

works, and consequently those who had not the means of purchasing them at the then very high prices of the booksellers, were necessarily without them. The Rector's first care was therefore naturally attracted to the important object of remedying the last mentioned great evil, and the formation of a District Branch of the Society in England, for Promoting Christian Knowledge, presented itself as affording the most proper method of supplying Bibles, Prayer Books, and other religious books and tracts, and with a branch of the National School attached to it and under its control, the means of educating the children of the humble classes would also be afforded. These associations were speedily formed early in the year 1819. The former continued in operation until it merged into the Diocesan Church Society; and the latter until circumstances connected with the destruction of the cathedral by fire made it necessary to suspend its operations. During the existence of the National School, comprehending a period of about forty years, more than three thousand children received instruction there and several who owed their whole education to that institution became thriving and even wealthy members of society.*

In the same year, with the assistance of the late Rev. H. Esson of the Church of Scotland, and of Dr. Blackwood, an army staff surgeon then stationed here, the Rector succeeded in opening a hospital, on a necessarily very small scale, by voluntary contributions. This was the nucleus from whence grew up that noble institution, the Montreal General Hospital.

Finding the congregation so rapidly increasing that additional room was required, the attention of the Rector was next turned to the erection of side galleries and the finishing the outside of the church and steeple. Both of these objects were happily accomplished in the course of the year 1820, chiefly by the means of subscriptions to the amount of £2500, and partly by borrowed money.

(To be continued).

EXTRACT FROM THE MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND MISSION TO THE FRENCH.

SABREVOIS.

The congregations have been as good as could be expected, considering the weather—the average would be a little less than 40. I feel much encouragement in our work among the young in the Sunday School. The attendance is about the same as that given in former reports. I still have the assistance of Mr. Manny and the young men in teaching. I generally address and catechize the children at the close. I have not held our Friday evening meetings or cottage lectures regularly for two months past; but shall commence again soon with one or two new stations. I purpose holding a Sunday service in French, also, at the village of Henryville, at a distance of five miles. The attendance at the meetings for prayer on Monday evenings still continues good—

* The formation and working of these two associations gave the impulse to the British and Canadian School, and Montreal Bible Society.