

they were well received by these families, who in due time were converted to Christ."

There seems to have been no missionary in the field for ten years after Mr. de Pudron's return to Europe. Various causes, however, had prepared the way for missionary work and had made the Christians of Canada anxious to see it begun in earnest. The late General Armstrong, R. A., wrote to Edinburgh, and in 1833 a committee was formed there, with Robert Haldane as secretary and treasurer. Their desire and purpose was "to engage men of approved piety, without reference to names or party distinction, to preach and teach the unsearchable riches of Christ, to traverse the Province as colporteurs and to scatter the seed of the kingdom wherever they go."

Mr. Henri Olivier, an eminently pious and devoted Swiss missionary, offered himself for this work, and reached Montreal with his excellent wife in 1834. He began to preach, many came to hear him, until the priests took the alarm and forbade the people to listen to him. How conscious of weakness must be that system that fears contact with God's eternal word!

In 1835 a Baptist church was formed at Montreal, and in the fall of that same year a Swiss lady, a large-hearted and devoted woman, Mrs. H. Feller, joined Mr. Olivier along with Mr. L. Roussy, who was sent by the Association of Churches in the Canton de Vaud. These devoted missionaries founded a mission at Grande Ligne, which they carried on in the midst of privations, dangers and perils, the details of which would fill volumes. They were severely beaten, Mr. Roussy's horse was cruelly mutilated, he himself was shot at, Mrs. Feller's house was at night surrounded by a mob numbering several hundreds. With frightful yells and horrid imprecations they threatened this Christian lady with death if she did not leave, and commanded the new converts to abandon their new religion under pain of fire and sword. God alone knows what these godly men and women had to endure for Christ's sake.

Encouraged by the results of the Grande Ligne Mission, several Christians of Montreal met, and after much thoughtful consideration and prayer, on the 8th of April, 1839, laid the foundation of the great society known as the French Canadian Missionary Society, which for forty-two years carried on a non-sectarian work of evangelization among the French Canadian Roman Catholics of Canada. This organization did a great and good work, and it may well be asked whether a mistake was not made when the French work became denominational and when the society, gradually deprived of its resources, ceased to exist. May I express the hope that Christians