

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

Pastor I am glad to say that all our meetings **Duclos** are better attended, more strangers, and two new families are attending regularly the meetings.

Pastor The most encouraging thing I have **Bruneau** to say this month is that three Roman Catholic young men have followed regularly our services during the month and if I can judge of what they have said to me they are earnestly seeking the truth. May God help them to find in Christ their eternal salvation. The efforts of some have been to raise a tide against our work.

Pastor Father Chiniquy has spoken once for **Morin** me on Sunday evening and has made a very deep impression upon his hearers, especially the large number of Roman Catholics present. I cannot enter into details just now, but I may say that I have met with several most hopeful cases of Roman Catholics searching for the truth. I have several converts in the congregation that do good mission work, speaking to their friends about the gospel and inviting them to Church."

M. Menard. At St. Therese we have a new convert. Last year when first visited she appeared to be a very liberal Roman Catholic, but now she is really changed.

I am glad to state that two weeks ago I received a letter from a young lady of St. A—, to whom I had given the gospel, saying that after careful study of the gospel, and Romanism and Protestantism, she had decided to leave the Church of Rome for the religion of Jesus Christ. This girl received her education in a convent and there is hope for the family.

Louis This month I spoke of the Bible **Bonnenfant** in 206 families, and in 14 of them I read some portion of the Bible and could only pray with 61 of them. I also spoke to more than 200 individuals on the streets and squares, and read many parts of the word of God to them, I received many letters from France and the United States asking questions about salvation by grace in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

You know that I was arrested and sent to prison on the evening of October 9th, by a bigoted policeman in civilians' clothes, while I was answering questions about the Word of God, &c. But I am glad, because I sold a New Testament, and gave many tracts, and held the Gospel high over some of its enemies. I am sure to have done some very good work there, for since, I have met some of the men who were there, and they told me they were glad to have heard me on questions never answered before to them, such as about miracles, and that the Roman Catholic Church is the only true church, &c. I read the seventh chapter of Matthew and explained many other questions.

Joseph Boulay I have learned that at many **Colporteur** of the houses where I had placed Bibles they have been burned. I shall relate a fact which proves that some persons would be well disposed towards the gospel if obstacles were not put in their way. A woman to whom I had offered a copy of the New Testament told me that her son had kept a Bible in his possession for many years and read it. One day he asked the priest if it was good or bad and the priest ordered him to burn it. Her son did not obey but kept the Bible. In her absence from the house they found the book and burned it. She said that her son wept much, as he loved the book. I would like to know more of this young man, but could not learn his name. (Mr. B. writes since, that this young man is now attending the French Protestant Church.)

Towards the end of the month I had a lively discussion with a highly cultured lady, who is very weak in the knowledge of the Scriptures. Taking advantage of this I placed boldly before her the grand principles of the Gospel, which are so opposed to the numerous errors of the Church of Rome. She appeared to be greatly astonished at the marvellous simplicity of the teachings of Christ. Belonging to the old Royalist party in France, she has strong prejudices which are difficult to uproot. I go now often to her store which she keeps with her son to speak to her of the gospel.

The clergy A priest writing to a French **losing power** paper, in the Province of Quebec, complains bitterly of the decay of clerical authority. He says: 'Where is the authority of the priest over the people at present, as compared with the one which he had formerly? Where is now to be found the submission, devotion and esteem for the priest which the people had formerly? All this is done away with and will probably never return.

If the clergy had always preserved with the authorities their rights and immunities, people would have become accustomed to respect them as beings belonging to a class and a position superior to those of laymen. But because many of the leading citizens among the laity have lost, with their principles, the respect, confidence and devotion which they should always have had towards the clergy, the people followed, and through their fault the people are now spoiled, and will probably never recover.'

We should be thankful for the measure of truth there is in the above statement. It is a sign of enlightenment and progress when men think for themselves and refuse to surrender their wills at the dictation of any man or body of men. This it is that gives the opportunity to the true minister of Christ to go to these people in love and pity and teach them from the Bible the liberty wherewith Christ maketh his people free. Our church has had its part in bringing about this state of affairs, which is a louder call to more active and earnest efforts to give them a fuller knowledge of the gospel.