

The Juniors Visit the French Institute at Montreal

(Continued from page 29.)

boys, persuaded the father to send them to a missionary school. They went with a great deal of fear, as they had been told terrible stories about these Protestant schools. I may say in passing that many Catholics believe that Protestants never pray. The boys were reassured, however, when they found that none of the terrible things they had heard about the school were true, but, on the contrary, it was a true Christian home. Here they were led to Christ, and one of them was afterwards a teacher in the French Institute, and is now one of our missionaries.

REPORTER No. 5.

"In our regular church work, too, we have to do with children. I remember one day going up several flights of stairs to a very dark and dreary room. Here I found a father, mother and two children, of whom one was a little girl. I wondered what I could do for the child, for I soon discovered that the other members of the household seemed to belong to the criminal class. I chose the only clean spot on the floor, and placed my chair upon it, then called the little girl to my side. Then I asked her if she would like to learn a hymn. She said she would, so I taught her a verse of one of our favorite French hymns, sung to the tune of 'I need thee every hour':

"J'ai soif de ta presence,
Divin chef de dam fol,
Dans ma faibleesse immense,
Que ferais sans toi."

"I then knelt down and prayed, and took leave of the family, after giving them an invitation to come to church the next Sunday. At the evening service the following Sunday I was pleased to see the little girl and her sister come in. I told the sexton to put on the hymn-board the number of the hymn I taught the little girl. It was a great joy to me to see how her face brightened up when we began to sing that hymn."

Our superintendent came back just then, and Mr. Halpenny said that he would go with us to the French Methodist Institute, which is in Westmount, a suburb of Montreal. As we went along in the car, Mr. Halpenny pointed out some of the buildings, and told us a great deal more about the city.

We were very much pleased with the appearance of the fine red brick building which we were told was the French Methodist Institute. Dr. Villard, the principal, gave us a very hearty welcome, and said that he was delighted to have us visit the Institute. He took us to the different class-rooms, and we heard the boys and girls at their lessons. We saw that they were studying the same subjects that we were at home, only they were being taught in French as well as English. Then we were shown through the Institute, and saw how nice and home-like it was. Dr. Villard told us that both boys and girls had a share in the house work of the Institute, and that the aim was to make the Institute a real Christian home for those who attend. He gave each one of us a copy of "Preparing the Way," a book which he wrote about the French Methodist Institute, and said that if the rest of the Juniors would like to have some as well, they could get them from Dr. F. C. Stephenson, in the Methodist Mission Rooms, Toronto, at 25 cents a copy. We found the book very interesting, and now we are anxious to do all we can to help in this work in Quebec, because we understand it much better.

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