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COLLECTION FOR THE FRENCH CANADIAN MISSION.

The Synod has recommended that this collection should be taken up on the third Sabbath of September in all the congregations of the Church. It is hoped that this recommendation will be faithfully carried into effect. This mission has special claims on the Church. Its field of operations lies within our own country, and the people whom it seeks to enlighten and save are our own fellow-subjects. The destructive errors which it seeks to banish from the land, exert a potent influence on all the affairs of the province, and, unless counteracted by the truth of God's Word, will seriously affect our future religious and civil welfare. In no country of the world has the priests so completely a hold of the people as in Lower Canada. By law they are permitted to tax the produce of their fields for the maintenance of their worship, and to impose heavy pecuniary burdens for the erection of splendid temples. The priests have also laid their hands on most of the public and private educational institutions. The Common Schools in Lower Canada are schools almost exclusively for teaching the tenets and practices of the Roman Catholic faith. In many cases the children of Protestants must either conform to idolatrous practices, or go without an education altogether.

Much has no doubt been done to circulate the Word of God, and to make known the truth, by means of the institutions at Pointe Aux Trembles, and the labours of devoted missionaries. Almost every parish has been visited by the colporteur; and, by our society alone, irrespective of what is done by others, from 1,200 to 1,500 copies of the Scripture have been annually distributed among the French people, for a period of at least fifteen years. The seed has thus been extensively sown. It needs only the earnest prayers and efforts of the churches of Christ to bring it to life and maturity. The work is encouraging. Converts are being constantly added to the Church, and much Gospel light is finding an entrance into the people's mind.

More than ever is the Canada Presbyterian Church called on to take an interest in this mission. It is now almost exclusively cast on us and our Congregationalist brethren, for support. The other denominations who used to contribute somewhat to our funds are prosecuting missions of their own, and withdrawing much that was formerly given to us. We cannot complain of this; and must recognise them as still coadjutors with us in the same great work; but we place it before our own Church as an urgent reason for increased liberality to this most important mission.

The Educational Institutions at Pointe aux Trembles are most effective agencies for evangelizing the French people. They exert a direct influence for good on a large number of Roman Catholic families, and indirectly they are breaking down prejudices against Protestantism, and promoting a higher standard of education in the common schools. About 100 young persons of both sexes annually receive christian instruction in these schools, many of whom are children of Roman Catholic parents, and who on leaving the Institutions carry