

There is one subject towards which we must ever revert in order to understand the magnitude of this work in its varied channels of action and influence, namely, the great number of our converts who emigrate to the States, either to form French-speaking churches there, or join English-speaking churches. One aspect of this subject became very prominent and striking in the eyes of the writer, when on a trip of pastoral labor in Massachusetts and Connecticut last fall. In Lowell, Lawrence, Worcester, Springfield he met several parties who had only heard of the Gospel before leaving Canada, or being convinced that the true christian religion was there, had not had in the midst of their relatives, the courage to make known their inmost convictions. There they were, free and untrammelled; the weak ones need that, only the strong ones break through obstacles, and these once weaker ones are to be found by scores on the other side of the lines.

Of the many cases that have come under my observation, I shall quote only two, showing their reflex influence. In the city of Worcester live three brothers, the grandsons of a convert from the parish of St. Phillipe, and a member of the church at Grande Ligne, a very old and stalwart man who died three years ago. While in Canada they were brought up strict Roman Catholics by their father and mother, who forbade any intercourse with their Protestant relations, but in the States, being surrounded by most respectable and devout Protestants, they began to do more for themselves, and soon sent word to their grandparents that they would henceforth follow their example. Intelligent and well to do, we should like to have them among us.

After one of my services, a handsome Canadian came to me and said: "I cannot tell you how happy I am to see you. Let me tell you that my old parents live in Canada, in the parish of St. Paul, of Abbottsford, where Mr. Therrien and yourself had a public discussion with the priest last fall. Since that time their opinions, are entirely changed; I have visited them since and they have more than pardoned me my Protestantism, they have embraced the truth, and the reading of the Gospel is their constant delight."