

the 20 annual half-boardings fees founded by itself to assist poor students of the University, the bursarships and half-bursarships which it grants to a large number of young scholars and poor ecclesiastics. And the balance is used to augment the museums and libraries of the two institutions; to establish new faculties in the University, the want of which is felt but cannot be overcome at present for the lack of means; and to meet the annual deficit in the revenues of the Seminary and University.

All things balanced then, we find we have, in the single city of Quebec, 495 persons who devote all their time, consecrate their whole lives, to the service of their fellow-beings without any personal remuneration!

And those religious communities, charitable and educational, of whom and how are they composed?—From the very flower of the French-Canadian population; in other words, from the very best population of the Dominion of Canada, from Manitoba to the Atlantic.

By their origin, by their birth, by kinship, these 444 persons belong to the first families of Lower Canada. Those priests are our brothers and our cousins;—those nuns are our sisters and our relatives in every degree of kindred.

And these facts are all of themselves so extraordinary that many Protestants, even those who live among us, will not believe them. When you enter into conversation with them on this subject, they either keep silent or receive your statements with a smile of incredulity. They suspect that underneath what you say lies some mystery—they imagine that the life of a priest or a nun offers some unknown charm.

And speaking with the higher truth they are right in so thinking; for the particular attraction presented in the lives of these 495 persons has its beautiful side, and may be summed up in these words: "To accomplish the good of Religion and of one's country, without reward or human compensation."