

GOOD MORNING ROUND THE WORLD.

- 11 In France where they dance and they sing and they play,
Now, "How do you carry yourself?" they all say.
Or, if you don't choose
Their good sense to abuse
"Comment vous portez vous" fitly you'll use.
- 2 In the Mexican nation they're gallant and gay,
They shake hands with all in a courteous way;
And they bow and beguile
Their friends all the while
And "May you be well now?" they say with a smile.

St. NICHOLAS.

FIELD STUDY FOR APRIL.

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONS AND PAPAL COUNTRIES.

THE Roman church plays on certain weaknesses of human nature, and herein lies its fascination and its power. Her creed is nearly the same as ours, but it is interpreted to suit her own teaching. An intelligent physician is often tried by his patients. They are willing to take nauseous doses, nay, they expect them, but they consider it unreasonable to expect them to obey the laws of health. So it is with the disease of sin. Men are willing to do hard things to obtain salvation, pay money, perform exhausting "acts of devotion"; but laying down pride and self-will and depending on Christ alone, the natural man shrinks from. While there are many sincere followers of Christ in her communion, the tendency of her teaching is to lead men astray. It is her policy to keep her people in ignorance of the Bible. The political power of the church of Rome is a large subject in itself, a study of it would cover the history of Europe for many centuries.

Mexico, and all the other countries of South America are Roman Catholic. They were colonized by Spain. Her history is written in blood wherever she has touched. There is a wide field for mission work in these countries. The way is open to go, and the people are willing to hear.

The glory of the church was a large figure in the colonization of Canada by the church. The results of the zealous labors of the Jesuit fathers last to this day. While France can now hardly be called a Roman Catholic country, no more faithful adherents of the church are to be found than the French Canadians. Under British rule they have prospered and increased. Numbering less than 70,000 in 1763, there are now 1,500,000 in Quebec and 2,000,000 in the United States. Our work among these people is in or near Montreal. There are four mission schools, two small schools in the country, one at the east end of Montreal taught by Miss Matthieu, a French lady who is deeply interested in the salvation of her own people. The largest mission school is under the

management of Miss Jackson, 120 pupils entered during the last year. The average attendance was 54. At this school there were Swedes, Jews, French and English. For two years a Kindergarten has been taught by Miss Anderson, our Bible woman, and beside the regular kindergarten work, an oral lesson from the Bible and catechism is given each day. Miss Anderson visits in the afternoon, making about a hundred visits a month. She distributes tracts, portions of scripture and other literature. Most of the pupils attending these schools are the children of working people. Great tact and judgment is needed in gaining admission to these homes. The people have been taught that Protestants have no religion, that the Bible is a dangerous book. By patient kindness our teachers strive to win the confidence of the mothers. They have been successful in doing this in very many instances, the poor women telling them their trials and difficulties. Many cases of great need have been found in this way, and the help they have been able to give has been gratefully received.

The French Methodist Institute, which is supported by the General Society and the W. M. S., has passed a successful year. There was not room to accommodate all who applied for admission at the beginning of the year. Eighty-two is the largest number taken at one time. Twenty-two of these were from Roman Catholic homes. The girls are trained in cooking and house-keeping, and like to excel in these as well as in their literary studies. The advantage of the Institute in having the pupils constantly associated with Christian teachers is undeniable. Miss Masten, who is our worker in this school, writes that already the seed sown is bringing forth fruit. E. A. D.

QUESTIONS FOR APRIL.

- What is said of the fascination and power of the Church of Rome?
Of her creed?
How is a physician often tried by his patients?
What is this compared to?
What are people willing to do to obtain salvation?
What is required which they shrink from?
What is the tendency of the teaching of the Romish church?
What is her policy?
What can you say of her political power?
What is said of Mexico and other countries of South America?
What prospect for mission work there?
What had a great deal to do with the colonization of Canada?
What is said of France and of French Canadians in relation to the Roman Catholic religion?
Will you tell us how French Canadians have prospered under British rule?
Where is our mission work among them?
How many mission schools and how situated?
Who is the teacher at the East end?
Tell what you can of the largest school?
Who teaches the Kindergarten, and what does she teach beside the regular work there?
What else does Miss Anderson do?
What class of children mostly attend the schools?
Why are great tact and judgment needed in visiting the homes?
What success have they had?
What can you say of the French Methodist Institute?
Are there many pupils there?
How many from Roman Catholic homes?
What training have the girls?
What great advantage have they in the Institute?
What does Miss Masten write of it?