

da, assisted largely for the first year or two by that of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as well as by the parent Church. Latterly the contributions from the Synod of Nova Scotia dwindled away, from what cause we are not aware, but we suspect it was partly owing at least to the fact that with the exception of acknowledging receipt of our remittances, our connection with the scheme was quite ignored. It was always spoken and written of as the Canada Mission. It does not appear to have fallen through, however, from want of funds, or lack of willingness on the part of our Canadian brethren to support it, but rather from want of heart on the part of the Missionary, arising from family affliction, and that want of success which has been the fate of so many missionaries to this self-blinded people. Indeed this is a field which upon the whole has been hitherto but little distinguished by success, though this of itself should not damp our courage or weaken our perseverance; for God, no doubt, in his own good time, will turn the hearts even of the Jews and lead them out of darkness into light:—

In our last we gave a brief statement of the unforeseen trials and difficulties encountered by the Committee to whom this most important scheme of the Church is entrusted, believing that the account would stimulate and not discourage future exertions. In May next it is understood that the Monastir Mission to the Jews will be discontinued, and the Rev. Dr. Epstein be authorized to seek out for himself a more promising station, in which he may labor for the spiritual welfare of his brethren after the flesh, and at the same time support himself and his family by the practice of his medical profession. If our first missionary has not succeeded as he himself anticipated, it must be remembered that he set out for his distant field with sanguine hopes of early success, and that unaided he had to face oppositions and difficulties which would have sorely tried the faith of veterans in the contest. It is possible that his ardent temperament was better fitted to follow up success than patiently to labor for years without apparent impression produced on the mass of ignorant superstition and engrossing worldliness around him, and that the persevering endurance of the Anglo-Saxon might have been less easily discouraged by an unpromising commencement. Amid the Christian privileges of our highly favored Canadian home we can little realize the depressing influences by which our missionary has been surrounded, without a single fellow-laborer to share the heat and burden of the day or to join in sweet

counsel and communion. In many Eastern stations is this last great want supplied, and at the same time ample opportunity afforded of preaching Christ in a known language to thousands of the Hebrew nation. While our Mission is thus spared the expense of maintaining one of its laborers, Dr. Epstein's name may retain a place on our records, and his work continue to interest our Canadian Church.

India has now strong claims on British Christians. Not far from 200,000,000 of our fellow-subjects there own allegiance to our beloved Queen, by far the greater number of them plunged in idolatry of the most degrading kind. Great Britain claims a high place among the Christian nations of the Earth, but it must be remembered that the great majority of those who are dependent upon her are heathen Mahomedans, and that therefore her energies are urgently called forth to Christianize the millions within her own territories. For years the East India Company ruled these vast masses for the sole purpose of gain or power, and the Government at Home gave no encouragement to missionary effort in that land. The Indian mutiny was the means under Providence of effecting a change, and now the British rule throughout India affords protection and encouragement to the extension of Christianity. Schools for secular learning have been established in great numbers, and the effect of these is to sap the foundations of Brahminical superstition. The merest elementary instruction in natural science shows the falsehood and absurdity of the Hindoo's religion, and the immediate effect of simple instruction at a Government school is to leave the learner without a religion at all, his own having been utterly demolished. It must be remembered that the Government teacher does not use the Bible, and gives no lessons on its truths. If therefore the secular instruction is not followed up by the missionary, the poor Hindoo is left a prey to atheism, and perhaps as far from the Church of God as he was amid his idolatrous superstition. This is indeed a solemn thought, and one which should stir us up to greater faithfulness towards our Indian fellow-subjects. The number of missionaries in Hindostan is lamentably inadequate. It is but a short time since our "Juvenile Presbyterian" gave a proof of this in a letter from the Rev. Robert Patterson, of Sealoke, in which hundreds of villages around him are spoken of as destitute altogether of Christian teaching.

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### The French Canadians.

Our readers are in general well acquainted with the character and condition of this large and important section of our fellow-colonists in this portion of the British empire. Re-