wants of the Presbyterian families who were settled in outlying districts, and destitute of the means of grace; and an attempt was made to reach as many of these as the funds of the Society would admit. This phase of its work proved more successful and it has increased so rapidly that at the present day, instead of one Missionary being employed, twelve are supported by the Society, and the work of evangelizing the French Canadians has passed into other hands.

The country around the southern part of Georgian Bay was the scene of the Society's operations for many years, but as the stations here became self-supporting, the Society sent its missionaries further north until in 1871 Parry Sound was reached. From this place its missionaries have penetrated east and north until stations now exist throughout the whole district watered by rivers flowing into Georgian Bay. In 1872 Manitoulin Island was visited and work commenced, which has been carried on with such vigor that the whole island has heard the glorious tidings of salvation, mission stations have been established in the various settlements, and two churches have been erected—one at Manitowaning and the other at Gore Bay.

Following still in the footsteps of those devoted and zealous Jesuit fathers who came from France with the earlier explorers, upwards of two hundred years ago, to convert the Indians to the Roman Catholic faith, the Society's missionaries have travelled with, if not a greater devotion and zeal, let us hope with a purer gospel and a more enduring influence, until the whole north shore, including the adjoining islands, has become the scene of their labors, as far west as Prince Arthur's Landing and Fort William.

A few of the stations established throughout these districts under the auspices of the Society have made good progress, and are now under the charge either of a settled pastor or of an ordained missionary. Other stations, whose existence depends almost entirely upon the lumber trade, have not made the same progress and do not afford much encouragement for their permanent prosperity.

During all these years mission work in the city received a due share of the attention of the Society. Besides sending teachers to assist in the Toronto Gaol, Central Prison, and other places, it gave much valuable assistance to new stations in the suburbs, several of which are now independent congregations, and others are rapidly advancing towards the same condition.

In 1874 the Society began to turn its attention to Manitoba, and was so impressed with its importance as a field for mission work that it sent out two members of the graduating class to labor there. In the following year, also, one missionary was supported in that country, but for the next five years, for various reasons, the Society was constrained to give up this work. In 1880, however, on account of the immense tide of immigration which had commenced to flow into the North-West, attention was again directed towards it as a suitable field for missionary effort, and, before the session of that year closed, after a great deal of hesitation and earnest deliberation it was resolved to send out one missionary for the summer months. Strange as it may appear to many, the subject of sending missionaries to this country is one which was before the Society over thirty years ago, when an essay on the Red River settlement was read before it, in which the writer strongly recommended that district as a suitable field for missionary labor. What