

### French Conferences of Quebec.

The progress made both in the membership and in the works of these conferences, which we showed in our last year's report, has been happily maintained. The number of active members is about the same as last year. This year a great many poor applied for charity to the conferences, whose funds were inevitably affected by the general scarcity of money ; but by prudent management they succeeded in maintaining the balance between receipts and expenditure.

It is but an act of justice to state here that the *Institut Canadien* of Quebec is entitled to the gratitude of our Conferences for having given a splendid literary soirée for the benefit of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and for generously handing over to it a handsome sum, the proceeds of the sale of tickets of admission.

We are also desirous of mentioning that the President and other members of the *Cercle Catholique* of this city have this winter, greatly helped these conferences by means of a house to house collection, the proceeds of which amounted to the sum of \$823.

They visited and gave relief to 775 families composed of 2888 persons, being an increase of 97 families and 341 persons over 1878. 132 sick and 38 dying persons were visited and assisted.

It should be noticed that out of this number of poor persons receiving relief there were 199 widows with their families composed of 409 children ; which proves that these conferences are anxious to afford assistance only to the most destitute class of the poor.

The new conference of St. Angèle, organized in this city within two years, has worked regularly through all seasons. We are happy to be in a position to recommend its aggregation.

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