

THE
FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Evangelical Society of La Grande Ligne.

IN our last Annual Report we said that, "for upwards of forty years the Grande Ligne Mission had been on this field the pioneer of all the other instrumentalities now at work." Forty years is a long space of time in the short life of a man, but it is very short in the pursuit of such an enterprise, which has for its object the salvation of souls all wrapped up in the superstitious and materialistic teaching of a corrupted christianity which has taken ages to develop, and the spreading of the truth which is ever called upon to disentangle itself from the secular errors which cling for very life to its robust and ever-growing tree. Every year is convincing us more and more that, though slow, the progress of the truth is sure, and will eventually have the victory. It would do one good to take a glance at the result of forty years labors, instead of one, though no human mind could grasp to the full extent such a result. How it would revive one's faith in the future to look back at the small beginning and compare it with the development of to-day! It would do more, it would cause gratitude to flow from our hearts. This retrospective view was hinted at last Autumn in a very happy manner by a friendly hand on the occasion of a surprise party given to Mr. Roussy to celebrate the event of his arrival in Canada with Mr. Feller forty-one years ago. Such a view is calculated to revive faith, gratitude and zeal. But we are called to review the work of only one year, and though on the whole a prosperous one, it is far below our earnest desires in visible results. The ground on which we labor is known, the power with which we have to struggle is immense, our resources are very limited, and for many years to come we do not expect to exercise a wide-spread influence on the future of this country, but by the grace of God we intend to plow deep wherever we are allowed to cultivate patches of this moral soil, so that our labors may be permanent in