

never hear the Gospel preached, and who are not permitted to read it in the printed page. Are we at liberty to stand by and neglect these thousands? Dr. Geddie, when travelling through Antigonish and Cape Breton, through the interesting localities inhabited by French and Gaelic speaking Roman Catholics, used to point out here and there localities where Presbyterian Missions should be planted. "Your first year's work may show no fruit; you may have no conversions; but go on: the heaven will work. Success will be sure to come in three or four years, to an extent that will astonish the Churches, and rebuke their lack of faith and enterprise. Build a small church and a dwelling house for the missionary. Open a School. Work away steadily and quietly. If your first missionary should be killed so much sooner will the mission prove a success."

Since Dr. Geddie's visit some work has been done for our Roman Catholic population, but O how little! Enough has been done to prove that effort is not wasted which is put forth on behalf of the deluded but zealous Romanist. If we were told ten years ago that converts from the Church of Rome in the Maritime Provinces and Quebec would in 1876 be counted not by tens, but by hundreds, we would hardly believe it. If our Churches would enter earnestly on the work, it is morally certain that great and blessed results would follow. We should have a well-equipped mission in Antigonish County, in Richmond County, in Inverness, in Digby and in Yarmouth. The expence would be large, but surely, surely it would be a profitable investment.

On grounds of patriotism as well as of religion, we should address ourselves with becoming zeal to the work of evangelizing the Roman Catholic population who live among us. It is for this perhaps, that a wise Providence has placed them here,—in a free country where every man is at liberty to follow the convictions of his conscience. As the Roman Catholic populations of the world are coming more and more into servile bondage to the Pope—an "infallible" Pope, who claims political as well as religious supremacy, it becomes evident that

they seek to have their interests in all respects separate from Protestant interests. Their first allegiance is due not to their country and its laws, but to the Bishop of Rome. Recent events in this Dominion demonstrate the insolent boldness of the Pope's champions. In Montreal they defied, for a time successfully, the authority and power of British law, and nothing secured obedience but a display of overwhelming force. In the same Province two Protestant children (recent converts) were stolen on their way to a Protestant school, and there has been no redress. The Papal emissaries in the Province of Quebec make no secret of their claim that the Pope is supreme sovereign!

Now, the best way of meeting these assumptions, and of securing the solidarity of the country as a whole, is the conversion of the people—their enlightenment in the truth of the Gospel—their emancipation from the thralldom of superstition. The hundreds that have been converted within the past few months prove that a blessing is sure to attend faithful effort. And if we have faith and zeal the probability is that what *has* happened is but a promise, a premonition of far more glorious things to come.

All the more necessary is it for us to attend with all diligence to the evangelization of the Dominion, when we see that others, of whom better things might well be expected, are engaged in paving the way for the advance of Romanism. The Ritualistic section of the Church of England among us is sparing no effort to commend to the people a thinly disguised Popery. The Sacramentarian theory, devotion to the "B. V. M." the "sacrifice of the Mass"—"Apostolic succession," and many more of the drivelling follies of Romanism, are being commended and inculcated in Anglican pulpits and papers.

The heathen abroad—in the New Hebrides, in Trinidad, in India—have their claims which it were sinful to ignore. Our own Home Mission proper—our Supplementing Fund, our Education Fund—all these demand an adequate share of our means and prayers. Helping one depart-