

### A RECENT FRENCH INCIDENT.

A few weeks since Rev. P. S. Vernier, a French missionary who is laboring in New Glasgow, in the Province of Quebec, was holding a cottage prayer meeting at which some Roman Catholics were present.

One of them asked the question, "Does not Mary plead the sinner's cause before Jesus? Our priest tells us to pray always to Mary, because her heart is so tender and she knows how to speak for us to Jesus."

The missionary put the Gospel before the man, and he went away saying, "Now, I know why I never felt relieved when I prayed to the Virgin. Yes, I will pray to Jesus after this."

What makes this little incident so important? The fact that there are a million and a quarter French-Canadian Roman Catholics in Canada, most of them in the Province of Quebec, and nearly all of them are just like this man of whom you have just been told.

Their priests tell them the same thing as was told to this man, and they never feel relieved. They have their burden of sin and guilt. They want rest and peace. Instead of being directed to Jesus, they are directed to Mary and the saints, and their burden remains.

What a call to us to give to these people the Gospel, to point them directly to the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world.

If a man were starving, and we had plenty of food and did not give him any, and he should die, would we not be guilty? And if more than a million of our own countrymen are hungry for the Bread of Life, for that which can satisfy their restless longings, and we have it in plenty and yet do not send it to them, and they die without Christ, are we not even more guilty?

At the Pt.-aux-Trembles mission schools, many of their children are gathered, and it would do you good to hear them sing with gladness the hymns which tell of Christ as the only Saviour.

### MRS. MURPHEY'S SERMON.

When Mrs. Murphey asked her husband to sign a petition for the Scott Act, to shut up the dram shops, and he replied by asking her if she would sign a petition to stop her cup of tea, she replied:

"Was it a cup o' tay turned Biddy Malone out-o'-doors in the dead o' winter because her an' lift ivery sint he arned, and that ye know, at the tavern? Was it the cup o' tay blacked Sandy McCullough's wife's two eyes, and let the little gossoons, siven av 'em, run about in rags, without enough to ate, an' no schoolin'—while the poor woman slaved at the wash tub to git 'em a bit o' bread? Was it the cup o' tay did that, say? Was it the cup o' tay sint Maggie Smith to the police, an' got her thirty days in jail?

"Is it the cup o' tay turns the wife and children into the strath, and smashes the furniture, and quarruls wid the neighbours—and fetches the police? Is it the cup o' tay drives the family from house to house, gettin' wuss, and into a maner neighbourhood every time, an' puts a man in the gutter, an' rolls him in the mud, an' sets the byes a jeerin', an' riddins his nose, an' blears his eyes, an' loosens his tongue, and puts a hole in his coat, and knocks off his hat, an' sinds him home shtaggerin' wid his sinses where he can't get at 'em?

"Is it a cup o' tay makes a fool of a man, Paddy Murphey, that his best friends can't respect him? And a brute of a man, Paddy Murphey, so that his wife trembles, an' his children run away, an' hide whin they hear him comin'? Is it the cup o' tay makes a baste of a man so that there is less sinse, or raison', or self-respect in him than there is in a pig, Paddy Murphey?

"Whin ye show me that a cup o' tay will do all such things as these, Paddy, I'll sign a Scott Act agin' it; in the meantime I sign again' whiskey, an' beer, an' wine, or anything else that has the pison in it that makes a man or woman only fit for a lunatic asylum or jail, or anywhere, except home or hev'in."