

At the close of the school term, or nearly so, the Bishop confirmed a class of ten, eight of whom were pupils of the Boys School, the other two a young woman and young man belonging to two of the families of the place. Four of them were converts from the Church of Rome, and four were the children of converts. The whole number confirmed since I commenced my ministry here, eighteen years ago, exceeds 140.

The Bishop made his farewell visit to Sabrevois on this occasion (the 11th April); and I invited members of the Congregation who wished to bid him adieu, to meet at the Parsonage. The first convert from Rome in this place, Mr. Ch. Roy, senr., in bidding the Bishop farewell thanked his Lordship for the warm interest he had taken in the French work during his stay in Canada. The Rev. Dr. Schulte, the new incumbent of Christieville, who was himself formerly a priest in the Church of Rome, preached the Confirmation sermon. He also examined the Schools on behalf of the Committee, a work for which he is eminently qualified, having presided over a Collegiate Institution for several years.

I might mention as one result of the year's work in the Boys School that two young men had been fitted for the work of Colporteurs, and offered themselves to be employed in that work during the summer; but the Committee have been obliged for want of funds to decline the offer. It is a pity this should be so, for the fields were never apparently whiter unto the harvest.

I have to report before closing, the opening of a new station at a distance of twelve miles from here, in the parish of St. Grégoire. Six families in that parish have lately notified their priest of their withdrawal from the Church of Rome.

I have made them one visit in company with Mr. McGinnis, and have offered to visit them regularly for the purpose of holding religious services among them. The first of these services is to be held on Wednesday, the third prox. The notices of their withdrawal were served by Mr. Fortin and his son, father and brother of the Rev. A. L. Fortin; and as they live near by I shall be assisted by them in carrying on my work there; I was pleased to find that one of these converts was one who had visited me on different occasions seven or eight years ago, and had received instruction and books from me then; but having moved away I had lost sight of him. He and all his family are now Protestants, and our first service will be held in his house. This movement among them is not the direct result of missionary effort, as there are no missionaries working among them; but some of them have been reading the Bible for years. It appears that some twenty heads of families have been preparing to withdraw from their church, but some of them have lacked courage at the last moment. We hope they will yet take the decisive step. Little can be said as yet