

The Hunter Church Building Fund.

The Committee to which this subject was referred, reported certain regulations which were approved by Synod. The Trustees of the Fund are to be Rev. P. G. McGregor, C. Robson, W. J. Stairs, Rev. G. M. Grant, and J. Bremner.

Supplements.

Rev. T. Sedgewick submitted the report of the Committee on supplements. The cordial thanks of the Synod were tendered to the Committee, and the Report adopted.

ACADIA MISSION.

The Report, submitted by Rev. W. Stuart, was as follows:

Your Committee beg leave to report that during the year now ended, their task of providing a Church for the use of the mission at Grand Falls has, by the favor of God and the liberality of His people, been happily accomplished. Seven months were devoted by Mr. Paradis to the labor of collection, and this year, as last, his appeals were everywhere most successful, and called forth the heartiest response. The opening and dedication of the new building took place on Sabbath, the 7th of March, the Committee having deputed Rev. Dr. Waters and the Convener to conduct the services. The deep interest shewn by all denominations in the event has already been set before the Church, and the subjoined accounts of our missionaries prove that the excitement among the Roman Catholics still continues intense. A further impulse was given on occasion of the ordination of Mr. Paradis, by the Presbytery of Saint John, in May. The result of the services on the occasion were described by Mr. Rivard in the following terms:—

ORDINATION.

"The ordination of our friend Mr. Paradis, and the presence of the ministers of St. John, have produced an impression upon the R. C. population, far more profound than one would have thought at first sight. The people seem in no wise disposed to forget what was said and done on that occasion, so memorable even for the friends of the Gospel. Mr. Bennet's discourse on "Peter's keys," brought out into broadest relief the usurped power of the Roman Church. A good number of French and Irish Roman Catholics were present on this occasion. Several of the Irish being unable to sustain the fire of argument left the Church and raised a disturbance at the door. It is thus that "the truth shocks," and is a savor of death unto those that perish."

Since February the field has been active-

ly wrought, in the first instance by Mr. Paradis alone, and afterwards, on the arrival of Mr. Rivard in May, by both our missionaries acting in conjunction. It was felt by the Committee that if solid advancement was to be made, it was necessary to concentrate effort on the one point; and it is to be hoped that speedy and successful results will at once justify them in this decision and reward the zeal of our young brothers.

MR. PARADIS' REPORT.

Mr. Paradis' Report sufficiently sets forth the existing situation:—

"On my arrival, in December, I found that most interesting religious meetings had been held daily for three weeks. The being attended with unabated interest were continued four weeks longer. I considered it a duty as well as a privilege, attend them and lend a helping hand to those who had worked so faithfully. Much good has resulted from these meetings. But I will refer only to my French work."

"At first but little opposition was encountered. My visits were gladly received; readings and explanations of portions of the Word of God seemed to be highly appreciated by many. The old faith of so long began to be shaken, and after repeated inquiries and hard struggles, they totally pronounced that which had been so dear to them. After the church was dedicated from 10 to 15 persons attended the first services for a few consecutive Sabbaths seemed to be quite interested. But aroused the priest and his satellites, an immediately strong and vigorous opposition began to be felt. From Sabbath to Sabbath the people were strictly forbidden to go to my church. That not being sufficient threatenings are now hurled against those who will even listen to the words of Scripture.

"I must acknowledge that those threatenings, together with the denunciations uttered by the bishop and priests who have visited this locality, rendered the work exceedingly difficult. Kindness has turned into indifference, warm hearts have become cold, and some have gone so far as to refuse us an entrance into their houses. Persecution is raging against those who declare themselves in favor of Gospel truth. Example: A man ill-treated his wife, in pieces a copy of the New Testament, scolding her, he said: "You neither eat nor smoke now, why did you not do so for the priest as well as for Paradis?" Ans.: "Because the priest did not tell me the evil of such practices." After he went to see the priest who had to have told him to take away all the religious books from his wife, and "should not want to come back to her former home to put her away." A good advice