

STE. MARIE DE MONNOIR.

ABSTRACT OF THE PASTOR'S REPORT, REV. T. RIENDEAU.

"Much as I could wish to make an interesting report for the dear friends who help us by their means and their prayers, I fear it will resemble the vast area of my field of labor, with here and there only an interesting spot and family. The members of our church and congregation come from five parishes where they are all well-known as Protestants and evangelical Christians, and where they have frequent occasion to bear their testimony to God's truth. While that may be an advantage to disseminate the truth far and wide, it is a great drawback in the way of having large meetings at the chapel, except when the roads and the weather are very favorable. Our meetings have, nevertheless, been generally good and well attended. I am happy and thankful to say that the Sunday ministrations have been kindly appreciated by Protestants and Catholics, the latter saying at times that the sermons of the Protestant minister are better than those of the priest."

Sometime during the spring the missionary, having been now twenty-two years pastor of this church, thought that perhaps a change might be good both for the church and for himself, and consequently offered his resignation. It was refused by a unanimous vote. Feeling cheered by this testimony of confidence, he has decided to remain, encouraged even by Roman Catholics to do so. A doctor in the village, having heard of it, said, "Mr. Riendeau, you must not think of leaving this place; you must die in the midst of us."

During the year we have had five deaths among our people: two children, the Christian mother of a large family, and two old Christians. The latter were of the first converts of this place, and who when they came out of the Church of Rome suffered much persecution for the Gospel's sake; these were sustained by the grace of God during a long Christian life, and have departed in peace.

We have lately rejoiced over the conversion of the wife of a French Canadian lawyer. When yet quite young, she had married her Catholic husband in another part of the country. After