

the expense of that of the local bishops. It had deluged with blood the south of France, and had been introduced into Spain so early as the middle of the thirteenth century — But it was in 1481 that the General Inquisition was opened in Seville, under the auspices of Ferdinand and Isabella, and the infamous Torquemada commenced the dreadful work, for the sake of which he solemnly dedicated his tribunal to the service of God and of their majesties. Under the instigation of an unscrupulous sovereign, the functionaries of the Holy Office set themselves zealously to work in sapping the civil liberties of his people; and obeying as eagerly the injunctions of the sovereign pontiff, they succeeded soon in extinguishing completely even the semblance of religious freedom. Priestly authority was extended, and debasing ignorance prevailed. The worship of the saints, or of the Immaculate Mary, and an abjectly superstitious reverence for the priesthood, became the religion of the subjects of their most catholic majesties.

Of the means employed in the accomplishment of these miserable ends, we cannot now bear to speak. The rack and the stake, the torture-cell and the *auto da fe*, were the fitting tools of those who, in the name of God, pursued their fiendish task.

It has been computed by Llorente, that from 1481 to 1808, when it was abolished by Napoleon, the victims of the Spanish Inquisition amounted to 341,021 persons. Of these, 31,912 were burned, 17,659 burned in effigy, and 291,456 were tortured and subjected to severe penance.

Restored in 1814, the Inquisition was not finally abolished till 1835; but even then religious freedom was unknown in Spain, for the persecution and the memory of Manuel Matamoros are still fresh in our minds and hearts.

But now time of merciful visitation has come: we pray God it may be prolonged—it may abide; but we would earnestly and diligently improve it while it lasts, and confront the Romish Church in Spain with the word of God, on which, professedly, it rests, but the very sight of which it dreads with such good cause.

The Bible Societies are nobly rising to the occasion, and sparing no effort in the spread of the Scriptures. To follow up these efforts, Spanish evangelists are urgently required. Our fellow-student, Mr. Vilieid, returns shortly to his native land, the first Spanish missionary of our Church; another is soon to follow; and Mr. Jameson, from our preachers' list, goes out as Superintendent for the National Bible Society.

By a unanimous resolution, we have determined to devote our efforts during the coming year to the raising of a fund for the training of Spanish evangelists. Shall we

appeal to our Church in vain, when we ask her to send the pure gospel preached within her borders to priest-ridden Spain?

LETTER FROM REV. G. CHINIQUE.

BIBLE HOUSE, MONTREAL, {
CANADA, April 27, 1870. }

My Dear Mr. McGregor,—Your kind letter with the check of \$200 is received, and I have no words to sufficiently tell you my gratitude and admiration at this new token of the inexhaustible charity of the Nova Scotia noble christians. I have immediately sent that sum to relieve the most destitute and give bread to the most needy of my dear converts; and let our benefactors be sure of it, fervent prayers will go to the throne of grace to ask our Heavenly Father to pour his most abundant benedictions upon them. Pleased be the interpreter of my gratitude towards those of our dear brethren who have imposed upon themselves such sacrifices to help us in this terrible hour of desolation, by which it has pleased God to try our faith.

You know, by my last letter, that I have consented to work here a few months, after which I will (D. V.) go back to my dear colony of Illinois. But great efforts are made by the clergy of all the christian denominations of Montreal to persuade me to consecrate these last years of my life in preaching the gospel in Canada; and I ask you and all my friends of Nova Scotia to ask the Father of light to give me his spirit, that I may know his will, and do it. A proposition will be made by the Rev. Mr. McVicar, President of the Montreal College, to the General Assembly of the Presbyterians of the United States in order to induce them to take under their care all my missions which were connected with the Canada Churches, that I may remain in Canada.

The work of the evangelization of the French Canadians of Montreal is progressing in a most consoling way. Not a day has passed yet without my receiving some one who renounces the errors of Rome to accept the Truth as it is in Jesus. Yesterday ten gave me their names to become the disciples of the Gospel; and every one of these new converts is turned into an apostle of truth and scatter the light everywhere. Not long ago, a public challenge has been made to me by a Roman Catholic to discuss some of the points in controversy between us and the followers of the Pope. I have not only accepted it, but I have offered \$100 to that man if he would persuade one of his priests to come and help him in that discussion. But at the appointed day there was nobody to discuss, though an immense