

even in Rome could not in its last development, but appear as a novelty of the pretended unchangeable church. Accordingly, the new dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary has been the constant theme of Romish devotion, the pretext for crowded processions and magnificent displays. Richly decorated altars, costly statues of the Virgin paraded about, and an unusual excitement have proclaimed in all the Lower Canadian parishes, in the light of thousands of candles, and amidst the roar of cannon, that the people were made to prostrate themselves before the blasphemous fiction of Rome, the last idol manufactured in the city of the seven hills.

To say nothing of the strenuous efforts made by the priests to check the freedom of the press in Lower Canada, the war waged against common schools, the pressure exerted upon Government by the Romish Bishops of the Province, in order to destroy a flourishing system of education in Upper Canada, and establish on its ruins the teachings of nuns and friars at public expense, should warn lukewarm Protestants of impending danger, and that the work of Evangelical Missions, such as that undertaken by this Society, is a vital question for their posterity, as far as their freedom, education, prosperity, and religion are concerned. The recent Concordat, concluded between Austria and the Pope, by which Protestant populations are enslaved in body and mind to the despotic and persecuting powers of the hierarchy, must render evident to all the great ideal of papal rule in store for our Province, unless priestly ascendancy be checked in time, not by vain political combinations, but by the only secure way—missionary enterprise.

Already has the influence of Canadian Romanism extended itself all over this continent, and as far as south America. Large sums of money collected here are annually spent elsewhere for the propagation of errors. Many Canadian priests are sent across the lines to the neighbouring States, and even lead Popish colonies to Illinois and the Far West, with an eye to the planting and strengthening of their system in the midst of Protestant populations. Nay, already does Canada begin to supply South America with priests and nuns, having a special mission in Chili. It has also supplied Oregon and California. While elsewhere on this continent the stock of

priests is failing, our Province raises more than is needed for itself, and supplies other parts of the world; Canada is now and is likely to be more and more the great nursery of priesthood and monachism on this side of the Atlantic.—Would that the fact were better understood and appreciated by our American neighbors, and that they would repay this country in part the efforts, the money and the men so lavishly spent upon them by Canadian Romanism.

Such are the latest movements of Romanism,—what this Society and mission has been permitted by the favour of the great Head of the Church to accomplish against that dangerous power, in rescuing souls from a pernicious thralldom, and bringing them captive to the feet of Jesus Christ, will be detailed in the following report:—

#### EVANGELIZATION.

The mission of spreading the Word of God, proclaiming saving truth, and teaching the doctrines of the Gospel amongst French Canadians, has been providentially entrusted by this Society to four distinct classes of missionaries, all so absolutely demanded by the peculiarities of the field, that neither of them could be dispensed with, without more or less paralyzing all the branches of the work. These are, 1st, Ordained Ministers.—2rd, Catechists, otherwise called Scripture Readers.—3rd, Colporteurs—and 4th, Teachers. As their number is larger at present than at any other previous epoch in the history of this Mission, and often two or three are found co-operating in the same local effort, their labours will, probably, be best reviewed and appreciated, by speaking of them individually, only in connection with the stations to which they severally belong, but we would, however, premise a few general remarks on each class.

#### THE MINISTRY OF THE GOSPEL.

Four ordained clergymen have labored under the auspices of the Society.—But when it is considered that two of them are not in direct connexion with it, that another turns all his attention to the superintendance of the Boys' Institute at Pointe aux Trembles, and that to the fourth is entrusted the general management of the operations of the Society, it will be evident that there is at present no class of missionaries, the want of which is more felt on our field. To secure the services of one or two more clergyman, active, and qualified for the work, will-