

OUR CONTRIBUTORS.

EVANGELISTIC WORK IN FRANCE.

THE McALL MISSION.

The eleventh annual report of the evangelistic mission in France, known as the McAll mission, has just been issued. The readers of THE PRESBYTERIAN will, doubtless, be glad to get a summary of its contents at the earliest moment. As will be seen, it contains some new features on this occasion. The report commences with a graceful reference to the loss sustained by the mission, in the early removal by death of Mr. McAll's talented and enthusiastic colleague—the Rev. G. T. Dodds, to whose memory a simple monument has been erected in the Passy Cemetery, Paris, by contributions from his fellow labourers, and more than a thousand of those who had been in the habit of listening to his fervent appeals. I understand that a memoir of Mr. Dodds is in course of preparation by his father-in-law, the Rev. Dr. Bonar, and that it will shortly appear in a French translation by Mons. Réveillaud, whom he accompanied to the United States and Canada, about two years ago.

NEW DIRECTORATE.

Steps had been taken even before the death of Mr. Dodds, with the view of placing the mission on a permanent basis as an organized society. This important measure has now been accomplished. A doctrinal and administrative basis has been carefully prepared in harmony with the purely evangelistic and undenominational character of the work. It is enough to say that the doctrinal declaration embodies the inspiration of the Scriptures, the doctrine of man's fall, of justification by faith in the atoning sacrifice of the Son of God, of holiness of life as the test of faith, of the personality and work of the Holy Spirit, and of the future state of blessedness or woe. A board of direction, consisting at present of eight members, all of whom are actively engaged in the work of the mission, has been constituted. The members of the board are, the Rev. R. W. McAll, honorary president, and Messrs. Emile Rouilly, Eugene Réveillaud, Louis Sautter, Rev. W. W. Newell, Rev. C. E. Greig, Mr. F. Dundas Chautrell, and Mr. Ruben Saillens, directors. To enable the board of directors to assume the financial as well as the administrative responsibility, an effort is proposed to raise the

RESERVE FUND,

now amounting to £1,500, to something like £5,000, which sum is considered adequate to the liquidation of the undertaking should any national or other events interpose. Until this sum can be raised, it is intended to obtain from the friends of the mission, in varying sums, an unpaid provisional guarantee fund, which in measure as the permanent reserve is augmented will cancel itself. During the course of last year the financial position of the mission caused some anxiety, and led to the strictest economy, and even to the refusal of many urgent calls to increase the number of agents. At this crisis the friends in England and Scotland came to the rescue, and relieved the managers of at least pressing difficulty. The Paris auxiliary committee also made a vigorous effort to increase the funds by contributions from the members of the Paris Protestant churches. A number of ladies connected with these churches are organizing a useful and fancy sale, to take place this spring, and which, it is expected, will realize a handsome sum.

UNION OF PARIS AND MARSEILLES MISSIONS.

The death of Mr. Dodds had the effect of drawing the attention of Mr. Ruben Saillens, founder and hitherto sole director of the mission of Marseilles, Nice, Cannes, and Corsica, to the claims of the general work in which he had spent his earlier years of active effort. He and his committee at length expressed readiness to effect a union of the two undertakings, absolutely identical in their character. This union took effect on the 16th of January last. M. Saillens will continue to be director of Marseilles; but in view of the need of a colleague to replace Mr. Dodds, and of the permanent importance of Paris as a centre whence to influence all France, he has engaged to remove to that city in the autumn. His name appears on the new directorate, as do those of M. Réveillaud, so well known as a Christian orator and writer, M. Sautter, chairman of the Paris auxiliary committee, and the Rev. W. W. Newell, who represents the United States. Devoted as he is to French

evangelization, under the auspices of the American and Foreign Christian Union, Mr. Newell and his wife are regarded as a welcome accession to the band of workers in France.

NEW STATIONS IN PARIS AND THE PROVINCES.

In Paris the great aim has been to *deepen* the work in the existing stations, to seek a more intimate acquaintance with the habitual hearers, urging upon them decision for Christ, and to provide spiritual nurture for those who were believers. The financial position of the mission did not warrant the opening of additional mission rooms in the destitute districts in and around Paris. The only station added during the year in the circle of which Paris is the centre was one in the village of Nanterre. Two of the Paris rooms were exchanged for larger and more available ones in the same neighbourhoods. The practice of hiring ball-rooms for series of occasional conferences on the Christian evidences and similar topics has been continued. The committee at Lille have added, at their own charge, a large mission hall in a densely-peopled quarter of the city, and a new meeting-place at Dunkirk. At Pau a second mission room has been established. In five other towns aid was given to the local pastors and evangelists to meet the rent and other charges of mission rooms.

DEEPENING OF THE WORK.

Three things contributed to the deepening of the religious work of the stations, during the past year—the *Societes Fraternelles*, the after-meetings, and the visit of Messrs. Moody and Sankey. The first of these are practically meetings for conversation on a portion of God's Word. The subject is always known either because a book is studied in regular course, or because a little synopsis of it with illustrative passages of scripture is distributed to the members some days before. At the meeting ideas are more or less freely exchanged, and a feeling of brotherhood is fostered among the young converts. Several cases, both of decided conversion and of clear progress in the truth, are said to be traceable to these gatherings.

After-meetings have, from the commencement of the mission, been more or less common. Many of the speakers have been in the habit of remaining to talk with individuals at the close of the meeting, so as to deepen the effect which might have been made by the public address from the platform. So far as after-meetings, then, are a novelty in the mission, they are only so because they have now been more systematized.

The impression produced by the visit of Messrs. Moody and Sankey is said to have proved beneficial, not only to those who are in the habit of frequenting the mission rooms but to those who are called to address them from time to time. Mr. McAll has since issued a pamphlet, addressed to all the workers of the mission, on the most successful modes of presenting the Gospel, as illustrated by Mr. Moody's addresses at the Oratoire, and the evident blessing attending them.

MISSION TO YOUNG WOMEN.

Through the initiative of Mrs. and Miss B. B. Atterbury, of New York, an effort has been made to bring young women, shop-women, and others, under the influence of the Gospel. These meetings are held in the mission room, rue St. Honoré. After each meeting a cup of coffee is handed round, and those who attend—many of whom have no other religious home—are treated with kindness and cordiality. Some friends from Philadelphia, happening to notice that the adjoining shop was to let, took it, and it has since been fitted up as a meeting place for the young women of Paris, and is to bear on its front the suggestive title, "Salle Philadelphie." The work is associated with the McAll Mission, though its entire expenses are provided independently of its treasury. Christian ladies at Brooklyn and New York have also undertaken the regular financial charge of distinct portions of the work, thereby relieving the Paris committee of much pecuniary anxiety. It is intended in the spring to send over to the United States M. Saillens and another representative to visit the existing auxiliaries, and to give information of the progress of the work.

MEDICAL MISSION.

There are now three free dispensaries in Paris, all of which are conducted by Dr. Darcus, an Irish gentleman. Through the intervention of Lord Lyons, full authorization has been accorded to him by the French Government to pursue this benevolent work.

He is aided by a number of friends, some of whom dispense the medicines, others visit the people in their homes, and others conduct the religious services with which the consultations are invariably connected.

WOMEN'S WORKING MEETINGS.

Mothers' or women's working meetings are carried on by the ladies in seven or eight of the stations, and four others are lent for the same purpose to Madame Dalencourt, whose work is sustained by the committee of the Society of Friends for French evangelization.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The receipts from all sources during the past year amounted to £9,009, and the expenses were £9,131, leaving £122 due to the treasurer.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

The total number of mission stations is now 66, and adding the Marseilles, Nice, Cannes, and Corsica sections, the number is 80, with sittings for about 13,000. The religious meetings for adults amounted to 129. The average of the year, at which there was an aggregate attendance of 587,848. Sunday schools, children's services, young women's classes, 3,294, with an attendance of 129,414. There was an increase, in the course of the year, of the total attendance of 75,000 persons. The number of domiciliary visits paid was 12,551, and the number of Bibles, New Testaments, books, tracts, and illustrated papers, etc., distributed, 227,252. These figures do not include the statistics of the Marseilles Mission.

Berlin, Germany, 6th March, 1883.

T. H.

THE PRESBYTERIAN PULPIT.

THE REV. GEORGE M. MILLIGAN, D.D.

When the congregation of St. Andrew's Church moved to the handsome edifice erected at the corner of King and Simcoe streets, a small body of Presbyterians continued to worship in the historical building familiar to older residents of Toronto, but now no longer visible to the citizens of to-day. These residuaries were not animated by a contentious spirit, but desirous of promoting church extension, they resolved to form the nucleus of a new congregation. Ordinances were maintained by them, and after a time they addressed a call to Rev. George M. Milligan, then pastor of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, Detroit. He accepted the call, and was inducted to the pastoral oversight of Old St. Andrew's in November, 1876. Being an attractive and original preacher he soon became popular and a steady increase in membership and attendance encouraged the friends to set about the building of a new church.

The location, once so convenient and central, of Old St. Andrew's had become unsuitable. Business laid claim to the district where the old church was situated. The antiquated structure was surpassed by the many magnificent buildings devoted to business and commerce that had risen up around it, casting it into the shade. Desirous of purer air and more agreeable surroundings the people had moved away from the neighbourhood. The congregation, having resolved to build, selected a site for the new church on the corner of Jarvis and Carlton streets, and in due time Old St. Andrew's *redivivus* was added to the many handsome buildings which grace the city of Toronto.

The style adopted was early English Gothic, and the finished result is a handsome, solid, and massive example of that most popular of all styles of church architecture. For a few years the church only was built, but last year the original design was completed by the addition of a large, commodious, and elegant lecture hall, class-rooms, and apartments where the various congregational organizations can hold their meetings. The spire, at once graceful and symmetrical, was added. The building material is of Welland stone, while the ornamentation is of a lighter coloured sandstone relieving the somewhat sombre tint of the massive walls. While the exterior design is strictly mediæval, the interior, though by no means inharmonious, is thoroughly modern in construction, appointment, and decoration. Behind the platform is placed a fine organ, which lends its aid to the choir in leading the service of praise.

On a recent Sabbath a visit was paid to Old St. Andrew's. The pastor conducted the devotional exercises with a most becoming spirit of reverence and impressiveness. For some time he has been giving a series of expository discourses on Old Testament