

teresting, but of course not so well attended, as the people from the country had generally returned home, still it was a large gathering. We had fervent prayer and excellent speeches, and all seemed to sing with the understanding and especially with heart. If I ever heard "Shelburne" before, I certainly never heard it so rendered. The singing was full and joyous.

In after days will be "The Centenary" of the Truro Church. They have thus a grand landmark by which to distinguish and remember it.—*Com.*

OUR ACADIAN MISSION.

As the season advances I feel at a loss how to act in regard to the Acadian Mission. Last year the Committee of Synod on Popery obtained, by the kindness of the French Canadian Missionary Society, the services of two experienced and well qualified Colporteurs, who spent about four months in visiting various settlements of French Acadians in Nova Scotia and P. E. Island. Very interesting reports of their labours are in the hands of the Committee and will probably be published as soon as they have been submitted to Synod. I feel warranted in stating that our church does not possess a *more hopeful mission field than the French Acadian Settlements that lie scattered within our borders.* The good seed of the Kingdom has been scattered in humility and faith by our amiable and devoted Colporteurs in many a circle which our ordinary agencies cannot reach. The Word of God has been to some extent circulated,—and by conversation, and reading and prayer the truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ have been heard in very many of the homes of the benighted Acadians.

The question now is, shall further effort be now made to scatter more widely the Good Seed, or to ascertain what the harvest may be, from seed already sown? Shall we resume, this season, our operations among the French Acadians?

In the spring of 1869 when Messrs. Dionné and Rivard were employed as Colporteurs, an appeal was made to the congregations of our Church for the necessary

funds. Response came from very many in *kind words*, but from very few in *needful cash!* The season passed away. The missionaries concluded, their labours and were paid. But of \$384.64 which had to be expended only \$191.43 had been collected up to the end of the year, leaving the Mission in debt \$193.21.

This state of affairs is very unsatisfactory, and yet I do not believe that any shadow of doubt lies over our path of duty. Romanism is not a system with which we can afford to be at peace. It will make no truce with us, and we ought not to make any truce with it. It is best, too, for us, in every way to be on the aggressive than on the defensive respecting it. We owe it to our fellow mortals who pine and perish under its shadow, that as far as lies in our power we should shed the light of the gospel upon their hearts. We owe it to the loving Saviour that we should hold forth His all prevailing mediation as the sinner's only hope, and His Word as the sinner's only guide, especially to those who call both these truths in question. We owe it to ourselves and to our children, that we should endeavour to undermine a system of error which in the hands of crafty and unscrupulous men, menaces and plots the overthrow of civil and religious liberty in every land.

The present, too, is an auspicious time for the expenditure of missionary labour, especially among Roman Catholics. The recent re-assertion by the Church of Rome of medieval and intolerant principles has shocked, if not alienated the minds of many of her most enlightened children, many of whom found it difficult to believe that the progress of thought in these latter days is an unmitigated calamity. In Canada, especially, a spirit of enquiry has been widely evoked through the labours of the French Canadian Missionary Society, and especially through the earnest and eloquent appeals of our esteemed brother, Mr. Chiniquy. This spirit of enquiry has seized multitudes who have never looked upon Mr. Chiniquy's face in the flesh, and its pulsations are felt even in these Lower Provinces. When they anxiously ask *what is truth*, let us step forward and tell them of