

Of late very remarkable openings have been made at Maskinongé, Sorel, in the Ottawa Valley, and elsewhere. Many of the parishes, for years impatient and restive under the yoke of ecclesiastical laws, rule and despotism, have become bolder and now dare to bring their case and their priests before the courts. This is a new and striking sign of independence, in its frequency and magnitude; and we have only to persevere faithfully in our great but humble work to increase the momentum a hundred fold. While we must see to it that our zeal be not quenched, let us not forget, that we are to be patient in well doing, waiting for fruit in preparing the soil, and sowing every year a larger area.

We have a striking example of it in the case of the Maskinongé opening. At the outset of the movement many Protestants prophesied that all the rebels to the clerical authorities would soon return in submission to the fold. But after the secession, after eleven of them had been baptized, all of whom to this day remain firm,—surprise was expressed by many that all the dissaffected ones had not left the church. Once our divine Lord saw the multitude leave him, and he said to the twelve, (eleven of whom only were true believers) “will ye also go away.” No, said Peter, though he himself came very near it. At this hour our brethren of Maskinongé, you are aware, are in a peculiar peril, and as our Lord said to Peter: I have prayed for thee that thy faith fail not, let us pray for our brethren there, because the whole force of the enemy is clustering around that small citadel of faithful ones to demolish it. Four priests are there holding a retreat, visiting families, preaching against the wandering ones, and using all kinds of worldly means to desintegrate the little phalanx. It is to them a great eyesore; and animated with the old spirit which persuaded Louis the XIV, that if he crushed the Huguenots, God would forgive his immoral life; the priests attempt crushing the little band there instead of healing their own moral sores. Let us not forget our brethren.

Not less remarkable in its way is the opening in Sorel, a most unexpected thing since at different times attempts had been made there by colporteurs and others. The Gospel having been well received in two or three families; meetings were then held in a hired room, a good number of the common people came to hear what the new comers had to say, more from curiosity doubtless than true interest in the movements, the numbers varying in

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