

to send on a meeting of such as might feel sufficiently interested to attend on Monday evening, for the purpose of initiating measures for the erection of a place of worship. Two days were thus secured for the visitation of the people and to this task I addressed myself with all diligence, making the circuit of the town and visiting nearly every Protestant family in it. Special attention was paid to the families who had kindly received our Acadian Missionaries during the Summer months; and of the exact state of affairs respecting them I will endeavour to give you some idea.

The first person visited was Mrs. P—. She is aged,—probably sixty—and an invalid. She appeared stronger, physically, than when I saw her in August. She recognized me at once and was delighted to see a Protestant minister. In answer to enquiries she said that she did not expect to be well again, but hoped she might live a while. She wished to abide God's time—she hoped only in the mercy of God, through the merits of Jesus Christ—she prayed only to God in the name of Jesus—He is the Master, all beside are only servants. She was sure God was willing to grant all she needed, and she needed no creature Mediators. None could be better disposed to help her than He who laid down his life for her. She longed for religious teaching and greatly missed the Missionaries, for they often read and spoke to her about the good Saviour; and she prayed that God would spare her until they came back again.

It was delightful to hear sentiments like these from one who a year ago knew only the ideas of Christ and the way of approach to Him taught in the Romish Church.

I proceeded to express the hope that her afflictions might prove to her a furnace which, like that into which the Babylonian Monarch had cast the three children, would consume her fetters, but leave herself uninjured. To my surprise I found that she knew nothing of the three children or of Babylon or its Monarch, or of Daniel or of Joseph. She knew little or nothing of these numerous and matchless Bible stories which fill the heart of every well-taught

Protestant child with admiration for the blessed book. She knew a good deal more about the Virgin Mary and St. Peter than I did,—a good deal more than is strictly known to history. I never felt so keenly as then, that among Roman Catholics the Bible is an unknown book. Upon enquiry it appeared that this woman's case is not exceptional; others whom I met had just as slight an acquaintance with the Scriptures, except where our Missionaries had introduced them to their teaching.

I next visited the good woman at whose house the Priest burned the Bible in September. She is a fine matronly intelligent looking French woman, one with whose convictions no sensible man would trifle. Though not able to read much, she is well able to think and that to good purpose. She has six children at home, nearly all grown up. Her husband is still a Roman Catholic, but he is kind and tolerant. The young folks all sympathise with their mother. In this interesting family French and English are spoken, but English only is read by the younger children. The good lady told me the story of the burnt Bible with quivering lips and eyes in which still lingered the fire of unextinguished indignation. She declares herself so very much happier since she embraced the faith of the Gospel. She prays to God only and she feels sure that, for Jesus' sake he hears, and will save her.

It is not necessary to lengthen this communication by details of individual cases. The above are given as samples. Having visited all persons of this class now residing in the town, and having made careful enquiry regarding those who reside at a distance, I am delighted to find that, notwithstanding pressure brought to bear upon them from different quarters, they all stand fast in the faith of the Gospel; and many of them rejoice in a good hope through grace. One or two cases of inconsistency there have been, and it would have been strange if it had been otherwise. In the absence of the Missionaries a few have occasionally worshipped with their co-religionists, and I heard of one who is said to have visited the confessional—not because