REPORT.

WITH the increased consciousness of national life which is obviously felt by the more intelligent people of the Dominion of Canada, should be put forth augmented energy and self-sacrifice in fostering its religious institutions. A single year, the second of its existence, has so changed the aspect of its affairs, and so enlarged its boundaries, as to fill the mind of the Christian philanthropist with great thoughts regarding the future of the Dominion. Nova Scotia almost pacified and won; Newfoundland negotiating for admission; the maritime element of the nation will be largely developed and strengthened; and the vast regions in the Northwest having been placed in our hands, our people must devise large and liberal things. The almost helpless dependence of former days has given place to self-reliance, self-assertion, and increasing enterprise and energy, which must be shown in our religious as well as in our secular affairs. There is nothing so important to the healthful development of national life or to the growth of true power, as the self-wrought institutions of Christianity. The working of free churches not only purifies the moral atmosphere, but happily educates the people. It is otherwise with national establishments provided for and set over the people. Whatever they may have been and done in their generation and in former circumstances, they are now an encumbrance where they exist, and are not to be desired anywhere. Their days are obviously numbered in the old world; and it is an observable feature of the times in this new world, that from the only place in which the church establishment principle is recognized by law, and that exclusively over the church's own people, namely, the Province of Quebec, there is a constant and increasing migration to regions in which no such principle has existence. They hasten their escape from the burdens it involves. But the free churches oppress no one; they call forth spontaneous support, and the only difficulty is that the general training of the old church and state principle