

sword into its hands, they render it indolent, and spread jealousy and irritation through all the others; while, by violating the right of private judgment, in their endeavours to enforce uniformity of belief, they multiply hypocrites." It is true that the toleration which the progress of philosophy has wrung from the priesthood, has stripped many of the national churches of their most offensive features; but much of the ancient spirit remains. It is still the case, that men are compelled to pay for the support of a form of religion they do not approve of; that a difference of belief excludes individuals from many civil officers and privileges; that the established clergy are ever ready to justify the worst actions of men in power; and, if they can impose silence upon the Dissenters, they are often ready enough to harass and mortify them by such means as they still possess. In nothing have the United States more reason to congratulate themselves than in their total exemption from the numerous dissensions, jealousies and oppressions that spring from an exclusive religious system. On this, as on other points, their experience affords a useful lesson to the world; and confirms the reasonings of Dr. Smith, who pointed out the pernicious effects of such establishments more than forty years ago."

## RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

### CANADA.

#### MADAME FELLER AND THE CANADA MISSION.

Madame Feller, of the Swiss Mission at Grand Ligne, in Lower Canada, has again visited this city (New York). On Thursday afternoon of last week, she met a large number of ladies who are interested in the enterprise, and of which she presented a very interesting account. Madame F. is a Swiss lady, about sixty years of age, of very agreeable address, and of most devoted spirit. She speaks in French, which on the present occasion was interpreted by the Rev. Mr. KRAK, who before introducing her made a few remarks on the present state of the mission, which, he said, had been signally blessed the last year—especially, if its success be viewed in connection with the limited means employed to secure it. He had himself been peculiarly interested in noticing the great success with which God is, at the present time, blessing the feeblest efforts for the promotion of his glory, and the spread of his kingdom in every part of this country, and also on the continent of Europe. In many cases it seems as if Christian effort were Omnipotent. It needs but the stretching out of a hand, or the offering a prayer for the conversion of a soul, and the work is accomplished. Would that Christians felt the moral power they possess, and their corresponding responsibility.

In referring to the mission at Grand Ligne, he said that the establishment needs to be en-

larged. When the mission house was built, it was considered larger than their necessities demanded; but now it is entirely too strait for them. The dormitories in the upper story, which were designed for only one person, are now occupied by three; and the other arrangements of the house are limited in the same proportion.

Madame Feller expressed her gratitude for the kindness with which these ladies received and aided her the last year. She had come again to tell them that the blessing God has given to their efforts is so great, that she must now ask for more aid. She entered a little into a detail of their wants, and of many of the interesting incidents connected with her labors. A poor girl, who was very desirous of religious instruction, sought a place in the family as a servant several years since. She became a Christian, and after serving them two years, expressed a wish not to receive any wages; but was advised by Madame Feller to continue her services on the same terms as before. At the close of the year, however, she said she was resolved to receive no compensation for her services in future—that as God was giving her this opportunity of serving him, and she had neither education or ability in any other, she would not be paid for serving God. This poor girl she considered as one of the most important members of the mission. Though in feeble health, she is indefatigable in the service of this large family, and she also spends much time in prayer. She sympathises deeply in all the interests of the mission. If they are in need of funds, or if sadness and perplexity arise from any cause, she goes at once to pray. When any remittances are received, she learns the names of the benefactors, and she makes them individually the subjects of her prayers.

The mission is rapidly acquiring the favor of the Canadians. There were two young men who were much persecuted by their parents for attending the mission school, and reading the Bible. These parents are now reconciled to them, have received them home again, and sanction their attendance at the school. The influence of this, as the parents were widely known, has been very salutary. Reference was also made to the persecution of Mr. Roussy, which was removed by the interference of an English clergyman, who bore witness to the excellent character of the Institution; and of the subsequent obsequiousness of his persecutors.

Rev. Mr. ATKINSON, of Canada, being present, also made a few remarks on the important influence of this Mission, not only to those connected with it, but on many at a great distance. The very fact of its existence has an important influence in increasing the number of Bible readers. He had himself found a circle of twenty-five who were of this class, more than two hundred miles from the location of the Mission.

At the close of the meeting, an association