

Dominion of Canada ; and amongst its many Auxiliaries the Upper Canada Bible Society occupies no mean place, as to the contributions made to aid the common cause, and the work done within our own wide domain. The Book of Books, through the faith and enterprise of the Bible Society, can now be obtained in 330 languages and dialects, and is circulated every year by millions by our Society and kindred institutions. In three generations there has been more done to give the Gospel to every creature than there was in the preceding eighteen centuries, and nations have been born in a day. This is emphatically the Missionary age, and the Bible Society is the loving ally of every evangelical missionary organization, and a help and a comfort to every missionary. When we review the past, and make an estimate of the present undertakings of the British and Foreign Bible Society, through its many Auxiliaries, we may, to-night, well render thanks to Almighty God for the ever-growing success of the parent Society, in its work in all lands, for to-day it belts the world ; but, sad to say, with all this success, two-thirds of the human family are still without the Gospel of the grace of God. After eighty-seven years abundant in labours, the Bible Society only stands on the threshold of its work in behalf of the world's perishing millions. I regret, sir, that I have been called upon at this late hour to address this audience, as I am expected to tell the story of Bible work in Quebec, and have come a very long distance to do so ; a big subject has been allotted me, and would require much more time than I have, on this occasion, at my command, to do it justice. But, as the Upper Canada Bible Society is our loving and generous ally in this work, its members, in annual meeting assembled, have a right, even at this late hour, to hear something about our Bible work, in what may be termed Darkest Canada.

"The Quebec Bible Society's field of operations is on either side of the mighty St. Lawrence, and on the south shore extends from the county of Nicolet to the Magdalene Islands, a distance of 800 miles ; on the north shore, it extends from the county of St. Maurice to the boundary line of Labrador, a distance of 1,100 miles ; and then, in breadth, from the State of Maine and New Brunswick on the south, to James' Bay, in the far north—a vast territory to occupy for the Lord Jesus Christ. The population of this great district is 507,076 ; of this, the Protestant population numbers 27,002, or less than five per cent. of the whole, and is to be found in little groups all over this wide district.\* Their lot is cast in the midst of a people foreign to them, both as to language and religion, and who refuse to assimilate, except on the hard conditions of giving up the Bible and the English language, and, sad to say, numbers of the Scotch race have yielded to what they in their isolation have regarded as the inevitable. And now the boast is made, that Scotchmen make good Frenchmen, and good Roman Catholics, too.

"It will be seen from what I have stated that the Quebec Society has a very limited constituency to draw upon for funds to do its Bible work, even if all approved of an aggressive Gospel. If the work of Bible distribution is to be done in the district, Quebec must be helped by the parent Society, or sister Auxiliaries in Canada. The work is left almost entirely to the Quebec Bible Society, there being as yet, in the opinion of the different missionary

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\*The Montreal Bible Society cares for the western part of the Province of Quebec, which has a much larger proportion of Protestants than the eastern section here referred to.