

Opening of a New French Protestant Church.

ORANGEMEN call the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne, "The Glorious Twelfth," but the French Presbyterian congregation of Masham, P. Q., has now reason to call Tuesday, the 11th September, "The Glorious Eleventh," for on that day the dedication of the new church took place. For the last twenty-three years, Protestant services had been held in a small building which in course of time had become almost a ruin, and was altogether too small for the increased membership. Rev. P. E. St. Germain, the present pastor of the charge, undertook, with the sanction of the Ottawa Presbytery, to collect the funds necessary for the building of a new place of worship. He succeeded beyond his expectations, and the result is seen in the beautiful edifice just inaugurated. The body of the building is about forty feet by twenty-six, with stonework foundations. The walls are frame, clapboarded outside and finished inside as well as the ceiling in narrow pine, oiled and varnished. A steep, tin roof, rises twenty-four feet above the roof. The windows, eight in number, are gothic, and the pews are polished ash with cherry trimmings. The pulpit or rather desk, stands on a raised half circular platform, carpeted in red Brussels and an inside porch will obviate all inconvenience from draughts in winter. The cost has been twelve hundred dollars. At eleven a.m. the church was comfortably filled by the French congregation. Rev. C. A. Doudiet conducted the first service and dedicate the edifice by solemn prayer. After this he preached on Acts iii, 6, "Silver and gold have I none, etc." Many Roman Catholics present listened with great attention. The pastor, M. St. Germain, conducted the singing, which was creditable indeed, considering the absence of an organ. Here is a good opportunity for a friend of the work to help the cause. Send M. St. Germain an organ and earn the gratitude of your French Presbyterian brethren; this, however, by the way. At three p.m. another service was held, by this time the Rev. E. Seylaz, of Ottawa, and also Rev. Mr. DeLong, the Wesleyan minister of Wakefield, P. Q. had arrived. Mr. Seylaz preached an excellent sermon in French on the words, "Ye are the temple of God." Rev. Mr. DeLong followed in English with a short address recommending great moderation to all Protestants, lest they should offend their Roman Catholic brethren, as "we must respect all men's sincere convictions." He also deplored the fact that churches were at times used for purposes not at all in harmony with the sacred character of the building. He, however, drew the line at sects. Sects in the Church he thought necessary, they inspired Christians with an emulation they would not have without them. Rev. Mr. Doudiet was the next speaker. It would be impossible to give in a few lines, a synopsis of his remarks, but among other things, he observed that if a man's sincere convictions led him to a one disciples of Christ, as the young St. Roch's people did lately in Quebec, he for one could not respect those opinions. The duty of exterminating heretics was still enjoined by the Roman Catholic canon law—when practicable. We need not fear that law so long as the flag of Britain is above our heads. As to sects Mr. Doudiet thought their existence in the Church was deplorable. The Orange Society has been much abused by some ministers of the Gospel, but it had realized an ideal, which the Church had not attained to as yet, union on the broad principles of Christian love, and with no longer creed than loyalty to God and our Queen. Orangemen could take in all sects as they have all colors for emblems: orange, purple, blue, black, white, green, and gold, and all these colors made a rainbow like the one John saw around the throne of Christ, in Rev. vi. After the singing of another beautiful French hymn, Rev. Mr. Seylaz pronounced the benediction. The collections in favor of the building fund reached the sum of thirty three dollars. Mr. Seylaz presented the congregation with a beautiful silver commemorative set, the gift of an Ottawa lady, whose praise is in all the churches.

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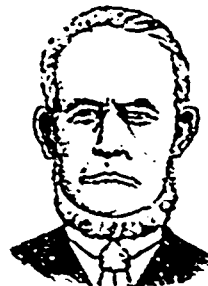
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Sir Morell Mackenzie, M.D.

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