

The Methodist Church, in harmony with the sentiment expressed by her noble founder, "The world is my parish," has felt the need and importance of engaging actively in this work, and so has employed Bible-women, colporteurs, missionaries and school teachers in mission schools, in this department of her work. In the opinion of some, however, her zeal and activity in this direction have not been as aggressive as desirable. For this possibly reasons exist which it is not necessary to discuss here. But has not the time come for a forward movement in this direction? Is the Church giving all the attention that she should to this very important question? Would it not be better if, instead of as now when the different missions and schools are under the care of different and frequently changing chairmen and organizations, the whole department were guided and controlled by some one official or committee? Could we not do more in the way of colportage? Our French Institute in Westmount is doing a grand work; would not similar institutions, even if on a smaller scale, situated in the leading towns and cities of the Province, very materially and rapidly extend the spread of French Methodism? Let the laity as well as the clergy, the young people of the Church as well as Quarterly Boards and Missionary Committees, think, speak and pray about this work. Let every follower of the Lord Jesus count himself a missionary to herald the glad tidings to their own neighbors and acquaintances who in this Christian land and in this nineteenth century are in comparative darkness and without the blessed consolations that come to us from God's own Book.

J. P.

An Incident in the French Work.

Mrs. P., in her fifty-eighth year, had become a convert to the Protestant faith, and a few months later had gone to join the blood-washed throng in the spirit-land. On the Sunday following her death the parish priest warned his people against associating with the French Protestants of the community because of the danger resulting therefrom, declaring that through such association Mrs. P. had gone into the depths of hell and was then in the grasp of the devil. But a few days later he was making his annual pastoral call at the house of Mrs. P.'s son, when the latter, taking his Bible and giving it to the curé, said to him, "Can you prove to me from the Bible what you said on Sunday about my mother?" The only reply the priest could make was to rise and leave the house. Shortly after this the son united with the Methodist Church. His wife, however, was still a Roman Catholic, and deeply prejudiced against the Protestant Church. But the consistency of her husband and the truth of God's Word, to which she occasionally listened from the lips of her husband, were gradually removing the veil and revealing to her a better way. At Easter time, she, like all good Catholics, was at the Confessional, when the priest strongly urged her to adhere to the Roman faith, and said to her that if she were asking his advice, he would say, leave your husband. "Why," said she, "he is a good man and a kind husband, why should I leave him?" "Because," said the priest, "he is a Protestant, and if you live with him you will lose your soul." He further not only advised but required that she should on no account mingle with the Protestants of the community, lest she should be contaminated, and positively refused to grant her absolution unless she would promise to keep away from them. Not prepared to make the promise, she left him, saying, "You will grant me absolu-

tion next time I come." She has never been there since, and shortly after, she said to the writer, who was then in charge of that mission, "You may take down my name as a member of your Church." Thus Rome's prohibitions to her members sometimes become stepping-stones to their liberty and freedom.

Programme.

SUBJECT

French-Canadian Missions

HYMN 70.

PRAYER

For French Canadian Missions and Papal Lands.

BIBLE READING---

St. Luke xv. 1-10.

HYMN 82.

The Present State, some facts, manners, customs and religion of the French-Canadians. (See "Our Work Series," No. 6.)*

OUR FRENCH-CANADIAN MISSIONS---

Number of missions, missionaries and members. (See Missionary Society's Report, page lii.† W. M. S. Report, pages lviii.-lx.;* also Junior page this number CAMPAIGNER.)

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION --

(See this number of CAMPAIGNER, *Monthly Letters* for March and April, W. M. S.)

FRENCH METHODIST INSTITUTE, MONTREAL---

The Work, 1897-8 (this number CAMPAIGNER). A Montreal Minister's Visit (see *Guardian*, March 2nd, page 2.‡)

INCIDENTS AND RESULTS OF THE WORK---

See *Guardian*, March 9th, page 2. An incident in French Work (this number CAMPAIGNER).

The Cloven Foot (*Outlook*, January, 1898).

Raffle for Souls (*Guardian*, March 16th, 1898.)

HYMN 13.

QUESTION DRAWER AND DISCUSSION.

DOXOLOGY. Benediction.

Corea's Women.

"You are making a great mistake. Why don't you work the other way?" said an intelligent Corean to one of our missionaries. "If you want to win Corea, win the women. *Win the mothers of Corea* and all Corea will be Christian." But they cannot be reached by men, and but a handful of Christian women have gone to seek them. Woman's existence in Corea consists of endless drudgery. The wealthy wife goes inside her husband's house on the wedding day, and never comes out again till she is carried to her grave. Shut in a living tomb, she has nothing worth living for, here or hereafter. So the poorer woman's life is summed up in one word - plod, plod, plod, but to both poor and rich, woman's existence means an unspeakably wretched slavery to man.

* Order from Room 20, W. M. S. Report, price 10 cents; *Leaflets*, 3 cents each; postage 2 cents extra.

† Methodist Mission Rooms.

‡ Methodist Book Room, \$1.00 per year (52 copies).