

and by no means odourous wood; and it is said that the palatable juice of the fig is the only efficient remedy for the poison of the machineel tree. One thing is certain, these two trees grow out of the same soil, enjoy the same showers and sunshine; but the one turns everything which it absorbs into poison with a fair and attractive outside; the other turns everything into sweetness and nourishment with little external beauty. It is the sap which makes the fruit of the one virulent poison, and that of the other nutritive and palatable food. The same difference may be seen with men who grow in the vineyard of the Lord. Here is one who occupies a place in the garden, absorbs the light from the sun, and drinks in the rain and dew from the atmosphere; but it is only to turn his position in the church, the light of his knowledge and the deus of grace into the poison of vice, as they pass through the still of his selfishness, envy, malice, covetousness, or lust. But withal he has a fair outside—a profession that looks green, good deeds that seem like mellow fruits of the spirit, and devotional acts that appear to be fragrant with the odours of Paradise; but the subtle streams of evil thoughts circulating through the heart, unseen by man, but fully disclosed to the eye of God, poison the whole moral being. To imbibe the spirit or follow the example of such an one is death. Here is another growing in the same garden. He has no great pretensions, he has no external attractions; but everything which he absorbs he turns to sweetness and food. There are love and self-denial, and faith and submissiveness and hope infused into all his acts. He grows to diffuse around him healing and life. To imbibe the spirit and follow the steps of such an one is to live.

To be like the machineel tree is to cherish evil thoughts. To be like the fig tree is to cherish good thoughts. No tree can be better than its sap. No man can be better than his thoughts.

CORRECTION.—In the acknowledgements of last month, for R. McNaughton, Toney River, read Donald McNaughton.

MISSION TO THE ADADIAN FRENCH.

We have received reports respectively by Mr. Paradis and Mr. Brouillette of their missionary work in the Lower Provinces during last summer; and both documents will be read with deep attention, and will add greatly to the interest felt in the mission throughout the church. The wish for information respecting their course and mode of operation, will now be fully gratified.

We may remark that Mr. Brouillette's labours were concentrated chiefly on the neighbourhood of Grand Falls, while Mr. Paradis spent a portion of his time in visiting and examining prospects for future work, in different places in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton, and the other portion in co-operation with his fellow-laborer at Grand Falls.

Their joint success at Grand Falls has been such as to lead the Committee to the conclusion to make that place a centre for permanent work, and our present number contains an appeal from the Committee for funds for a place of worship to be erected there without delay.

For this reason we publish at once Mr. Brouillette's report, leaving the other for insertion in a subsequent number.

REPORT BY MR. T. BROUILLETTE.

To the Presbyterian Churches in the Lower Provinces:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHERN,—When I accepted your call as one of the missionaries to the French people in your Provinces, the way before me seemed strewn with obstructions and full of rough places. But thanks be to Him whose countenance is light, and whose presence alters the character of all things, I had no sooner entered into the field than the obstructions disappeared, and the rough places were made smooth.

To enter into such an extensive field with the sole idea of contending against superstition and subtle error, seemed to me, at that time, a very difficult task. But, "My grace is sufficient for you," saith the Lord—"Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days."

ANDOVER.

Strengthened and encouraged by these precious promises, I directed my steps to 'Andover,' where I expected to find a good number of French people. On making enquiry, however, I was informed that