

just been giving public and formal expression to our gratitude. Let us render according to the benefit done to us. For averting from us the horrors of war, famine, and pestilence, and loading us with His benefits—let us “honor the Lord with our substance and with the first fruits of all our increase.” The opening of *our hands* may be the prelude to the opening of *His Heavens*—Mal. iii, 8, 9, 10

R. F. BURNS, Convener.

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY—SPECIAL APPEAL.

A special appeal has been issued by the Committee of the French Canadian Missionary Society, the principal portions of which we subjoin. It is to be regretted that for some time past the income of the Society has not been equal to the claims upon it. We trust that this season, when commercial prosperity has again in some measure been restored to the Province, the income of this excellent society will be largely increased. For a quarter of a century this Society has been in operation, and not without blessed results. The Secretaries give the following brief statement of its operations and results:—

In 1840 the Society began its work with four colporteurs. As the results of its labours it can now, in 1865, point to six organized churches united into a Synod (*L'Union des Eglises Evangeliques*), which number about two hundred members, and have connected with them 21 stations, at 18 of which Divine worship is regularly held. There are three ordained Pastors, two of whom are converted French Canadians, pupils of *Pointe aux Trembles*, and trained for their work at Geneva. Two more from the same class are being educated here at the University of McGill College, under the auspices of the above Synod, aided by the Committee and associated friends. Thirteen missionaries have been employed by the Society this year in the work of colportage. These devoted men constantly visit the wide field of the Society, disseminating the Sacred Word and religious books and tracts, holding discussions with the Priests and Jesuits whom they now and then encounter, conversing with the people about their eternal interests, confirming the weak, directing the ignorant, and doing in general the work of evangelists. Through their instrumentality chiefly, and including the issues from the Depository at the Montreal station, about 1,500 copies of the Scriptures, either in whole or in part, have been circulated last year, and it has been computed that about twenty-five thousand copies of the Sacred Word, and at least four times that number of religious tracts have been distributed since the commencement of the Society's operations. Three hundred children are under Sabbath-school instruction. Not fewer than 1,500 French Canadian youth,—with few exceptions, all entered as Romanists, have been trained in the schools at *Pointe aux Trembles* and elsewhere. The results of the educational efforts of the Society have fully justified the great attention it has given to this department of the work. It has been found that the training Institutes at *Pointe aux Trembles* are amongst its most efficient means of disseminating evangelical truth; their influence for good extending even to the remotest parts of Lower Canada. These pupils gathered generally from widely separate parishes, and meeting together away from the baneful home influence of Popery, are daily influenced by evangelical training. Truth thus finds a lodgment in many a young heart, convictions are produced which are never effaced, but which ripening into conversion become sources of blessing and enlightenment to the families to which they belong and to the neighbourhoods in which they reside. From 90 to 100 are thus annually trained and influenced.

Well therefore may we say in comparing the past with the present “What hath God wrought?” The Committee cannot but feel that the results of the quarter century's operations of the Society, and the present encouraging aspect of its Missionary Field, not only call for devout gratitude to the great Head of the Church, but also imperatively demand increasing efforts in a work which