

THE FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

This institution, though *unsectarian* in its constitution and management, and receiving support from many sections of the Christian Church, is mainly sustained by the Canada Presbyterian and Congregational Churches. Its operations for the last twenty-five years are somewhat extensively known, but there are large numbers in this Province and in the father-land, who know but little of its achievements, and the gracious tokens which God has given to encourage the hearts of his believing people in their efforts to evangelize the French-Canadian Roman Catholics.

Under these circumstances its avowed friends should bestir themselves to diffuse information, and to awaken a deeper sympathy, more earnest prayer, and enlarged liberality, to carry on this great mission. It is true that most of the Presbyterian churches in Canada take up an annual collection on its behalf, and the same practice has been recommended to the Congregational churches, although not generally adopted. For both these instances more might be done in this way; but as many, doubtless, prefer the adoption of the *subscription list*, we trust this will be vigorously supported, and that the treasury will be speedily and amply replenished. Christians of all evangelical denominations may here find scope for their sympathies and active benevolence, but as some of these have missions of their own, and may be compelled to divide their support, we hope that those who have no such plea, and who wish to maintain the catholic character of this important society, will endeavour to organize associations throughout the country; co-operate with the general agent in his efforts to awaken public attention to its claims, and evince greater zeal to raise it still higher in the estimation of the wise and good.

Most encouraging has been the work of the Society. It certainly has not been a failure. Its *known* results call for devout gratitude, and should stimulate the prayers, the faith, and the hope of all who wish well to the French-Canadian population. More than fifteen hundred children and youths have been educated in the Pointe aux Trembles Institutes; and when we consider the character and tendency of this education, especially its religious feature, this of itself is highly encouraging. Fully four thousand youths and adults have renounced Romanism through the instrumentality of this Society. Many have experienced spiritual blessings, and there is reason to expect still greater results.

Numerous facts are at hand to demonstrate the utility of this mission. Many are now employed as catechists, colporteurs, and missionaries, who were formerly pupils in these schools. Some of its scholars are now preparing for the work of the ministry, while others are engaged in this great work. During the past year twenty-nine young persons were brought under the saving power of the Gospel, and have been received into Christian fellowship; and there are others in whose hearts the Spirit of God has been working, from whom we expect similar results.

As our time will not allow further details at present, we trust the statement now given will be kindly received by the readers of this magazine, and that they will do their utmost to encourage the agents of this Society, both here and in Britain.

Prescott, Nov. 11, 1863.

J. T. B.