

And finally, when you have succeeded in bringing him into the liberty of God's spiritual children, to enjoy the glorious salvation ; as a Baptist, you have one more step to take with him—you have to make him a Baptist. Other denominations may, and often do, stop here. In many cases we have to begin this work where the Reformers began three hundred and fifty years ago ; with this disadvantage, however, that the Roman Church here now is not the corrupt and coarse society that it was in the beginning of the sixteenth century, because modified and purified in some measure. The errors have become more subtle, professedly based on Scriptural and philosophical grounds—as works like Moëhler, Newman and Aug. Nicholas testify—and consequently more difficult to eradicate.

It is a great and a blessed work ! and how glorious in a few years were we faithful and generous ! We think it an expensive work sometimes, forgetting that many a useless luxury costs a great deal more. Immense fortunes are spent in this city of Montreal to rear stupendous and almost numberless conventual edifices. They are fortresses for the army of nuns, monks and priests who are bent on keeping this land for the Virgin Mary—who does not need it—and for the Pope who, infallible as he is, cannot keep his own. In these buildings they inculcate, with very narrow and superstitious views of religion, very large worldly conceptions for the glory of the church—that is, for their own glory. They are on that point clear-headed, practical, astute and aspiring. Our object must be, not to destroy these fortresses, but to render them useless, like the castles of the middle ages—like most of the cathedrals of Europe, which are habitually empty because the mind and heart of the people are no longer there. In the vast and complicated changes going on in the mind of humanity, and especially in Christendom, may our work bear a part, however humble, toward the purer and more spiritual Christianity of the future.

We will not close this yearly report without referring once more to the great fact that our work extends almost all over the Northern and Eastern States of the Union. Meeting some time ago one of our former laborers in the Mission, and now for several years past superintendent and travelling agent of the Baptist Home Missionary Society for French Evangelization in