

it. After long and prayerful consideration, a call was given to this gentleman. Further correspondence ensued, and finally, upon representations of much force made by this gentleman himself, on relative and general grounds, the call was not carried further; not without regrets of the Board to lose advanced ground, which after long waiting had just seemed to be gained.

In September of the same year there came offers from two ministers, also of Western Canada. One of them, well known to many of the Board, seemed to possess every personal qualification, but a decision was come to adverse to his engagement on family grounds; the Board judging that the circumstances of the Society, in view of its purpose to enter upon a new field of missionary labor, required the sending out of men without families of children. The other minister referred to, with whom the Board had much valuable correspondence, would, doubtless, have had an offer of engagement made to him, had not the Board at this juncture seen reason to suppose that the region it had announced as the proposed field of operations could not be advantageously entered upon, and to think, on various grounds, that their way needed to be more opened up before they could advance further.

Thus it appears that, although the Society has not for many months been called together, and may not seem to have had an active existence, the Board of Management has, nevertheless, had many meetings, and much correspondence—with it, it is hoped, some sense of responsibility, and some spirit of prayer—in the carrying on of the duty devolved upon them.

Although, since the institution of this Society, two if not more of the ecclesiastical bodies of the country have taken action denominationally in foreign missions, so adding much to the missionary enterprise of the country; which action might be supposed to render our efforts less needed, our support less sure, and our work more difficult; yet the Board have, notwithstanding, a strong conviction, that a Canadian and Catholic mission, if enabled by the Head of the Church to send out the right men to the right place, would be abundantly sustained. Their present attitude is, that of waiting the indications of Divine Providence. Whensoever a field open and eligible and within their compass, and suitable men having a strong-felt call to work that field, contemporaneously present themselves, this Society, with the aid of friends of such a mission throughout Canada, will be ready to enter upon it.

Meanwhile, as these do not now appear, the Board of Management think it due to the Members of the Society who paid in their subscriptions, to say that those subscriptions in full are now at their disposal on application to the Treasurer, Mr. Benjamin Lyman, who will refund them when asked; and members who have not paid in their subscriptions, are hereby released from obligation.

In name of the Board,

THOS. M. TAYLOR,

Secretary.

Montreal, April 9th, 1857.

N. B.—All subscriptions which had been paid in, were, after the foregoing Report, refunded, excepting a balance left to the disposal of the Board, which, with interest thereon allowed by the Treasurer, constitutes the balance of \$149.53 credited in the Treasurer's account of March, 1859.