

# Mission to the Acadian French.

## REPORT OF FRENCH MISSION BOARD.

Fourteen years ago no Protestant mission was established among the Acadian French of this Province, nor any regular evangelistic labor among them expended. This vast body of our population, numbering some 20,859, lay sleeping in the arms of the papacy; to a sad extent, without bibles, without education or schools for securing it, without an evangelical ministry, or a true knowledge of the way of salvation. Firmly wedded to the delusive superstitions of the Romish Church, they were regarded by evangelical christians as in the way of spiritual darkness leading down to eternal night.

Considering their numbers, their social and moral condition, and their proximity to us; and withal, it may be, the injuries they had sustained at the hands of our forefathers, the hearts of a few among us were touched with commiseration of their condition and yearned for their salvation. Consequently at a meeting of this Association held in Yarmouth in the year 1851, their claims were presented and the sympathies of our denomination appealed to on their behalf. The result was that, through the agency of the Home Mission Board, the services of Bro. O. Chute were employed and a mission was established among them. In 1853 a separate Board for working this mission was appointed and located in Yarmouth. For seven years, with varying prospects, Bro. Chute labored in this cause, at the expiration of which time commodious mission premises had been procured, although somewhat in debt, one person had proposed faith in Christ by baptism, several individuals and some families had renounced Romanism, and a spirit of enquiry seemed to be extending amid bitter opposition, when he was compelled to abandon his post on account of failing health.

In this juncture the friends of the Mission directed their enquiries for a labourer to Canada, whence Bro. Michael Normonday, of the Grand Ligne Mission, was immediately obtained, of whose success in the work high hopes were

ent  
the  
in t  
and  
fest  
An  
alto  
of c  
ing  
give  
prof  
enjo  
the  
10 l  
miss  
abov  
scho  
cupi  
man  
B  
case  
have  
shou  
Fren  
cher  
nor  
Two  
more  
not  
chur  
adva  
Yo  
port,  
Miss  
now  
and  
8370  
paris  
Pass  
famil  
Task  
settle