

REPORT

OF THE

C A N A D A

EDUCATION AND HOME MISSIONARY

SOCIETY,

FOR THE TENTH YEAR OF ITS OPERATIONS.

 *Read and lend to your Neighbour.*

MONTREAL:

PRINTED BY CAMPBELL & BECKET,

Muir's Buildings, Place D'Armes.

1838.



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The Annual Meeting was held on the 24th of December, in the American Presbyterian Church, at Seven o'clock, P. M., when the Report was read by the Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made by the Rev. P. P. O'Sunkerhine, the Rev. William Taylor, and the Rev. Henry Wilkes, and a Collection taken up. The meeting was then adjourned to Tuesday the 26th, at Seven, P. M., at which time the Report was accepted and ordered to be printed, and the following Officers chosen for the ensuing year:—

Rev. WILLIAM TAYLOR.

Rev. Mr. BRINKERHOOF.

Mr. JAMES COURT.

P. CHRISTIE.

J. JOHNSTON.

S. S. WARD.

Mr. JACOB DEWITT.

W. MOORE.

J. GREGORY.

S. HEDGE.

W. LYMAN.

Rev. W. F. CURRY, *Corresponding Secretary and General Agent.*

Rev. G. W. PERKINS, *Recording Secretary and Treasurer.*

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R E P O R T .

It is with mingled emotions that your Committee present the Tenth Annual Report of their proceedings, interwoven as they are with events of most thrilling interest, both to the subjects of earthly governments and the children of the Kingdom which is not of this world.

It is as unnecessary, as it would be improper, for us to speak of the rebellion that now distracts our country, or the disasters that have so recently distressed the commercial world, except to acknowledge with devout hearts, that whilst we have been embarrassed by the one, and are yet surrounded by the horrors of the other, we have had and continue to enjoy the most unequivocal tokens of the goodness and mercy of the Lord.

The claims of our land as a field of missionary enterprize, have been regarded by the Christian community with a lively interest. Our transactions with the Parent Society, notwithstanding the unprecedented embarrassments of that noble institution, have supplied us with pecuniary aid in the usual benevolent measure. Our Missionaries have been encouraged in their labours for the most part, not only by the promises of God, but by his gracious dealings with them and their flocks. Places that have been hitherto destitute of the regular ordinances of Christ's house, have been supplied with efficient pastors. Churches have been increased and strengthened; and young converts, who yet retain their first love and do their first works, have been gathered into the fold of Christ. And although from unavoidable occurrences already alluded to, in connexion with others yet to be mentioned, some of the congregations have been deprived of their ministers, or otherwise suffered in their spiritual interests, we rejoice in the persuasion that there has been on the whole a steady advancement of the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout our bounds. We regret that owing, in part, to

the unsettled state of the country, we have not been furnished with such returns from our Missionaries as will enable us to present a full view of the results of their labours during the year; but the following compend will be more than sufficient to shew that our labours has not been in vain in the Lord.

We begin with SHIPTON, where our oldest Missionary, the Rev. A. J. Parker, continues his labours of love with unabated zeal; though for the last few months we have been distressed with the apprehension that his feeble health will oblige him to suspend, for a time at least, his usual efforts for the good of that people.

"I sometimes feel," says he in his last letter, "that I do wrong to call myself in bad health at all. But perhaps the next hour, pain has driven me to my bed.

"One design God has in making my body ache and my power for mental application weak, is to lead me to look better to my own heart. I have reason to bless his name, that for the most part I have peace with Him through our Lord Jesus Christ, and especially I bless his name that if I am to be laid aside, it is not until he has given me to see the grain of mustard seed springing up and branching abroad in the land."

During the last winter, the meeting-house that was in progress, and which had cost the Church much anxiety and effort, was finished, and immediately filled with attentive hearers. The General Agent, who visited the Townships at that time, assisted Mr. Parker in the exercises of the first Sabbath after the dedication of the building, and shared abundantly in the satisfaction which all felt in contrasting the present neat and commodious structure, with the time-worn school-house, where he had ministered to them on a former visit.

It was very gratifying also to learn, that the opposition which for years annoyed that congregation had now in a great measure been withdrawn, and that some, who had strenuously opposed the erection of a place of worship, are now ready to respond kindly to the invitation "Let us go into the house of the Lord."

The congregation has increased one-third since the building of this house; several applications for seats have been made since the last was taken up; and within a few weeks our brother informs us that there have been indications of unusual seriousness. "We hope," says he, "that three or four will be added to our little Zion at our next communion."

MELBOURNE.—The Township adjoining Shipton on the west, is yet the scene of the Rev. A. O. Hubbard's ministry, and has been blessed with a special outpouring of the Spirit of God, in one neighbourhood; the immediate result of which was the addition of ten hopeful converts to the Church.

"The congregation," says he, under date of March 29, "in the back part of the Townships has been quite regular, even during the drifting season; and it has, for

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some months, been gradually increasing. For a few Sabbaths past, the school-house has been filled, and that too with attentive and listening hearers. I should think that the numbers present last Sabbath, were from eighty to ninety. Some individuals attend that meeting who come from seven to nine miles. You will recollect that when I came to Melbourne, the state of things, especially in that neighbourhood, was almost entirely *new*. There had been no stated preaching there for some eight or ten years, and there was perhaps but one house in the settlement in which family worship was attended. The Lord has abundantly blessed my labours there. More than twenty of our Church members are now to be found in that infant settlement, and the family altar is set up in their respective houses. The whole neighbourhood has been more or less under the influence of the truth; and I cannot but think that the Lord has blessings for that dear people still in reserve. I have formed a little class there consisting of from fifteen to twenty members, and the number is increasing. A little Missionary Society, also, has been organized, and the monthly concert is observed. It is not improbable that this settlement will eventually become the central spot of the congregation; the people around the meeting-house being sparse, and many of them connected with other denominations."

In a more recent communication Mr. H. says:—

"During the past year, the interest of the people in the preaching of the gospel has on the whole increased. Our congregation at the meeting-house, though by no means large, is quite respectable *for this region*. Several of my hearers come on foot from four to five miles, and *one* frequently, I had almost said stately, walks *ten* miles. He is a puritan, and loves the truth for the truth's sake. The most interesting part of my labours has been at the settlement called the Ridge, some four miles back from the river. About half of our members reside in this settlement; and it is not too much to say of them, that though they are but in moderate circumstances, they are, for the most part rich in faith and good works. The females in this neighbourhood have, for several months, had a monthly Missionary prayer-meeting; and their exertions in behalf of their cent Society, as well as those of certain females in Windsor and Brompton, are worthy of much commendation. Both Societies have raised the past year about \$20, a part of which has been remitted to your Society.

"In gathering the little flock in this place, much labour and care have been necessary. In consequence of poor health, I have not done all I could have wished. When pressed down with the severest perhaps of earthly afflictions, viz., that which was occasioned by the loss of a beloved wife, I have found the sweetest solace in the discharge of Missionary duty, especially in visiting the cottages of the poor."

At the time of its organization, two years ago, this Church had eighteen members, now it contains fifty-two, twenty-five of whom have been added during the last year. The Sunday Schools and Temperance Societies continue to excite their usual interest amongst the friends of education and reform, but nothing of special importance in connexion with these claims remark.

SHERBROOKE AND LENNOXVILLE.—The Church and congregation in this interesting field continue to rise in importance, proportioned to the rapid advance of the population of the town. They yet enjoy the ministry of the Rev. J. Robertson, who, in March last, was regularly installed as their Pastor. In answer to a request that he would furnish us with some account of his labours during the year, after having spoken of the embarrassments to which he had been subjected owing to the want of a place in which he could regularly preach to the people, and of the arrangement by which they are partially removed, he thus writes:—

"Since then I have preached regularly, once a Sabbath at Lennoxville, and generally twice at Sherbrooke. The situation of this village renders it desirable to have evening sermons. The congregations at both places have considerably increased. At Sherbrooke the school-house cannot accommodate the numbers who are desirous of attending. At first, there was a lightness and a trifling apparent among the people, which was fearful. In this respect there is a marked improvement, the greatest seriousness prevails; and I have reason to believe that several, old and young, are under serious impressions. It is, however, necessary to speak with caution, till time discovers the result.

"There is a very visible difference as to the observance of the Sabbath, still there is much room for improvement. The attendance at occasional sermons throughout the town is as good as can be expected in a place where the inhabitants are so scattered. We have had about twelve persons added to the church during the last year, and two families have removed to other places."

Mr. R. also mentions the continued prosperity of the Sabbath School, but speaks of the difficulty of securing the services of suitable teachers. The Bible class, as long as he was able to meet it regularly, was well attended; and the Temperance Society, in which many of his congregation, in common with others, take active part, continues to gain accessions; but there yet remains much to be done before the votaries of strong drink shall be reclaimed.

Soon after the commencement of Mr. R.'s labours amongst the people of his charge, they made an effort to build a place of worship, and have so far succeeded that they hope, in a short time, to enjoy the pleasure of worshipping the Lord in the "house which they have builded."

COMPTON.—It was mentioned in our last report that the Rev. O. Pearson commenced his labours in this town in the midst of many serious discouragements; but that by perseverance in his good work, he hoped soon to succeed in organizing a small church. The origin, progress and circumstances of this mission will be clearly exhibited in a few extracts from Mr. P.'s report of March 23d.

"At their annual meeting in 1835, the New Hampshire Missionary Society resolved to sustain one Missionary in the Province of Lower Canada. In January, 1836, application was made by the Secretary of that Society to the writer to undertake this service. A willingness to engage in this mission was signified on my part; and, in accordance with the instructions of the New Hampshire Missionary Society, and the advice of brother Parker of Shipton, Compton was fixed upon as the field of my missionary labours, many families from New Hampshire and other parts of New England having settled there.

"The Township is said to be ten miles square, and is estimated to contain two thousand inhabitants or more. It is situated in Sherbrooke County, about twenty miles from the line."

After describing the face of the country, Mr. P. continues:—

"The inhabitants are mostly of New England origin. A few English, French, and Irish families are found; and, now and then, a family of some other nation. Last year there was an increase of English settlers, and it is probable that in future there will be greater additions of this sort than of any other. There are some Roman Catholics. The emigrants from New England, and their descendants, have generally, in many respects, departed from the religious habits which characterized their fathers. Public worship is neglected, and the Sabbath desecrated. Universalist sentiments are quite prevalent. Stated preaching has not been regularly maintained, except by the Church of England. Previous to my coming,

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two Congregationalist Ministers had preached in this place. Rev. Mr. Merrill, who was sent by the Maine Missionary Society, and laboured three months, and Rev. Mr. Curtis, who preached here and at Lennoxville in 1834. The influence exerted by these brethren upon the people here was good, and tended to prepare the way for the labours of the present Missionary. Yet this mission was commenced under many disadvantages and discouragements. The habits of the people are averse to attendance on a stated ministry.

“Many who would gladly attend, are unable from distance, want of conveyance, and badness of roads. The few pious people of our order, are scattered and far apart, and the scarcity of the year has been seriously felt in this section.”

Mr. P. had much prejudice to contend with, and was much interrupted in his labours by the inconvenience of “frequent removals,” which placed him “far from the most convenient location to gain access to the people.”

“Notwithstanding all these unpropitious circumstances, good we trust has been done. Prejudice is giving way, and the noiseless influence of the Spirit is exerted on some minds. A Congregational Church has been gathered. It was organized Sept. 28, 1836, consisting of sixteen members, fourteen from other churches, and two by profession. Two persons have been added since by profession, and one dismissed.”

After mentioning an interesting case of the hopeful reform of a backslider, who for many years had given himself to the sin and shame of drunkenness, Mr. P. adds:—

“Our little Church adopts the principle of abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, appears to be well united in doctrine and practice, and to have an increase of love towards each other.”

We have not room for further extracts from Mr. P.'s interesting report, but have the satisfaction to state, that in connexion with the regular preaching of the gospel, and other pastoral labours on the part of our Missionary, Sabbath Schools have been established and maintained, (though these have suffered for want of a suitable number of competent teachers.) Tracts have been regularly distributed. The monthly concert of prayer for missions has been observed, and a collection made. And the cause of Temperance is sustained by the pledges of more than four hundred members, many of whom have been added during the year.

“We think,” says our brother in concluding his report, “there is encouragement to labour in this field. We trust the Lord has many people here. His Holy Spirit we need. The Lord bestows it upon all Missionaries, Ministers and Christians, and upon a world lying in wickedness.”

From a later communication we learn that the Tract circulation is yet prosecuted with unabated zeal—that the Bible distribution has commenced under encouraging circumstances—and that a general seriousness on the minds of the people is more hopeful in its appearance than heretofore.

EATON.—The little church in this place which was noticed in our last report as having been organized by the Rev. A. J. Parker, of Ship-ton, about two years since, has, until recently, been destitute of the regular services of a pastor. They are, however, supplied occasion-

ally by the labours of brethren from other towns, and have been gradually increasing in strength and stature.

They have been very earnest in their prayers and endeavours to obtain a minister, and after some disappointment and necessary delay, they are now enjoying the services of Rev. J. Sheril, late of the Theological Seminary at Andover, who, we hope, will remain with them, and prove an efficient and useful pastor. The arrangements for his stay with them have not yet been completed; and not having yet received a report from Mr. S., we conclude our brief notice of this place with the observation, that the labours of our Missionary in Eaton will appear to be specially important at this time, when we understand that the Baptist Church has been recently left without a minister.

STANSTEAD.—This church, which was supplied for one year ending in June last, by the Rev. L. Sabine, of Massachusetts, has been again left for a time without preaching; but they have recently presented a call to the Rev. R. V. Hall, of Laprairie, who has consented to become their pastor, and is now with them. They had previously presented a unanimous call to Mr. Sabine, but he deemed it his duty, for various reasons, to decline it.

“There are important considerations,” says he, “on both sides of the question. I have endeavoured to weigh them well. I have carried them to a throne of grace.

“When I accepted the proposition to come into the Province for a year, God seemed to make the path of duty plain. It seemed clearly to be my duty to come to Stanstead. I am glad that I came. I have tried to labour as God gave me strength and ability, and the church is in a better state than when I first saw them. We have had and still have many delightful seasons of prayer.

“Three have been added to the church by profession, and two or three are expected to unite with us at the next season of communion.

“I thank God I have reason to believe I have not come here in vain. There have been a few cases of hopeful conversion, and I should feel it to be my duty to remain if I could witness such scenes, or have the fair prospect of witnessing such scenes as I beheld with joy in Berford last February. I hope that not less than twenty in that little settlement in the wilderness are converted, and they appear well.

“I have preached one hundred and ninety times during the year, and in the mean time have travelled not far from eighteen hundred miles.”

We cannot close our notice of this place without mentioning four solemn occurrences, which in their turn have read their affecting mementos to the people.

The first was the last illness and death of the Rev. J. Gibb, son of the former pastor of the Stanstead church. He was a young man of great promise, and was settled at Haverhill, New Hampshire. But the Lord had employment for him in another world. The premonitory symptoms of his fatal sickness cut short his earthly labours, and he came to die in the arms of a widowed mother. His end was peace. According to his dying request, the Rev. J. Robertson, his

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father's intimate friend, preached his funeral sermon from Rev. ii. 10. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Mr. R. was particularly enjoined by his young friend not to give any sketch of his life.

The second event was the death of Mrs. P., the wife of the Deacon of that church. She was honoured and beloved through all the circle of her acquaintance. Intelligent—useful—pious, she died in faith; reminding her friends of the beautiful sentiment concerning the departure of the Christian, which John was taught in Patmos—"Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, yea, saith the Spirit, they do rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

The third occurrence was the death of one who, for many years, with a mind and talents suited to better purposes, had been the champion of Universalism in his neighbourhood. On his death-bed he saw the sin and folly of his long-cherished sentiments and renounced them; gave hopeful evidence of conversion, and was baptized, surrounded by a crowd of his acquaintances, who were invited to witness the solemnity, and hear his recantation of his former destructive errors.

The last and most melancholy event, was the death of an old inhabitant, who had long made the world his portion. He had accumulated much wealth, and was high in office. Not contented with what he had, he sought for more, and was disappointed. His hopes of enjoyment were crushed; and, one day, whilst engaged in shaving, he drew the razor across his throat, fell into the arms of his wife, and expired.

POTTON.—This church, which was formerly supplied half the time by the Rev. W. E. Holmes, has, during the last year, given a call to the Rev. M. P. Clarke, who has become their pastor. He was installed on the 6th of August last, and devotes all his time to their service. In making their request for aid, the Society say:—

"We feel increased confidence in him as being one who will (with the blessing of God) be the means of doing much to promote the Redeemer's cause and kingdom."

Mr. C. says us in one of his letters:—

"There has been quite a reformation here. Five have united with our church, and eight or ten with the Methodists; there are some more, who, I think, will unite with us, before the next communion. Our church is small but harmonious. We have three Sabbath Schools and one Bible Class. The number in the Temperance Society is about two hundred; all the members of our church belong to it."

This brother is much embarrassed with the usual obstacles to success in all new places, viz.: the want of a suitable house of worship. On the whole, the prospects of this church are more favourable than they have ever been at any previous time.

MISSISSQUOI BAY.—Mr. Carver, who was labouring in this church at the time of our last Report, left them in June last; since which time they have been without a preacher. Nothing of particular importance here calls for our notice.

RUSSELTOWN is also vacant. The Rev. C. F. Halsey has been here two years, and has been indefatigable in his efforts for the spiritual welfare of this people. He is no longer with them, having left the place a few weeks since. It is hoped, however, by some of the members of that church, that arrangements will be made for securing the services of a neighbouring minister one half the time, without again calling on the Missionary Society for aid.

LAPRAIRIE.—Within the last eighteen months, nearly all the members of the church in this place have removed, leaving but few who do not belong to other communions. The Rev. R. V. Hall, their late pastor, deemed it his duty, with the advice of his brethren, to accept a call from Stanstead. Since then, Laprairie has been without a Missionary from our Society.

GRANBY AND SHEFFORD.—It was stated in our notice of these churches in the last Report, that the Rev. H. B. Chapin, who had spent a few months with them, "had returned to his pastoral charge in Massachusetts, deeply regretted by all the people." A correspondence was kept up with Mr. C. through the General Agent, which resulted in his receiving a unanimous call from both churches to become their pastor.

As this was deemed a very important measure, the General Agent, with the advice of the Committee, proceeded to Massachusetts to plead the cause of these churches before the council to whom was committed the decision of the question relative to Mr. C.'s removal. The first council refused to dismiss Mr. C. from the people of his charge; but a second having been called, and the consent of the church obtained, it was at length decided, amid many tears, that Mr. C. should have leave to accept the calls from Canada. Arrangements were made accordingly, and in May last he commenced his missionary work in these Townships, where, we trust, he will long remain, and be blessed in "word and work."

A few extracts from his journal will shew the principal features of that mission. After mentioning the usual routine of ministerial service, he relates one or two incidents, illustrative of the influence of Universalism:—

"On enquiry being made for a young man, it was suggested that he had probably gone to Mr. ———, a *Universalist*." A very sober little boy who happened to hear this, says, ——— (another little boy) is getting to be a *Universalist*." "Ah, my son," says his father, "how do you know that ——— is getting to be a *Universalist*?" "He swears."

P. S., an interesting evidence of a change in the strong hopes of the future. Some time past, the doctrine of universalism or regular preaching at that time, even the most utterly lost a sense of which he made more than ever worked in the service. don't you have to have a prayer prayer-meeting not seconded. God seemed to communion of the

"July 2.—I since my mission think that they Ah! little did I people, that they mingle our tears and praise around and thus celebrate

"When I thought meeting there, God, as she no forward, and people sheep had come but could bless

July 8th.—upon the mind and it is interesting on horseback, of salvation.

"At GRANBY "July 17.—continue it the religious conversion reconciliation

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P. S., an interesting and intelligent young man, some years since, gave decisive evidence of a change of heart, and made a profession of religion. The Church had strong hopes of his usefulness, and the firmest confidence in his piety; but, for some time past, they have been much tried in consequence of his leaning to the doctrine of universal salvation. For years the church was without any communion or regular preaching. He wandered away from God and his brethren; and, for a time, even the most sanguine had almost given him up. He had not, however, utterly lost a sense of divine things and his own duty. And the singular proposal which he made to his Universalist friends, and the result, brought him to doubt more than ever the practical tendency of their sentiments. As some of them worked in the same shop, he one day asked them, 'Why don't you pray—why don't you have a prayer-meeting? If I am going to be a Universalist, I am going to have a prayer-meeting.' They found he was in good earnest. A Universalist prayer-meeting! When and where was it ever established? The proposal was not seconded. He did not succeed. Reflection and the merciful interposition of God seemed to humble him, and brought him back to the prayer-meeting and the communion of the church.

"July 2.—Had the communion at FOUR CORNERS, the first the church has held since my mission. When I then left them, weeping and disconsolate, little did I think that they must wait my return before they would enjoy the precious privilege. Ah! little did I then think that I must know the pang of separation from a beloved people, that the prayers of this church might be answered, and we once more mingle our tears not in the pain and conflict of a parting scene, but in gratitude and praise around the table of our Lord. But blessed be God that we thus met, and thus celebrated the dying love of Him who had not where to lay his head.

"When I thought, had I not been present, there had been no communion, no meeting there, and the little, cheerful, rejoicing church would not have praised her God, as she now did with loud voices, and when I saw some pious mothers come forward, and present their dear children for baptism, and saw how the scattered sheep had come in from the wilderness, I not only was reconciled to be with them, but could bless the Father of Mercies for the heart-cheering interview.

July 8th.—SOUTH RIDGE. The word of God seems to be again moving upon the minds of the people. Many came in from the woods four or five miles, and it is interesting to see, as I do in some places, men, women, and children, some on horseback, but most on foot, coming in from every point to hear the good news of salvation.

"At GRANBY VILLAGE, an overflowing house.

"July 17.—WATERLOO. Had a Bible Class—a promising attendance—shall continue it through the season. At the close, two young ladies called on me for religious conversation—have been anxious some time—one expresses a hope of reconciliation to God.

"21st and 22nd.—Visited a new and interesting neighbourhood—as it was Saturday, and the school-house being vacant, preached to a few families whom I had opportunity to notify. Conversed with a weeping mother who expresses a hope to unite with the church.

"July 23.—SOUTH RIDGE. House full. The word seemed to fall in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.

"July 24th.—THE EMIGRANT CHILD.—Spent the night at Mr. D——, found here an intelligent child five years old, whose history deeply affected me. She had come on from beyond Sherbrooke eighty miles on foot, with a travelling company of emigrants. Her mother is dead, and her father abandoned her, leaving her with a girl of infamous character. When her mother was buried, as they had had no boards in the settlement, they split a log and put up two side pieces in the grave, dropped her in—laid another half log on the top, and covered her up.

"When this wearied, worn-out and forsaken little sufferer reached Granby, she was scarce able to go—her hard nail-fastened shoes were a *gore of blood*. It had dropped from her feet and dried in her shoes when I saw them. When on the road, and almost unable to stand, she was tied to a chest on a small hand-cart. The boys would run with her. Sometimes she fell off. She was taken by Mr. D. in a needy plight, and transferred to a relative, where I saw her. And when I saw the kind and pious Mrs. D. lay her down at night in a little neat bed on the floor, and imprint an affectionate kiss upon her cheek, and heard the happy child say, 'Now I lay me down to sleep,' and 'Our Father who art in heaven,' I thought indeed God was good to the orphan, that his love for little children was

infinitely more parental than that of father or mother. It carried me back to the scene when my own dear mother taught me the same lines, the first I ever knew. As I knelt down in our evening devotions, I could not but bless God, and more implicitly believe that not even a sparrow falls to the ground without the notice of his eye.

"August 6.—GRANBY. Once more this recovering church had a season of communion, the first since my mission here the last year. The house was full to overflowing. One female member of the church, who for two or three years had not enjoyed such a privilege, walked nine miles, most of the way through the woods, to give evidence she had not forgotten the command of our Saviour, 'Do this in remembrance of me.' Such instances have become so common, they have ceased to affect me as they once did. I seldom now make the enquiry or record the fact. Three members were on this occasion added to the church, two on profession of their faith, and one by letter."

Under date of September 18, Mr. C. mentions the hopeful conversion of one who had been "a wicked and profane man, and neglecter of the Sabbath and the means of grace." His convictions roused him at midnight, when he constrained his wife to pray for him :—

"He said to a neighbour, that a few days previous to his conversion, if he could have done it, he would have pulled God from his throne, because he wet his hay. 'One thing,' says he, 'which gives me some little hope is, I feel no enmity against any one.' None against your enemies? 'No.' Did you ever feel it? 'Yes,' said he, 'I have felt that if I had omnipotent power, I would have crushed them to all eternity.' On leaving his house, he came with me into the field, talking about the love of Christ, and after wiping the fast falling tears from his face, 'Oh, this world,' said he, 'in comparison with the other, is no more than a leaf.'"

Mr. C. has been actively engaged in conjunction with others, in carrying out the plans of the Bible Society, which we trust will soon result in the fullest accomplishment of their noble resolutions. In prosecuting his share of this undertaking, he examined minutely certain neighbourhoods, and says :—

"In eighty-five families, the most of whom I have personally visited, I find 478 souls—readers or at school, 347. Eleven Catholic families. Four families who could not read, three of whom were Catholics. In these eighty-five families I find a want of thirty-six Bibles, or thirty-two if we strike off the families that cannot read. Some have New Testaments, some have Bibles, or rather fragments, which were given them as a parting token when they left their native land. As I have taken a survey of some of the back settlements, the wants of the people, I presume, are greater than a common average."

On the 4th of October Mr. C. was installed Pastor of the churches of Granby and Shefford, by the St. Francis Association. The services were attended with uncommon interest throughout. Many wept, and impressions were made which, we trust, will add much to the influence of the good cause amongst that people. Under date of October 13, Mr. C. writes :—

"Yesterday six individuals, one of whom was an influential physician, were examined by the Church Committee, with a view to be admitted to our fellowship. Some of these had never made a previous profession."

These churches have recently passed a by-law, by which is enjoined upon all applicants for admission to their communion, total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, except as a medicine. The present

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number of members in the Shefford Church is about twenty-five, and in the Granby Church about forty.

INDIAN LANDS.—This station, at which the Rev. W. M'Killican has been labouring during the last year, is in the midst of a numerous settlement of Highlanders in Glengary County, U.C. Mr. M'Killican preaches about half the time in Gælic, that language being most familiar to the majority of his congregation.

There has been a hopeful increase of piety amongst this people during the year. In January last the General Agent spent a week with Mr. M'Killican in this congregation, and has reason to believe that the daily preaching in which the people seemed deeply interested, was the means of several decided conversions, as well as a general advancement of the cause of truth.

RAWDON.—This church is without a Minister, the Rev. J. Miller having returned to the people of his former charge. Nothing has occurred in the history of that people during the last year, that calls for any special notice in this place.

HULL.—This church has not during the year undergone any important changes. Our brother, the Rev. P. Montague, has had many difficulties to contend with, arising in part from the unsettled habits of the people, many of whom are absent from their homes during a large portion of the year. Mr. M. in view of the embarrassments of the Missionary Society, gave notice early last spring that he should not ask any further assistance from our funds. His disinterested and self-denying benevolence in this act will be fully appreciated by those who know his straitened circumstances.

HAWKESBURY AND L'ORIGINAL.—This is a new station which, at the request of a few individuals, was visited by the General Agent in May last. He preached at L'Original to a very attentive audience, and at the close of the exercises learned that it was the desire of the people in that neighbourhood and at Hawkesbury to secure the services of a Missionary from our Society. A subscription was immediately circulated, and in a short time, it was ascertained that, with help from the Missionary Society, they would be able to support a minister. The General Agent accordingly was instructed to send them a suitable man, and although for a time his efforts were unavailing, and one who had been engaged by him was unable to fulfil this purpose, on account of illness, it is with a special remembrance of the good Providence of God that we can now say that this important station has been recently occupied by the Rev. A Sanderson, late of the Theological Seminary at Andover, Mass., with flattering prospects of success.

HUNTINGDON.—This is also a new station in Beauharnois County, in the midst of a settlement of farmers, most of whom are from Scotland and Ireland. At this place there has been a signal outpouring of the Spirit of God, which, when viewed in connexion with the circumstances of that people, seems truly wonderful. It would be improper in this place to give a minute account of that awakening, even did our limits permit, a brief outline only will be presented.

In March last the General Agent spent a Sabbath in this place, and found a few persons who were very solicitous that he should remain a short time with them, and preach daily to the people. One aged man who had been sighing and crying for the abominations that were done in the land, had been thrown upon a sick bed in consequence of the anguish of his spirit; others also joined him in prayer to God for a revival of his work. Under these circumstances it was agreed that your Agent should remain and labour in word and doctrine for a short time. Notice was given, and the few who were interested went from house to house to invite their neighbours to the preaching. At first only a small number assembled; but there was importunate prayer. Two or three agreed. The answer came, "The messenger of the covenant" appeared, and was "like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap." Some who had been most active in their efforts to secure His presence, now trembled under His searching scrutiny. Joy and peace succeeded, and they afterwards declared that they never until then had experienced a saving change, and truly the change was great. One man, intelligent, active, and *apparently* pious, was constrained at the close of one of the meetings to make the humiliating confession to his neighbours that he had been a Pharisee all his life, and now stood before them a convicted sinner. It was an affecting scene, when he warned his brethren, and besought them not to follow in his footsteps, for the "pride of his heart had deceived him." Others were convicted, and some began to rejoice in hope of the glory of God. One aged female, who had numbered ninety years, followed the preacher to his lodgings one evening after service and told him, with many tears of joy, what God had wrought for her salvation. For more than twenty years she had been troubled, but did not know what was the matter. No one had told her, and she knew not what to do. Her distress had increased greatly within a few weeks. Her burden was more than she could bear. She threw herself upon the floor and besought the Lord to shew her by his Spirit, if there was any mercy for her. In a moment her anguish left her. Joy, new, strange, unspeakable, filled her soul. The

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Stations

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3. Sherbrook
Lennox
4. Compton..
5. Eaton ...
6. Stanstead
7. Granby..
8. Shefford..
9. Potton...
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11. Indian La
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Saviour had indeed come to dwell with her, and he brought salvation with him. She now came to enquire whether she might with safety indulge a hope, and in what manner she could spend the remnant of her days to the greatest advantage in the service of her Lord. It was evident that she had been taught by the Spirit of God, and brought to hope in his mercy without the instruction of any human teacher; for no one had yet instructed her even in regard to the necessity of regeneration.

The good work went on from day to day in such a manner as to develop wonderfully the riches of the grace of God, and the power of the Gospel of Christ in the conversion of sinners, and the quickening of the saints; and before the preacher left the place he organized a church of thirty-four members, most of whom had been hopefully converted during these meetings. It now became with this church as well as your Agent, a question of painful anxiety, Where shall a man be found to become Pastor of this flock? Unceasing prayer was made that God would direct and bless the means to be used for this purpose. Again the answer came. Mr. E. E. Wells, a licentiate from Troy, New York, who had contemplated going on a foreign mission, visited the church, and after a short time received from them a unanimous call to become their pastor. He is now with them and expects soon to be ordained and installed. The church at present numbers more than fifty members, nineteen having been received by your Agent during a second visit to the place.

There are now within our bounds eleven Missionaries, five of whom are sustained by the American Home Missionary Society at an expense of six hundred and fifty dollars per year. One by the New Hampshire Missionary Society, at about three hundred dollars per year. The rest look to us for support. Three are already in commission, and if we support the other two, nearly one thousand dollars will be required to meet the necessary expense.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Stations.	No. in Town	No. of Chur. Mem.	Add. this Year.	Names of Missionaries.	Am. of aid and from whence.	Date of Comm.
1. Shipton	1500	58	5	Rev. A. J. Parker	\$150 A.S.	Aug. 21
2. Melbourne	1000	52	25	Rev. A. O. Hubbard	200 A.S.	June 15
3. Sherbrooke and } Lennoxville.	4000	45	12	Rev. J. Robertson	150 A.S.	May 1
4. Compton	2000	19	2	Rev. O. Pierson	300 A.S.	May 15
5. Eaton	1200	34	—	Rev. J. Sherril (not yet com'd.)		
6. Stanstead	5000	70	1	Rev. R. V. Hall	200 C.S.	Sep. 19
7. Granby	1200	40	6 } 3 }	Rev. H. B. Chapin	300 C.S.	May 31
8. Shefford	1500	25	3 }			
9. Potton	—	21	5	Rev. M. P. Clark	100 A.S.	Dec. 1
10. Huntingdon	—	52	52	Rev. E. E. Wells	200 C.S.	Oct. 14
11. Indian Lands, U.C.	—	—	—	Rev. W. M'Killican.	50 A.S.	
12. Hawkesbury, U.C.	—	no ch.	—	Rev. A. Sanderson (not com'd.)		
		416	111		1650 Dol.	

A.S. American Home Missionary Society, or one of its Auxiliaries. C.S. the Canada Education and Home Missionary Society.

Were this the proper place, and did our limits permit, it would be pleasant to give a cursory notice of the efforts and success of other denominations of Christians, for the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom in this Province. We rejoice in their success,—we bid them God speed. May we all unite in the work with apostolic zeal, and fulfil the promise in its loveliest form, "Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim."

We cannot, however, omit the mention of a few general facts which seem to indicate a special movement in the Providence of God for our good. During the year the cause of temperance, which had always languished in some of our principal places, has been advancing rapidly. In the city of Montreal alone, within a few months, one thousand persons pledged themselves to total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks—other places in the Province have also been awakened to unusual attention to this subject.

The Montreal Bible Society has resolved to supply every family in the Province with a copy of the Holy Scriptures, and has already accomplished much of this good work.

Special efforts have been made to supply the country with efficient and pious teachers of common schools. More than twenty such teachers have been engaged during the year in their several districts, and have had under their instruction more than one thousand children, hundreds of whom are for the first time, and with much enquiry, opening their eyes upon the pages of the word of God. These are signs of the times, in view of which we thank God, and take courage; and even in the awful transactions of the last three weeks, during which a civil war has raged around us, we are constrained to acknowledge the "hand of the Lord." We know not "whereunto these things may grow;" but when we regard their bearing upon the spiritual despotism under which a large portion of this land has long been held, we are reminded of God's message to a corrupt church of old, "I will overturn, overturn, overturn it, and it shall be no more until He comes whose right it is; and I will give it him."

By order of the Committee,

W. F. CURRY,
Corresponding Secretary.

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Society,

COLLECTIONS BY GENERAL AGENT.

In the American Presbyterian Society, Montreal.

At Annual Meeting, \$7 44; T. J. Green, \$10; J. Dewitt, \$50; Mr. Gilbert, \$2; Miss Forbes' collection, \$1 55; G. W. Perkins, \$25; E. C. Tuttle, \$10; Collection (in part) American Church, \$2 60; Mrs. Brondgeest, \$2; Mrs. Fuller, \$10; Mrs. Cutter, \$1; B. Lyman, \$10; Mrs. B——, \$1; D. W. Eager, \$1; Col. Moore, \$10; N. B. Corse, \$2; G. Hager, 50 cts.; A. Murphy, 50 cts.; H. R. Cushing, \$1; L. B. Ward, \$30; Miss Harrison, \$1; Mr. Cuthbert, \$1; J. C. Beers, \$3; W. L. Coit, \$30; Ladies' Sewing Society, \$20 50; Misses Wilson, \$3; W. Hardy, \$1; Mr. M'Dowell, \$1; Miss E. Forbes, \$1; W. Lyman, \$20; E. Atwater, \$1; Mrs. Dickinson, \$4; S. S. Ward, \$20, in part of subscription; Mrs. Dwight, \$1; Mr. M'Whorter, \$1; J. Ashton, \$2; Green & Thompson, \$6; W. Addy, \$10; Mrs. Carter, \$1; J. Adams, \$5 *du Wait of J.*

Total in American Society.....\$310 09

Huntingdon.—James Adams, \$5; Mr. Clyde, \$5; Mrs Cunningham, \$5; Mr. Dunsmore, 25 cts.; Collection at Monthly Concert, \$9 10.

Malone, N. Y., \$33 54; Rev. A. Foster, \$10; B. Stuart, \$2.

Fort Covington, \$44 82; Cash, 55 cts.

Secession Church in Montreal, \$25, and \$12 30; Col. Wilgris, \$4.

Champlain, \$30 63.

St. Andrews, \$28 71.

Plattsburgh, \$54 52; Shipton Auxiliary, \$8; J. Adams, Maine, \$5; Melbourne Church, \$12.

Total during the year by General Agent.....\$605 51

Whole amount of Collections within our Agency this year, £229 11 4; of which £38 2s. was sent to the Parent Society, without passing through our hands.

Canada Education and Home Missionary Society in account with H. Lyman, Treasurer.

1836.		Dr.
October 22.	To paid Agent... ..	£16 5 5
	To do. Postage and Stationary ..	8 13 2
November	To do. Printing Report ..	6 0 0
1837.		
January 8.	To do. Map of Canada.	2 7 6
	To do. to Missionaries ..	93 4 2
	To Balance on hand. ..	94 6 7
		£220 16 10

1836.		Cr.
October 12.	By balance on hand	£29 7 3
1837.		
	By G. R., St. Andrews... ..	12 10 0
March 9.	By J. Johnston.	21 5 0
	By Rollo Campbell.	0 10 0
June 9	By Rev. G. W. Perkins... ..	1 10 0
August 30.	By Mrs. Eaton... ..	0 5 0
	By amounts collected by General Agent ..	151 7 6
	By Collection at Anniversary ..	4 2 1
		£220 16 10

E. and O. E.

HENRY LYMAN, Treasurer.

MONTREAL, December 26, 1837.

All our surplus Funds have been advanced to meet the payments due from the Parent Society, and are only withdrawn from time to time to meet our own demands.