

PROTESTANT MISSIONS IN LOWER CANADA.

From a statement published by the Rev. A. F. KEMP, Montreal, we extract the following account of Mission work among the FRENCH CANADIANS:—

The special work of the Society is the spiritual enlightenment of our French Canadian fellow subjects, now numbering about a million. The means employed are, 1st. the circulation of the Scriptures and religious literature, together with systematic visitation from house to house, by Colporteurs and Catechists; 2nd. preaching the Gospel by ministers; and 3d. education of the young. The special field occupied is the North side of the St. Lawrence from Three Rivers to Ottawa City, with the county of Megantic, near Quebec. The parishes below Quebec have also been occasionally visited.

Twelve Colporteurs and Catechists have been employed, who for the ten months of this year have circulated 1272 Bibles and Testaments, and 7596 Religious Tracts, and held over 510 meetings for expositions of the Word, besides conversations with families and groups of people whenever opportunities presented. Through the Depository and Tract Association, in connection with the Montreal station, 95 copies of the Scriptures, 130 books, and 3750 religious tracts have in addition been circulated.

In connection with the Synod of the French Protestant Churches (*L'union des Eglises Evangeliques*) two ordained pastors, and one (who has recently completed his studies at Geneva) about to be ordained, are supported by the Society, and ministers to six regular Churches, comprising 21 Stations, in 18 of which, meetings for Divine worship are regularly held. These have an aggregate membership of about 200, with congregations numbering together about 1200. The members and adherents would be many times greater but for the constant emigration to the United States and Canada West. At eight of these Stations there are Sabbath Schools.

In Montreal a Church and Mission premises have been opened this year, which cost \$12,000, and at three other Stations there are commodious places of worship.

The main department of our Educational work is the Schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles, where during last year over 100 pupils received instruction; half of these were Romanists on entering, but when they left were hopefully indoctrinated with Evangelical truth. This year the attendance will be as great. The instructors consist of a Principal, a senior and two junior teachers in the Boy's School, and a Directress, (recently from Switzerland) with two assistants for

the Girl's department. At five of the other stations there are Elementary Schools taught by former pupils of Pointe-aux-Trembles. In all about 250 youths are receiving a sound Scriptural education, through means of this Society. Three young men are also in preparatory training for the Missionary work.

Since the opening of the Schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles in 1846, the pupils trained there, and at other stations, cannot number less than 1,500, nearly all of whom have embraced Protestantism, and are mostly making a consistent Christian profession. The committee are deeply impressed with the importance of this branch of their work, and are most desirous to increase the number of their Elementary Schools, (the pecuniary means being alone wanting), as well as to provide more efficiently for the higher branches of education including the training of Teachers and Ministers.

The encouragements to prosecute the work are great; the people every where listen to the teaching of the Missionaries, and many opportunities are offered for circulating the Scriptures and religious religious Tracts, while a strong desire is found for the education received in the Mission Schools, in preference to that obtained under priestly influence. The fields are white already unto the harvest.

Book Notices.

MEMOIRS OF REV. S. F. JOHNSTON, THE REV. J. W. MATHESON AND MRS. MARY JOHNSTON MATHESON, Missionaries on Tanna. By Rev. G. Patterson.

In this work recently issued from the press and now being circulated through the Lower Provinces, we have a worthy and well deserved Tribute to the memory of three faithful labourers. We now feel thankful that Mr. Patterson undertook and successfully accomplished the duty of laying this contribution to Missions before the Church. We say we are now thankful, because for a time we doubted the wisdom and utility of the project, on two grounds, first, that being early called from the scene of their active labours for Christ, there was nothing developed in their characters or work which called for special notice, and secondly, because what was of most interest to the Church had been already published. Now, however that