

The challenge was promptly accepted, and the result was a four hours discussion, at the close of which three persons, one of them the father of a family, avowed their resolution to accept the Word of God as their only rule of faith. M. Paradis visited Andover on his way to the Grand Falls, some weeks after M. Brouillette had left. He saw some of those persons and found them making satisfactory progress in the knowledge of the truth.

Since the middle of May our Missionaries have been labouring together at Grand Falls. M. Brouillette had exhausted his stock of Bibles before M. Paradis had reached him with fresh supplies. Since that time they have been labouring amidst the most abundant encouragements. On the Lord's day, one of them usually preaches in English, for the benefit of our own people; but their chief aim is the Evangelization of the French. They find that they are more popular with the French if they have friends among the leading Protestants.

Under date of May 27, M. Paradis writes, "I convinced a very intelligent young man on a few points and sold him books on controversy; but he told me he wanted to study some more before declaring himself a Protestant; and if he found nothing that would oblige him to leave his church he would remain faithful. He asked me to correspond with him and said he would ask all the questions that would puzzle him.

"I have been (at Grand Falls) since last Wednesday. We have not been able to go out every day on account of the bad weather; but I may say that I never was more pleased with conversations I had with R. C. than since I came here. I may add that I never saw or heard of any better opening, with exception of one difficulty, that is, very few can even read \* \* \* \* we have already had quite a number of conversations, and we can speak with them just as freely as with Protestants. We must admit that there are exceptions, but as a general rule the harvest is ripe. I wish I could be with you for a couple of hours to speak about this field. No doubt that one of us should remain here the most of the time, and both till the meeting of Synod." Farther on in the same letter he says, "We spent the whole afternoon yesterday in reading and explaining the Scriptures to about twenty persons; and we would hear them say, 'We never passed an afternoon more agreeably than this,' and they very warmly invited us to visit them again."

These extracts will give the Synod an idea of the work that is now in progress, in connection with the Mission. The chief thing to be regretted is that so large a proportion of the expense should fall upon the Home Mission Funds. The Mission is be-

yond question one of the most promising now in connection with the Church.

It is greatly to be regretted that our operations are of so spasmodic a character. We are under very great obligations to the French Canadian Missionary Society for the services of our very efficient Missionaries for whose labors there is abundant call in the Upper Provinces. In addition to the present agency it appears to the Committee that an effort should be made to secure the services of an Ordained French Evangelist, whose labors might be available during the whole year, who might preach English in convenient Stations as he had opportunity, and who might cultivate to greater maturity those hopeful fields opened up by the Bible and the Colporteur. Our present agents must return to college early in the Fall, then what are we to do with the scattered sheep who will be left, so far as we are concerned without a shepherd!

The further direction of the Missionaries for the present Season will depend, of course, upon providential indication; but it is the desire of the Committee that the French Settlements in Cape Breton should be visited as well as those on the West end of P. E. Island.

In closing this Report, which is already too long, the Committee would earnestly appeal to the membership of our church for their sympathies, their prayers and more liberal response to the call for funds. The operations of the Mission must be extended, or they may as well be abandoned. We are satisfied that if our people consider the claims of this Mission, they will deal with it with the same prompt and praiseworthy liberality with which they deal with the other Missions under the care of the church.

By order of Committee.

N. McKAY, Con.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee have endeavoured during the past year, to attend as faithfully to the work entrusted to them as their time and circumstances would permit. They feel that a most important department of the church's work is committed to their supervision, and regret that they have not been able to do more towards its advancement.

From the published statistics of the church your Committee are pleased to find that there are 374 Sabbath schools in existence this year as against 325 last year, an increase of 49. And in these schools there are 1608 teachers, and 13,108 pupils.

The principal work that your Committee has been able to accomplish, has been the