

times unduly dissatisfied with Protestantism which does not come up to their ideal, nor to our own, who are in ecstasies before the masses who devoutly throng Roman catholic churches. They naturally suppose them very religious, very moral, very spiritual christians;—we are very sorry to be obliged to destroy, in a large measure, their charitable illusion. The mass of these devotees have only the most superficial religiosity, which is but too ostensibly exhibited in their daily life and conduct, a religion too often divorced from moral rectitude. In this severe judgment I shall be sustained by all the workers in our field. And that should not be much of a surprise; have we anywhere seen the masses very, intelligently religious? Are they as a whole, capable of the high, steep ascent to holiness?

If we take into consideration the obstacles in our way, one of the glaring ones, to superficial minds, the diversity of religious belief in Protestantism, the other, the long established national church, a religious system admirably adapted to suit all the weakness and imperfections of human nature, we may feel truly thankful to God for the great success of our work of reformation in this land. It would be very difficult to follow everywhere the result of the work of 57 years, or to find out even in an approximate way the number of those whom this mission has evangelized, instructed, and brought to the knowledge of the Gospel and of Christ. In the first place soon after our beginning, other denominations joined in this work. How could we find those scattered over the whole of this Northern Continent? Oftentimes they have lost their own language, their names have been transformed, deformed, translated, lost. Many of them have joined English speaking churches, or other denominations. We know that from each station or church, five, ten, twenty, thirty families have crossed the lines near us, others have gone to the far west where God's eye alone can follow them. Many of them when evangelized had not the moral strength to follow us here, but scores of them have become Protestants, or if still nominally Catholics are better recruits than those liberals who read until worn out, the pamphlet called, "*Clerical ruins*," but who leave perfectly untouched, on their shelves the volume of the Gospel. The religion that volume teaches is of too high a nature, moral and spiritual, to strongly attract their mind.