

may we not find a field for work at home among our Roman Catholic neighbors? "*Beginning at Jerusalem*" was in the Christian commission. Our own country is our "Jerusalem," and it has always the first thought of course not the only claim upon us. Our Romish fellow-countrymen generally live and die in the most deplorable ignorance. The prevailing worship is now that of "*Mary*," not that of God. Christ is being more and more shut out from view, while the glory due to him alone is tendered to saints and angels. It would be noble christian work on our part to try to show Christ to these our dear fellow-countrymen as He is indeed the only Mediator between God and man.

It may be objected that "the Roman Catholics are bigoted." But so are the heathen. They fear their gods as much as is possible for man to do. They are as tenacious of their beliefs and their customs as Romanists can be. "The Romanists dread their priests." So to a much greater degree do the heathen. The influence of the Romish priest is nothing compared to that of an ordinary heathen priest. The people believe the latter to be possessed of the power of life and death—the power of making and removing diseases,—causing or preventing all sorts of temporal and eternal calamities. Success in heathen lands generally involves a fierce and protracted conflict with the priest caste. Nothing more difficult could be encountered in connection with a Roman Catholic Mission.

"There would be danger of violence." Is there not danger—constant and terrible—to be encountered among the cruel inhabitants of heathen lands? Here Missionaries would at the worst have the protection of British law. Were one to fall it would perhaps do more to consolidate a Mission than the efforts of years. But there would be little or no danger of personal violence; at least nothing to be compared with the risks of the foreign field.

"No success." Leave that to God and to the power of truth. The gospel has never been faithfully preached anywhere without some success. In point of fact Missions to Roman Catholics have proved

remarkably successful even in these provinces. Canada Protestants have their Missions which for the last ten years have triumphantly refuted the argument of "no success." In other countries the same holds true. France and Italy and Ireland are the scenes of very prosperous Missions. We have just risen from the perusal of an account of wonderful gospel triumphs in the island of Elba, where hundreds have forsaken Rome in consequence of the faithful teaching and preaching of one or two humble Protestants. A mission might be two or ten years without apparent fruit; but if we sow the seed the harvest will be sure.

"No money." Perhaps not. But let us turn our attention to the good object, and God may give us the will and the way to raise enough money. The Mission would probably cost much less than a Jewish or an Eastern Mission. It may soon be within our reach. We are persuaded that with anything like "systematic giving" we would have no difficulty on the score of funds.

"No men." There's the rub! But will not our young men turn their attention very seriously to this subject? If we ask God in faith the men and the money will be forthcoming. "No faith" is the key to all our difficulties. If we had faith as a grain of mustard seed we would as a people give with ten-fold liberality to the schemes of the church; we would be eager to be sent wherever the Head of the church had need of us; we would not see a lion in the way whenever liberal things would be devised in connection with the kingdom of God. The Highland Romanists of Cape Breton and Antigonish seem to us to have peculiar claims upon our attention. O that God would give us grace to do something for them!—that he would call some one and send him to preach glad tidings of deliverance and everlasting hope to these people who sit in darkness, but many of whom long for the light.

Instances have come within our knowledge lately of nominal Protestants in several parts of the Provinces turning Roman Catholic. These perversions are