

ing record probably presents the first instance in which a number of copies of the Holy Scriptures have been publicly committed to the flames in any part of Ontario. An interesting, intelligent and zealous young French Canadian, from the Province of Quebec, who was educated at the Sabrevois Mission School in that Province, and who can speak the English and French languages, was obtained late last summer for colportage-work in the Algoma district. He entered upon his duties with earnestness and devotion. When we last heard from him, he had extended his operations as far as Thunder Bay and Silver Islet. From these and other fields visited by him, we have received most satisfactory reports. He is amiable and prudent, while persevering and earnest—a man not likely to provoke hostility. In his last letter, dated from Sault Ste. Marie, he informs us that he had, in this place, distributed *thirteen* volumes of the blessed Word of God among the Roman Catholics. The next day, a Jesuit Father, at the Sault, ordered all those who received the books from the colporteur, to be burned. The execution of this command took place *after mass*, on Sunday, the 3rd November last, or on the Monday morning following. Of the *thirteen* volumes *purchased* from him by Roman Catholics, only *one* was saved—this one had found its way into the hands of a Protestant lady—"the rest were thrown into the fire." We add no comment as to this wicked act, perpetrated in a Protestant Province, though in a remote section of it. We present it to the reader for reflection; and for prayer, that He, whose book it is, will continue to extend and bless the dissemination of His Holy Word.

SYRIA—BURNING TESTAMENTS.

A Romish padre had just been at the old business of burning Testaments and Protestant books, at Mukhtara. One day he summoned the people to the papal church, and exhibited a panorama of hell. In the midst of the picture was a company of children with Protestant books in their hands, being tortured by fiery devils with sharp spears. The effect on the poor mothers was tragical. They at once obeyed the padre's orders, and brought their children's books, and he burned them in the midst of the church, exclaiming, "Thus I offer a sacrifice to Christ!" The most bitter enemies of the Gospel in Syria now are the European priests and nuns.—*Evangelist*.

MARVELLOUS PRESERVATION OF THE BIBLE.

It is wonderful how this record has been preserved. The Jews have carefully watched over the letter of their sacred writings. The most accurate and diligent research has availed to discover only trifling variations in the manuscripts. And although both the Hebrew and the Greek Scriptures have often been the object of persecuting enemies, the cruelty and ingenuity of man have not been able to destroy their existence.

This is still more wonderful when we consider by whom these writings were preserved. The Jews were the conscientious guardians of the book of the kingdom. Rome preserved the book of the Church. The Jews, who themselves rejected the Messiah of whom Moses and the prophets testify, preserve the very books which prove their unbelief, and convince the world of the divine authority and mission of Jesus.

SAPHIR.