

Our French Work

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The Field

† T is now just fifty years since our Missionary Society laid its hand to this work of French evangelization. In 1855 our first mission was opened in the city of Quebec. Francois Pepin was the first missionary. The Mission was sustained for twelve years. In 1867 it was discontinued. It had never reported more than twenty members. In its closing hours it claimed to have twelve. No second attempt has been made to plant a mission in that city.

The next year, 1856, a mission was begun at Roxton, which prospered fairly for a long time, but for several years past steadily declined, and last Conference reported no members, and no missionary was stationed there.

A mission was not organized in Montreal until 1861. It is there that the best work seems to have been done.

From first to last our missionaries have labored in forty-four localities or appointments. Of these twenty-five have been simply discontinued on account of utter failure of success. Several others, though not complete failures, became so small and weak as to be absorbed in neighboring stations, and now, at this day, there are only five remaining, if Roxton be discontinued—Montreal Centre, Montreal West, and St. Jovite on the Montreal District, Actonville on the Waterloo District, and St. Philippe de Chester on the Quebec District.