

FIFTY-THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Grande=Ligne Mission.

While the country at large has resounded with the war cry of races, of political parties, of prejudice, privilege and passion, while bitter discussions have been incessant, as to whether the French Roman Catholic majority, the first conquerors of this vast territory over the Indians, or the English minority, the second conquerors should have the mastery in this land, we, English and French together, have worked in harmony in forwarding the real and only true brotherhood of men. We, under the eye of Him, whom we serve, claim no superiority of our respective races, who each have enough imperfection and sin to humble their pride, and abate their pretensions; and we believe that the Gospel alone, where sincerely accepted, will effect a true union.

If in the prosecution of our labors essentially in French, we could, while availing ourselves of the impetus and practical business capacities of our English speaking brethren, induce them to make a large use of the language in which we evangelize, we would be nearing perfection.

It can hardly be supposed that while pursuing our humble work among the French Roman Catholics of this Province, we have been unmindful of what is going on in the politics of our country, especially of that aspect of it affecting religious, moral, and educational questions. We could not remain indifferent to an Act of our Provincial Legislature granting \$400,000 to an ecclesiastical sect abolished by a pope more than a hundred years ago, and, who had no legal right to it, said the premier who proposed the grant.