

and its wealth, and from its unscrupulous use of any means, spiritual and secular, to attain its own ends, and crush its opponents. The exercise of man's inalienable right to free inquiry, is stamped as great impiety, deserving of pitiless persecution in this life, and eternal punishment in the world to come, — The same enemy of human liberty, and the Gospel lives in our midst. It still holds a paralyzing grasp on the education of most of this Province, and the social and political condition of the people. The Jesuits, who have for centuries been a standing menace to the religious liberty and progress of European kingdoms, are made welcome here. Here, as in other countries, they are insinuating themselves into positions of influence and power; and, without exhibiting their work to public gaze, seeking to undermine the foundations of religious liberty, and subject this Province still more to the grasp of Rome. Romanism is not dead. In the legislative halls, in the confessional, in the closet, in the schools and in the street, she is ever watchful, ever menacing, ever exacting, ever calculating. The very difficulties, however, to be encountered, only prove the necessity of Missionary work; and the results that do come to our knowledge are sufficient to show us that there are no difficulties insurmountable to the Gospel. He who has brought some out of bondage, by the power of truth, and has blessed the reading of His Word, to the salvation of precious souls, can turn the whole nation to seek the Lord. The only weapon that we are justified to wield against error, superstition and tyranny, is "the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." The future of this country depends upon the prevalence of those principles this Society seeks to disseminate.

Considering the work this Society has undertaken, the difficulties met in prosecuting it, the Committee earnestly plead for the prayers, sympathy and aid of the Lord's people in this and other lands.

A detailed account of the work of the past year will be found under the following heads:—

EDUCATION.

The Society, from its formation, has felt the importance of devoting much attention to this department. Colportage and Evangelization can be prosecuted but very imperfectly, where the majority of the people are unable to read. Many would gladly purchase the Scriptures, and religious books, if they could read them. It was found necessary to educate the children of those the Society hoped to reach and influence, before any great and permanent results could be expected. The spiritual and material benefits that have reached hundreds of families, from the schools supported entirely or in part by this Society, can never be estimated. From the first