Messenger and Visitor.

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PRINCIPAL G. N. MASSE B. A., GRANDE LIGNE.

REV. M. S. PARENT, B. A.

Godefrol Narcisse Masse dit Censerre was born at Glen's Falls, N. Y., in 1862. He is, however, of French blood, and a thorough Canadian His mother, left a widow with three children, understood the necessity of securing an education for them. She sought and found employment in the Grande Ligne Mission school where her boys could attend the classes. Godefrol was a boy like the rest, sometimes strong willed but never a bad boy. Converted early in life, he resolved to make himself useful in Mission work, where or how he knew not. From the beginning he was a good student. Twelve or thirteen years of age he sat in classes with young men of twenty, and solved difficult problems as well as any. From Grande Ligne he went to McGill University. In his second year he was sick with typhoid fever, and came very near passing into regions unseen. Feeling sorry at the thought of losing a year, and thus wasting the funds of the Mission, he started to work while yet in very feeble health and so injured himself that to this day he has not fully recovered. Weak as he was he succeeded so well that he graduated in 1884 at the head of his class, taking a first-class B. A. From McGill he was sent to one of the Mission fields to speak, but to the great sorrow of his flock he was recalled to Grande Ligne to assist in teaching. After the removal of Rev. A.L. Therrien from Grande Ligne to Montreal, he was called to the pastorate of the Grande Ligne church, but two years afterwards Prof. Roux having removed to Saxton's River, Vt., he was selected to fill his place as Principal of Feller Institute. We are not aware that

PRINCIPAL MASSE.

any school of that grade ever had so young a principal. However he has borne this heavy burden upon his young shoulders with astonishing success, during the nine years he has held it. Having been brought up in the school, spending most of his life there, he is a child of the Mission, in a degree held by none other, and understands the machinery of the school and the needs of his times in a wonderful way. The deep spiritual fervor of his life has impressed itself upon all with whom he has come in contact. The pupils love and trust him. His fellow teachers find him thoughtful and just, always willing to assume more than his own share of the burdens. The Board place the fullest confidence in his wisdom, integrity, and administrative skill. His brother missionaries rejoice that we have such a man at the head of our educational work, projecting his noble life into the generation to come. "He is the right man in the right place." Pray that God may uphold him in his difficult and during arduous labors.

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN.

The same old story, an article on Grande Ligne! Yes, but why do we speak in that way, do we not reverence things that are old? Would we change the everlasting hills or the grand old mountains, whose rugged heights have borne the storms of ages, to some artificial man-made elevation, in order to have something new? Would we change old ocean's grandeur for some unruffled lakelet in order to keep up with the times? Do we not feel justly proud to trace our lineage back to some noble family of generations ago, even as did the ladies of Croze who traced their ancestors back to Noah? Do we not listen with delight to the old, old story of Jesus and His love? Is it any the less beautiful because it is old or oft repeated? Ah! no, the theme becomes more and more dear to our hearts as we learn to know and understand it better. Whatever is grand, noble and pure, must live on, and as the years go by, be the more appreciated and beloved because it stands the test of time, and has proven worthy of our honor and esteem.

So the Grande Ligne mission commends itself to us, not only because it has existed for many years, but because the work is worthy. From its earliest beginning it has been characterized by a spirit of self sacrifice and devotion. Surely it is a noble work to raise up the degraded, misled and blinded of mankind to the pure and enlightened liberty of the children of God.

Because a woman broke an alabaster box of precious ointment to anoint her Lord, He said in appreciation of the act that "Wheresoever this gospel should be preached in the whole world, there should this also that this woman did, be told for a memorial of her." Again He said "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The name of Mme. Feller will be handed down to prosperity, because she loved her Lord and proved her faith by the work she did for His people. As she and many another devoted successor were called to lay down life's burden to enter the rest and higher work of heaven, other hands have taken up and carried on the work. Meantime it has gradually developed and enlarged before our eyes like the unconscious growth of a child, until in contrast from the frail and puny infant of fifty years ago, we now begin to see well rounded proportions and evidences of healthful strength and activity. But the child, Grande Ligne, is not yet fully grown, but it is larger and requires more food than in days gone by. Its nourishment consists of willing hearts and hands, consecrated purses, together with many prayers.

Who will give the crumbs that fall from their table to aid in keeping alive this child of God?

It seems almost a wonder that people do not give even from selfish motives because of the inducements which God offers. When He says "Give and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over," He is speaking only the truth.

A young girl once gave the first dollar she ever earned to the Woman's Foreign Mission Society and became a member of the circle. She has never since lacked for a dollar with which to pay her annual fee to that society, but on the contrary has been able to give more and freely with each succeeding year, because she gives as God has prospered her.

God's work will most certainly go on and His people should desire the honor and privilege of lending a hand, for if we fail thus to do, another who improves his opportunity will receive the blessing that we may crave.

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Who will thus prove the Lord? Shall you? Shall I?

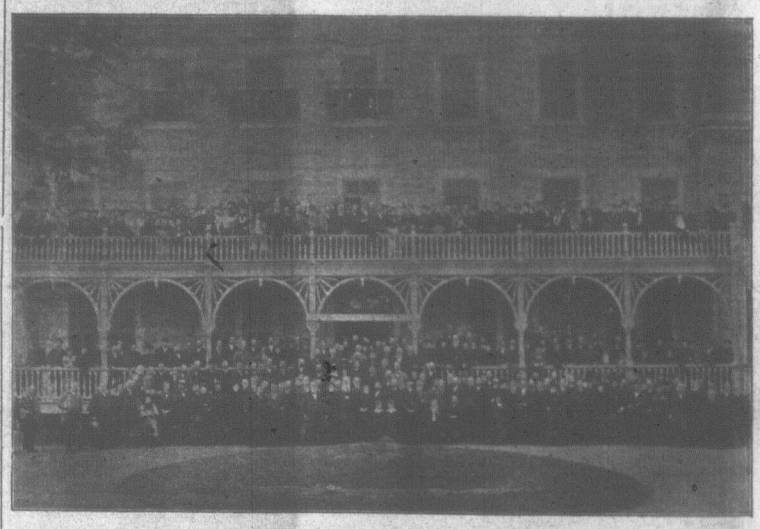
MRS. ARTHUR E. MASSE.

NOW AND THEN.

REV. A. L. THERRIEN.

It is difficult to realize the greatness of the changes that have taken place in Quebec within the last fifty years. As in other parts of the world, steam and electricity, with the great inventions they have occasioned, together with the numerous improvements in implements and methods, have revolutionized agriculture, industry and commerce here; but greater still is the change wrought by the mightier forces of education and religious thought. Fifty years ago the French *habitant* in many instances carried his manure to the river, now he uses it on his farm. Then he reaped his harvest with the help of his wife, sons and daughters with a sickle, and at the expense of an untold quantity of backache and other aches, now he sits quietly on the mower or the combined reaper and binder, and takes a pleasant ride through his fields, and before you are aware of it the crops thereof have disappeared and found their way into his well filled barns. Then and until then, generation after generation passed from childhood to mature age and from maturity to old age without knowing, save in a few instances, how to read or write. Now those composing that class are a small minority and constantly are on the decrease. Then schools except the convent or the college in large centres for the education of the few who have entered the professions were nowhere, now they are everywhere. Then religious teachers of the people were opposed to popular education, the precincts of the large and gaudily adorned churches through the land resounded with such flights of eloquence as this; "What have your sons but particularly the opening of schools by our missionaries, who from the banks of the Ottawa River to the border line between us and the United States, and from Lake Ontario to the Gulf of St. Lawrence have gone forth, the Bible in one hand and the school book in the other, carrying intellectual and spiritual truth and life throughout this vast territory. Then there was not half a dozen French Canadian Protestants in this Province, now there are no less than ten thousand who have their press, their churches, their Sunday schools, their day schools, their pastors, their teachers, lawyers, physicians, notaries, and a goodly number of influential business men, thriving industries, many well-to-do and intelligent farmers. Then the Bishops had only to lift up their finger and the whole population fell prostrate before them on any question; now they, (the Bishops) unite in a solemn '*mandement*' to warn their people under the severest penalty not to vote for electoral candidates not pledged to the "remedial legislation," and the answer of the people at the polls is the sternest rebuke which the domineering dignitaries of their church have ever received, notifying them that their assumed domination over the consciences of the people in politics at least, and largely in religion also, has finally come to an end. Surely we have reason to rejoice and take courage. Who can tell what the next twenty-five years may bring forth. "*Lux lucet in tenebris.*"

Montreal, Sept. 1st, '96.



BAPTIST CONVENTION OF ONTARIO AND QUEBEC, GRANDE LIGNE, JUNE, 1896.

SOREL.

The city of Sorel is on the St. Lawrence river, near the mouth of the Richelieu, 45 miles below Montreal, and has a population of 7,000 souls of whom only 100 or so are Protestants. And this is not at all a startling fact if we are aware that of 1,500,000 people in the province of Quebec, 1,400,000 are Romanists. That means a great deal more than perhaps we are inclined to think. Therefore, a great work remains to bedone in Quebec for Christ's sake and Canada's sake.

times by Grande Ligne missionaries, who lack not zeal, ability and faithfulness. The writer took up the work permanently in Sorel on May 1st, 1893. Since that time FORTY CONVERTS FROM ROMANISM were buried with Christ in baptism; a church was organized; thousands of religious tracts were distributed; scores of copies of Bibles and New Testaments were loaned, given away and sold; hundreds of Romanists heard the gospel and a church building was erected. All this, however, was not done without priestly or inquisitorial persecution. We well remember how the priest once daringly spoke to his people against us, saying, "The presence of these people in this city (Sorel) is a scourge worse than caterpillars, and it is necessary to have immediate recourse to the most energetic means to rid the population there. Let all those who have heart and energy give their hands to this end." The chief of police and came to our home to tell me that the clergy had made up their minds to get rid of me and mine, and that, therefore, I was liable to get killed at any moment." He then added: "You must quit and give up your work at once." I simply said: "I have great forces to back me up, namely, God and the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God, it behooves you to keep quiet." Having thus given him something to think about, the poor fellow with his eyes and mouth wide opened, bowed to me respectfully and walked off pensively. Nevertheless, he came again to our house a few days later. But that time he was with the mayor who said to me, "Anonymous letters have come to us and to the priest, informing us that some ill-natured Catholics intend to mob and burn your house. We come therefore, to warn you that we couldn't and wouldn't in case of a tumult, protect you nor yours. Six hours are given you to leave the city." Thanks, gentlemen, but God does not tell me, like a contemptible coward, leave Sorel at once. He says, "Preach the gospel to every creature." I shall stay here so long as God wants me to, was my reply. They looked at one another with a flendish smile, and walked out, the mayor saying, "We cannot scare him."

Stones were thrown through our windows; work was denied the converts, and our late Bro. Gendreau was arrested in our home and put in prison where he stayed for three days for saying that "JESUS ONLY CAN SAVE SINFUL MEN." But thanks be to Jesus, He also gives us that which He gave to His first disciples, i. e., "power to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy." Souls have been reached! Souls are being reached!! And souls will be reached in Sorel!!! There is but one thing lacking in our city, i. e., work for both Romanists and Protestants. Let us have a factory, at least, or organize and establish a farming colony for our French converts. Who can and will suggest and help? Respectfully fraternally yours in Christ. L. O. F. COTÉ.

Missionary.

TEACHING STAFF, FELLER INSTITUTE, GRANDE LIGNE, P. Q

need of an education to hold the plough, or your daughters to wash dishes, if you educate them you will only make rascals of them." Now, many of those whose voices are heard in the same pulpits plead for the education of the young, and few dare lift up their voices against it. What hath occasioned this last change? you ask. A number of things, Rev. Adam Burwash, our lamented and never to be forgotten brother, commenced under the auspices of Grande Ligne missionary society, his work in Sorel four years ago. From 1892 the precious seed of God's Truth has been sown diligently, boldly and prayerfully, and therefore, has brought forth fruit. Bro. Burwash was assisted at different

Bridge street in the parish of St Roch, two years ago, he found that a preliminary work had already been done.

The mission is located in the very stronghold of clericalism, hence it has always met with the fiercest opposition.

The attack upon the mission and the peril in which Brethren Grenier and Burwash, together with their fellow workers for a time were placed, will still be fresh in the minds of most of your readers.

One of the most notable incidents in connection with the work in this city was the imprisonment, conviction and release of Bro. Desjardin, who is now pursuing a course of study in Newton Theological Seminary in view of French Missionary work.

In the spring of 1895 the present building was purchased by the Grande Ligne Board and fitted up for chapel, school room and residence for the missionary at a cost of about $2,000, of which amount $500 were generously contributed by Bro. W. A. Marsh of Quebec. Rev. E. J. Stobo rendered valuable assistance in securing this property as he indeed has done in all the mission work which we have attempted. The missionaries having always found him a valued helper, a wise counsellor and sympathetic friend.

In the Salle, since its opening hundreds of Romanists have heard of God's infinite love, several of whom have severed their connection with the church of Rome, and fifteen have been baptized upon the profession of their faith in Christ, nine of these *during the last five months.*

Three young men are going to Feller Institute in the fall, two of them recent converts from Rome, the other, a relative of Bishop Lafleche of Three Rivers, goes to prepare for French mission work. In the day school, taught by Miss Carrie Bullock (a former teacher at Grande Ligne) we had 50 pupils, Romanists, Jews and Protestants. A Sunday school class for the Jewish children was conducted by Miss Bullock and for a few months was well attended. A few Catholic children came regularly to our Sunday school. Our greatest difficulty is to create a sense of personal responsibility and the desire to think and act for one's self, in the minds of the people. The priest has so long taught them that so long as they submit and obey nothing else is required of them. They are taught to regard the missionary and colporteur as the most dangerous class of people. The Bible is unscrupulously taken from the people and burnt. Add to this the effect of boycott, the opposition and persecution, and it will be readily seen that French evangelization is no easy task. No less than fifteen French Canadian Protestants have been compelled to expatriate themselves since the Mission was opened and mostly for this reason. A hopeful change, however, is taking place, the extreme position taken by the clergy during the last elections, the work of the colporteurs, the influence of the press are all preparing the way for His Kingdom.

FELLER INSTITUTE, 1896.

SALLE WORK IN QUEBEC.

REV. L. RUSSY DUTAND.

For some time Mr. and Mrs. Grenier were located in this city, being supported by the W. M. circles of Ontario. They did a good work in breaking up the fallow soil, so that when the late Rev. Adam Burwash made his courageous attempt to open a "Salle evangelique" on

We do our work by personal visitation and invitation announcing our meetings anywhere, and everywhere we can; keeping the "Salle" open as a reading room during the winter months. Our tables are always well furnished with religious literature, etc. The use of the stereopticon was found useful to illustrate Biblical and temperance subjects and attract the people to our services. We are thankful for what God has wrought and ask a continuance of your sympathy and prayers for this work. Yes, brethren, pray for us.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:
"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. Manning, St. John West, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR SEPTEMBER.

Thanksgiving to God for the success that has attended our work during the past year. Prayer for a still greater blessing on our efforts during the coming year. Ask that God's spirit may accompany our missionaries elect as they visit the churches and a great blessing attend their efforts to increase the mission interest.

A meeting in connection with the W. M. A. S., of St. John and Fairville, was held in Brussels St. church, St. John, on Friday the 11th, at 3.30. The audience was led in song by the choir. Mrs. Alward presided and in her opening remarks welcomed the young lady missionaries elect and referred to a similar meeting held in this church twenty-three years ago, when our pioneer band of missionaries stood before the audience and spoke their farewell words. Six of that number were present at this meeting—Mrs. Alward, Mrs. March, Miss Blakeslee, Mrs. M. E. Cowan, Mrs. Harding, Miss Berryman. Many of the home workers have crossed the river and joined the church triumphant; but new laborers have been raised up and the work goes on. We must praise God that every one of that band of missionaries are still living and all but two are on the foreign field. Addresses were given by Miss Harrison and Miss Newcombe, that were highly appreciated and every heart responded to their earnest words. These sisters will live in the hearts of those they leave behind and many prayers will ascend daily on their behalf. Mrs. March spoke of the past and her great interest in the mission work. A voice from India was heard in a letter from Mrs. Churchill, who was one of the first company of missionaries and for twenty-three years has been faithfully engaged in this mission work. She seems greatly encouraged, ten have been baptized in Bobbili since she returned the last time and many more ten are anxious about their souls salvation and enquiring about the new religion. A most enjoyable social hour was spent together, and then a tea, such as the Brussels St. ladies know how to provide.

The evening meeting was held in the same place and a repetition of that Saturday evening meeting at Convention. The Holy Spirit's power was manifest and deep impression was made. Rev. W. V. Higgins gave a most enthusiastic address on India, every heart must have been touched. The missionaries elect impressed all present with their consecration of purpose to give themselves entirely to Christ and follow where He leads. They leave this morning for New Brunswick convention. Let us follow them constantly with our prayers. There are trying days, brain and body are taxed to the utmost, and they need special grace.

The W. M. A. Societies of Hants Co., met in Ashdale, on Sept. 1st and 2nd for the purpose of consolidating with the Auxiliary H. M. Board and the S. S. Association. The following officers were elected: Pres. Mrs. Nalder, Windsor; Sec. and Treas., Mrs. Rees, Newport. One vice president for each society in the county, viz., Windsor, Mrs. D. Greeno; Falmouth, Mrs. B. Shaw; Hantsport, Mrs. D E Hatt; Lockartville, Miss Ida Lockart; Summerville, Mrs. J. H. Masters; Brookville, Mrs. Rose; Walton, Mrs. E. A. Bancroft; Noel, Miss A. Hennigar; Scotch Village, Mrs. E. Dimock; Avondale, Mrs. D. F. Parker. After the consolidation was effected, "Blest be the tie that binds," was heartily sung. The president then took the chair and the meeting opened by singing "More love to thee." "Our marching orders" were then given which are found in Matt. 28, 18, 19, 20, particular stress being laid on the "Go" and "Lo." Prayer was then offered by the president, who also gave an interesting account of her work during the past year as Cor. Sec. Financially, not quite up to the preceding year, but a deeper consecration and interest among the sisters. Three life members added last year. An address of welcome was given to Miss Grey by Mrs. Bancroft. In Miss Grey's reply she spoke of what she had heard since she came home, of the missionaries having such a good time, not true, she told of their trials etc. Had each sister in Hants Co., heard her thrilling words I think the membership of our aid societies would be greatly increased. Seven societies were represented and reported from, viz.: Hantsport, Scotch Village, Falmouth, Avondale, Summerville, Walton, Windsor. Prayer was especially asked for Miss Knowles, organist of the Avondale society, who is very ill, responded to by Rev. D. E. Hatt, Mrs. Murray, Miss Elder, Rev. J. Murray. After singing "Take my life" etc., the secretary was called upon for echoes from the Convention at Berwick. A great deal of information was gained by the questions asked Miss Grey, she gave us such an insight into the work and lives of our missionaries. Each of the sisters present realized as never before that "we are not our own but are bought with a price," and with God's help we will do better work for Him in the coming year. "Not unto us O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory." Thus closed one of the most profitable aid meetings of the Hants County Baptist Convention.

Newport, Sep. 4. B. A. REES, Sec'y.

P. S.—We also have a "Praying League." We devote a certain portion of each Wednesday in the week to pray for unsaved souls in our county. We now number 38. B. A. R.