

distinguishable by the snow which whitened the fields around. We learned that the minister who had thus been deprived of a place of meeting for his flock, had just a week or two before, been cleared in the civil court from a charge of an infamous crime, which some parties in his own congregation had brought against him. He had been suspended by his bishop; and after the issue of the criminal prosecution, had been restored to his ministerial functions. On the second Sabbath after this, he had preached from the words of the Psalmist—"How amiable are thy tabernacles O Lord of Hosts;" &c. And on the night immediately following, the structure in which it is to be presumed he had seen an additional beauty after having been cruelly excluded from it, was burned by an incendiary—supposed to be one of the faction who had been persecuting him otherwise.

Our Presbyterian people have often been reproached for their contentiousness about matters of doctrine, and speculation on church government; but we have known more instances than the case now before us, to shew, that the contests of Episcopalians about ministers or church matters, are generally of a ruder and more violent kind. And when we at any time hear, as we sometimes do, of persons passing from the Presbyterian to the Episcopalian Church, in the view of getting away from contentions and strife, we cannot help thinking that the time may soon be, when such persons, in the way they seek peace, may have to travel a little farther in order to obtain it. If the Episcopalian Church is to be reformed and revived as we doubt not it shall be, its members will yet be brought to take an interest in many things which they at present leave to Patrons and Prebends, and other ecclesiastics; and it is not likely that they will attain to their own rights without some struggle, or that they will always exercise these, when obtained with perfect moderation and unanimity.

We understood that there is a considerable settlement of Presbyterians in the western part of the Township of Brimpton, but, though we passed through it, no arrangement had been made for my preaching, and as we were fifty-three miles from the church in Leeds, where I had to preach on the Friday, we were constrained to pass on.

In the course of our journey on Thursday, we passed through the village of Ste Marie, beautifully situated in the valley of the Chaudiere and by the banks of that river. The inhabitants appear to be unmixedly French, and, alas! Popish. It seemed to us, as though it would form an excellent station for a devoted Protestant missionary or colporteur. I have no doubt, that, a labourer of this kind would find assistance in various ways amongst the pious members of our Church in the adjacent townships. The country round Ste Marie has some interest attached to it, from its geological features. It is the gold region of Canada. In the *Maison de Pension*, or hotel at which we halted, we learned from a mineral surveyor, that the rock formation is the same with that of the gold region of Georgia and other numerous tracts on this continent; and that pieces of gold of considerable value had been at different times picked up.

At Leeds I had the pleasure of meeting with the Rev. Mr. Swinton, missionary; and on Friday preached at Lambie's Mills, which forms one of his stations. I embraced the opportunity of giving the claims of our theological school on the congregation, and obtained the ready consent of their office-bearers to act as collectors for it. It was gratifying to find that the labours of Mr. Swinton, an alumnus of Knox's College, were highly appreciated. And I had the pleasure of residing at a meeting of the session when it was solved to petition the Presbytery of the bounds to take steps for having him ordained amongst them as their pastor. And considering the vast extent of country all around, with its many settlements of Presbyterians, in which no ordained minister is found—ordained he certainly should be, either as a pastor or as a district missionary.

The next day brought us to Inverness. Here we met with some warm hearted christian people, chiefly from Atlan and the adjacent islands, the fruit of the ministry of the McBrades and other godly ministers of a generation now past. Soon after my arrival I had a meeting with several of the members of the congregation, who had been chosen for the office of the eldership, and had only not been ordained, because a member of the Presbytery of Montreal, who had been appointed to ordain them, had been prevented from visiting the township. Knowing this, and presuming on the concurrence of the Presbytery, after preaching on the Sabbath, I ordained them on the Monday, and, as it happened, I then had the presence and concurrence of the Rev. Mr. Gordon of Lingwick, who had come to dispense the Lord's Supper on the following Sabbath. W. R.

(To be continued.)

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSION.

To the Editor of the Record.

MONTREAL, March 15, 1850.

MY DEAR SIR,—

As I promised you another short note after finishing my tour in behalf of the French Canadian Mission, I now proceed to do so, and as I wish to have what I write read, I shall be brief.

After leaving Toronto, in the neighbourhood of which I was when I last wrote, I went eastward along the shores of Lake Ontario, Bay of Quinte, and the St. Lawrence, visiting the various towns and villages, and receiving a kindly welcome from all of them. Pickering, Whitby, Bowmanville, Newton, Port Hope, Cobourg, Grafton, Belleville, Demorestville, Picton, Kingston, Gananoque, Brockville and Prescott, were taken in turn, and in all of them, excepting Kingston and Prescott, something considerable was done, and these were exceptions, not from any want of interest in the French Canadian Mission, but from a variety of special circumstances which would have rendered an application for pecuniary aid at the present time imprudent. The cause will not be forgotten.

After visiting the above places, I commenced my journey direct to Montreal, where I arrived in safety, on Friday 1st current, glad to obtain a little repose, after a toilsome and somewhat exhausting winter journey of fully five months continuance, and thankful to a kind Providence, by whose hand I had been guided through it without a single hour of serious illness, and without the occurrence of a single serious accident. Thankful also that in regard to the great object in view, He rendered my way prosperous, to a degree surpassing the expectations of many of the friends of the Mission, though not quite coming up to my own.

Altogether I find that I have preached to about fifty different congregations, and held about thirty public meetings, and have had an opportunity of bringing the subject of French Canadian Mission before all of them. The whole present pecuniary result is nearly £150, the expenses for travelling something over £20. The latter, I ought to mention, would have been much greater, had it not been for the generous hospitality of friends of the Mission everywhere, and for the kindness with which I was, in several instances, conveyed from place to place free of expense.

All are well at the Institute. Things are going on prosperously, both there and in the country.—There are decided indications of a coming change among the Canadians. May the Lord hasten it in his own time.

The visit of Father Chiniquy to Point Aux Trembles has been productive of no evil. The villages hold as friendly intercourse with the missionaries as ever, some, indeed, are more friendly than ever. I am sorry to learn from various quarters that the Rev. gentleman above mentioned seems to be turning the great powers which he undoubtedly possesses, and the influence he has acquired as an apostle of temperance, in opposition to the diffusion of the truth.

The three new colporteurs employed by the Society, at the expense of the American Tract Society, begin well. They have, during the short time they have been in the field, disposed of a very considerable number of New Testaments and Tracts, and have had some interesting interviews, both with priests and people.

I become more and more impressed, that were Protestants alive to their own safety, their duty and their privileges, to set themselves in right earnest to the discharge of the work, which the Head of the Church has assuredly committed to them,—the dissemination of the truth throughout the ignorant masses of our countrymen, we should in a few years see a change effected in Lower Canada, such as very few are sanguine enough to expect.

There is needed a strenuous, united, believing, prayerful effort on the part of all the lovers of the Lord Jesus throughout the land, and then the work will be done in spite of all the opposition of all the powers and all the emissaries of darkness.

Yours very sincerely,

JOHN BLACK.

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSION—KNOX'S CHURCH ASSOCIATION, TORONTO.

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Association connected with the Senior Female Bible Class, in Knox's Church, was held on Wednesday the 3rd April. The evening was very unfavourable, by reason of the great storm of rain, and yet the attendance was remarkably good. Dr. Burns presided, and, besides missionary information communicated by him, from the latest sources, suitable addresses were made by Messrs. W. J. Mackenzie and John Alexander, two of the senior Theological Students, who had laboured in different districts in Lower Canada, and who, thus, had it in their power to communicate important facts relating to the condition of Popery, and its adherents, in that part of the Province. The features of the gross superstition which tyrannises over the poor habitants, and the instances told of deep ignorance and glaring idolatry, were truly affecting, and well fitted to rouse the mind of Canada West to a much higher estimate of the importance of the French Canadian Mission, and the Institute at "Pointe-aux-Trembles."

Letters from the pupils, in the original French, and accompanied with the English translations, were circulated among the members present, and the reading of them aloud in their translated form excited much interest.

The collections given in by the members, together with the collection made at the close of the meeting, amounted to upwards of £14.

This quarterly meeting closed the first year of the Association; and the receipts have been as follows:

First Quarter.....	£10
Second do.....	£10
Third do.....	£ 9
Fourth do.....	£13
	£43

The Association has thus been successful beyond expectation. Not only has the sum necessary for boarding and educating a boy and a girl, of French parentage, at the Institution, been defrayed; but a sum exceeding £20 has been appropriated to defray the debt on the building.

Each collector will be furnished with a more lengthened report, but, in the meantime, this