

missionaries referred to, are now allowed to live and labour in peace.

Persecution is reported from various districts in Spain, in Mexico, and in Brazil. Wherever evangelical light is penetrating into regions long under the pall of papal darkness, persecution, sometimes violent and relentless, is sure to arise.

The Church's Home Mission Work.

A fair and most inviting field lies before us as a Church: are we equal to our vocation? Look at our Home Mission field, extending from Ocean to Ocean,—from Newfoundland to Vancouver's Island. We have fellow workers in the field—the agents of other branches of the Church of Christ; yet that does not lessen our responsibility or lighten the burden God has laid upon us. Newfoundland needs us; we have only made a beginning in Home Mission work there. Labrador needs us; hundreds of our vessels, thousands of our people are on its coasts summer after summer. There are inviting fields in every one of the older Provinces calling for our interference,—fields long neglected and having peculiar claims upon our Church. There are calls from a thousand places for us to enter in and to found or to build up the Church of God. On the shores of our seas and lakes, by the banks of our majestic rivers, away in our lonely forests, and in the spreading prairies, our people are to be found often as sheep without a shepherd. "Men and means" are needed as they never were before. Will our Church hear and heed, and arise to her duty? We have to deal with French, Scotch, Irish, English, German.—with Crees and Sioux. God has sent His Gospel to all, and it is His Church's mission to deal with all. We are laying the foundations of a great nation, and it is the duty of the Church to see that these be laid in truth and righteousness and holiness to the Lord. It is only as we are a strong and living and hard-working Church at home that we shall be able to do our duty worthily towards heathen lands.

One of the saddest sights that meet the eye in surveying any of our older provinces is the number of places we have lost as a Church through past neglect and lack of enterprise. Some of the places we have lost are, doubtless, well occupied by others who preach Christ and Him crucified; but of many, alas, this cannot be said. Idolatry, ignorance and superstition hold sway where the Gospel in its purity should be supreme. We speak of the past in order to stimulate

to renewed exertion for the future. There is nothing now to hinder our Church from fulfilling the mission given her of God. There is nothing to prevent her, rising to the greatness of her opportunity, and thus becoming a source of lasting joy and blessing to the whole land.

God alone can give us the men and the means we need. Let us not cease to plead with Him for these. We need that those who have been liberal in the past should abound more and more, and that those who do not know the luxury of doing good, should taste that luxury and cling to it. We need more men—active, devoted, godly men—able to adapt themselves to the varying circumstances of our immense territory. We are now at the beginning of a new ecclesiastical year. God grant that it may prove the best year in experience, and the prelude to an epoch of successful work throughout all our borders!

Our valleys, plains and mountains
Shall, in all coming days,
With rivers, lakes and oceans,
Re-echo with God's praise.

French Evangelization.

ONE very important feature in connection with the report presented to the Assembly by the Board of French Evangelization, is the reference made to joint French and English work. With the exception of the City of Montreal, and one or two other points, the English speaking population in the whole Province of Quebec is gradually decreasing in numbers. In many districts, the number is now so small that no effort is being made to maintain Ordinances by means of English speaking Missionaries. In some of these, no Protestant services have been conducted for years, and the result is that the people are becoming indifferent, and their children, if educated at all, are educated in French Catholic Schools, and gradually are being won over to the Church of Rome. The Board of French Evangelization are trying to meet such cases by sending in Missionaries who speak both French and English to several of these districts. Not only are the French students encouraged to acquire a familiarity with English so as to adapt them for such work, but already a few English students are diligently engaged in the study of French that they too may do service in these joint French and English fields. One of these latter has just been licensed by the Presbytery of Montreal, and with a