THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

FRENCH CANADIAN

MISSIONARY SOCIETY;

Presented at their Annual Meeting,

HELD AT MONTREAL,

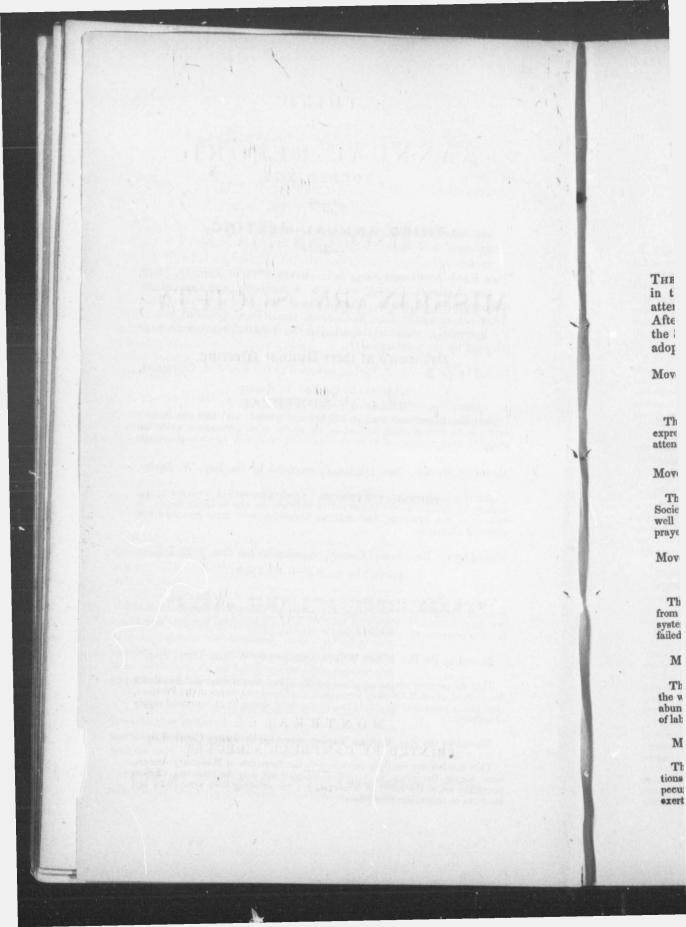
ON

THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 27, 1842.

PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS REPORT.

MONTREAL: PRINTED BY CAMPBELL & BECKET.

1842.



PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

THE third Anniversary was held on the 27th of January, 1842, in the Wesleyan Chapel, and was numerously and respectably attended, the President, Lieut.-Colonel WILGRESS, in the Chair. After prayer by the Rev. T. OSGOOD, the Rev. C. STRONG, one of the Secretaries, read the Report, and the following resolutions were adopted by the meeting :--

Moved by the Rev. A. J. Parker, seconded by the Rev. J. J. Carruthers,

supported by the Rev. L. Roussy.

That the Report now read be adopted and printed; and that this Society expresses its deep gratitude to God, as the source of all the success which has attended its operations, and its entire reliance on his blessing for the time to come.

Moved by the Rev. John Girdwood, seconded by the Rev. W. Squire.

That we acknowledge with gratitude the valuable services rendered to this Society by the Auxiliary Committees in Switzerland and in Great Britain, as well as in this Province; and that we earnestly invite their continued and prayerful assistance.

Moved by the Rev. Robert Cooney, seconded by the Rev. J. E. Tanner,

supported by the Rev. H. O. Crofts.

That our efforts to evangelize the French population of this Province, spring from our sincere love for their souls, and a firm conviction that Romanism, as a system, is not in accordance with the "truth as it is in Jesus," and has signally failed to promote either their temporal or spiritual good.

Moved by the Rev Henry Wilkes, seconded by William Lunn, Esq.

That the peculiar adaptation of our brethren from Switzerland and France for the work in which this Society is engaged, and the urgent wants of the Province, abundantly prove that we should look to the same source for an increased supply of laborers.

Moved by the Rev. William Taylor, seconded by James Court, Esq.

That this Society cordially recommends the formation of Missionary Associations among the young, as a method adapted not only for rendering efficient pecuniary aid to the cause of Missions, but for enlisting their sympathies and exertions in benevolent enterprises.

Moved by J. Dougall, Esq., seconded by Mr. P. V. Hibbard.

That the following be the Office-Bearers of the Society for the ensuing year, with power to add to their number :

Lieutenant-Colonel WILGRESS, PRESIDENT. JAMES FERRIER, Esq., VICE-PRESIDENT. WILLIAM LYMAN, Esq., TREASURER. Rev. WILLIAM TAYLOR. Rev. CALEB STRONG, A. M. JAMES COURT, Esq.

Committee.

Rev. R. L. Lusher, Henry Wilkes, A.M. B. Davies, D. P. H. O. Crofts, William Thompson, William Squire, John Girdwood, J. J. Carruthers, A. F. Holmes, M. D.

Captain Maitland, Lieut. Wright, Mossrs. William Lunn, James R. Orr, John Mathewson, S. S. Ward, Thomas Wilson, Henry Vennor, James Milne, Messrs. Joseph Fraser, T. J. Greene, Rollo Campbell, W. M. Ogden, W. Whiteford, Joseph M Kay. R. Anderson, D. Ferguson,

Previous to the close of the meeting, on motion of the Rev. H. WILKES, the audience through Dr. HOLMES, conveyed to the Missionaries of the Society (who were all on the platform) their affectionate regards and assurance of support. In these expressions of friendly sympathy the Rev. Messrs. ROUSSY and LAPELLETRIE, and Mr. NORMANDEAU (a converted Roman Catholic priest) were included. Mr. LAPELLETRIE, in some appropriate remarks, gratefully responded, and the Missionaries sung a hymn in French, after which the meeting having united in the doxology, was closed with the customary benediction by the Rev. W. SQUIRE.

A collection amounting to $\pounds 26$ 3s. was taken up, an evidence in connection with the large amount of subscriptions and donations obtained during the year in this city, that a most favourable change has taken place in the public feeling in regard to the religious instruction of the French Canadians.

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY,

Formed 8th April, 1839.

I. This Society shall be called "*The French Canadian Missionary Society*;" and its exclusive object shall be, to provide means for preaching and otherwise disseminating the Gospel of Christ among the inhabitants of Canada using the French language.

II. The operations of this Society shall embrace—the employment of ministers, teachers, book-venders, and scripture-readers, (whose native language is French if possible),—the establishment and support of schools, and places of worship,—and the distribution of the Holy Scriptures, and such publications as may be requisite in accomplishing the objects of the Society.

III. No person shall be admitted or continued a Minister, Teacher, Agent, Trustee, or Office-bearer under any name, in connection with this Society, whose religious sentiments are not decidedly in accordance with the great evangelical doctrines of the Protestant Faith : namely,—the fallen and totally depraved condition of human nature. The supreme divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ. The sacrificial character and design of the Saviour's death. The deity, personality, and saving influences of the Holy Spirit. Justification by faith alone, through the atoning merits and all prevalent intercession of the Son of God. The necessity of holiness of heart and life as produced and maintained by the indwelling Spirit of God. The endless duration of future rewards and punishments.

The above summary of doctrine shall equally apply to all books and tracts distributed by the agents of this Society.

IV. This Society shall maintain an entire absence of a sectarian spirit in the choice of its agents, the application of its funds, and the management of its concerns. In the selection of its agents, there shall be alone consulted their religious and intellectual fitness for promoting the grand object in view, namely, the bringing of souls into the kingdom of God, and building them on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.

V. The instructions to be given to missionaries and other agents of this Society shall be :—First, that in all their intercourse with the French Canadians they abstain as much as possible from controversy on the errors of the Romish Church, and that they seek to promote their religious instruction and salvation, by plainly and affectionately preaching and enforcing the great doctrines of evangelical religions stated above : as it is believed, that in this case the deelaration of "the truth as it is in Jesus" will prove the best means of refuting error.—Secondly, that as it appears important to the success of this Christian enterprise to secure as much as possible unanimity and uniformity in its proceedings and operations, it also be required of all the agents of the Society to abstain from *urging* their own peculiar denominational views as to doctrine or church government ; and to require only as conditions of church membership a profession of the Protestant Faith as held by this Society, (and set forth in article third of this Constitution,) accompanied by suitable and satisfactory evidences of true piety in the candidate.

VI. All property which this Society may purchase, or otherwise acquire in furtherance of its objects anywhere throughout this Province, in conformity with the Ordinance II Victoria, chapter 26, shall be held by separate trusts, each mission property having its own trustees. The persons composing the mission at each station, with the members of the church (if there be any) connected with the mission at that place, shall nominate the trustees for that individual property, who shall in no case be appointed unless approved of by the general Committee of this Society. The number of such trustees shall not be more than nine, nor fewer than five, the quorum consisting of five and three respectively. There shall be an annual election of trustees, the persons chosen being always subject to the approval of the Committee of this Society as above stated. In the event of any delay in the annual election, the former trustees shall hold office until the set of any delay in None shall be cligible to the office of trustee but those whose religious sentiments are in accordance with article third of this Constitution.

VII. This Society shall have a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, and a Secretary or Secretaries.

VIII. The business of this Society shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of not less than twelve persons, to be chosen annually from among the members of the Society : five to constitute a quorum.—The President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretaries, shall be members ex-officio of this Committee.

IX. This Society shall hold a general meeting annually on the first Wednesday of February, or on such day near to this as the Committee shall appoint. This meeting shall be held in the city of Montreal, and due notice of the same shall be given in at least two of the Montreal newspapers one week previously. The vote of the majority of the members present at such meeting shall give validity to all the acts passed at the same.—At this meeting the Committee shall present a report of proceedings during the year elapsed, and the Treasurer shall give in his accounts for the same period. All the office-bearers of the Society shall be elected at this annual meeting, the former officers acting until the others are appointed.—A special general meeting of the Society may be called by the Committee whenever it is considered necessary, due notification of which shall be given by public advertisement as above.

X. A Subscription of One Pound annually shall constitute membership in this Society, with the power of voting at its general meetings; and a donation of Twenty-five Pounds shall entitle the individual to be a member during life. Contributions, however, of the smallest amount will be thankfully received and acknowledged.

XI. No alteration shall be made in this Constitution, except at a general meeting of the Society, called by public advertisement as prescribed above in article ninth; the proposed change or changes having previously been laid before a meeting of the Committee, and approved of by at least three fourths of the members present.

FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

I give and bequeath to the "French Canadian Missionary Society," instituted at Montreal on the 8th April, 1839, the sum of ______ pounds currency of the Province of Canada, for the purposes of the said institution, for which legacy the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors.

The form of a Bequest, agreeably to the laws of Great Britain and Ireland, will be found in the Annual Reports of most of the religious institutions of those countries. IN atten devolves sense of t sible of t responsit reap the the parti: prayers, iealousies the respe their opp He w when, in it of his convey t the Chui tions, the to have " in love. love or 1 are out (the nati Canadia Society their lan equally i of variou in Switz avoided the guilt But it testants means e aging th and of w sider ne

REPORT.

In attempting the duty which the revolution of another year devolves upon the Committee, they feel constrained to express their sense of the difficulty attending its right performance. Deeply sensible of the importance of the press, they are as fully alive to the responsibility which attaches to those who have recourse to it. To reap the fading laurels of the controversialist, or win the plaudits of the partizan is far from their desire, but to call forth the sympathies, prayers, and liberality of the friends of religion; to dissipate the jealousies or arouse the indifference of Protestants; and to secure the respect if not the esteem of those whom they regret to rank as their opponents, is the earnest and prayerful aim of the Committee.

He who opposes a false system has gained a triumph indeed, when, in the act of exposing its errors, he convinces the subjects of it of his sincere regard for their welfare. Should the Committee convey this feeling to their fellow subjects professing the faith of the Church of Rome, while faithfully testifying against its corruptions, their gratification would be great. It is their earnest desire to have it understood that while they speak the truth, they do so "in love." And why should the members of that faith doubt their love or the single-mindedness of their efforts? Pecuniary motives are out of the question. Employing as they do, Agents speaking the native tongue, and descended from the ancestry of the French Canadians, and strangers to questions of politics or party, this Society raust be absolved from the charge of seeking to supplant their language, or of interfering in their political concerns. It is equally free from sectarian attempts, for it is directed by members of various denominations, and its Missionaries belong to churches in Switzerland and France. Amidst persecution its Agents have avoided retaliation, and with law on their side, mercy extended to the guilty has demonstrated its love.

But it is no less important to remove the objections of many Protestants who withhold their countenance and support from the means employed by this Society, from a dread of thereby encouraging the introduction of religious dissensions into the country, and of weakening the influence of the priesthood, which they consider necessary on political grounds, however hitherto inefficacious

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to preserve good order. To them the Roman Catholic religion presents itself as an amiable and imposing system, well adapted for the poorer class, and as capable as their own, if sincerely followed, to bring its professors to heaven. For the degraded condition of the French Canadian population they entertain sincere pity, and earnestly desire its amelioration; but to their view, the action of the politician or of the schoolmaster is all that is required for their political and moral regeneration. On all of these points, except an interest in the welfare of this people, we must differ from this class of the community. To us, the great remedy for the evils of this country appears to be the spread of the pure gospel, and the inculcation of Bible truth, a species of remedy to which the Church of Rome is decidedly opposed. In the train of these blessings we believe loyalty, peace and prosperity would follow, and the French Canadians enjoying them in their fullest extent, would rapidly advance to equality in all that is great and good with the surrounding population. To us the Roman Catholic faith is still the same unscrintural, inefficacious and intolerant system, as when its iron grasp was on the conscience of the world, and its victims groaned under the tortures of the Inquisition, or explated their lives in the fires which it kindled.

For its intolerance we refer to the persecutions of our unoffending Missionaries, whose lives and property have been repeatedly in danger from those who, if not encouraged, were at least unrestrained by their spiritual guides. The people have been enjoined not to sell to them; and from the pulpits have been told to drive them out of their houses with clubs, and to set their dogs upon them. They have been held up from the same place as demons in human shape, and every thing that falsehood could invent has been uttered against them in the name and with the authority of the Divine Being. The most violent denunciations have been fulminated against all who would listen to their instructions, and with most blasphemous audacity the pains of hell-fire have been threatened to those who listened to the word of God. Nor have the Scriptures been sacred from the hand of priestly intolerance, affording presumption that those who in a British and Protestant country could consign the Bible to the flames, would if possessed of the power, act similarly as of old by its readers.

By applying the expression *unscriptural* to the Church of Rome, a denial of some of the light of revelation in its doctrines is not intended. Still with all love to the members of that faith, we view it so full of error, as to be rotten to the foundation, and only upheld by that faint scriptural light which exists, though dimly seen. For an instance of the corruptness of its doctrines; while its catechisms teach salvation by Jesus Christ, they at the same time inculcate the mediation of the Virgin Mary and the Saints, the necessity of penance, the existence of a Purgatory to cleanse the soul from sin, the power of the Church to grant indulgences,—doctrines unsupported by Scripture, and incapable of being held by any who rely simply upon the Again, butes of to all th offered t the Mas. To er advance or to ele in intelle gone ove French (Havin portion c one half earnestly GOSPEL. and oppo prevail, Ł ful calm. Roman we have organizat means ha wealth w acquire, l fluence o' organ of assiduous inculcate Rome. course of ing the pi to Europe tants, and from Frai Montreal. other age operation other pari and hands which are along with lishment, eral Friari in former Faith of I But the Canada wi upon the merits of Jesus Christ, and yield subjection to his authority. Again, while it teaches the doctrine of one God, it gives the attributes of omnipresence and omniscience, which alone belong to Him, to all the saints in its calendar, by allowing universal prayer to be offered to them. Nor is the doctrine that the priest in the sacrifice of the Mass creates God, less chargeable with absurdity and blasphemy.

To enter upon the inefficiency of the Roman Catholic faith to advance its followers in evangelical truth and scriptural knowledge, or to elevate them to equality with, much less superiority over others, in intellectual acquirements, would be intruding on ground fully gone over in last report, and which living proof in the case of the French Canadians makes unnecessary.

Having thus demonstrated, we trust, the unhappy state of this portion of our fellow subjects, half a million in number, and forming one half of the population of this Province, it follows that we should earnestly recommend the application of the only remedy—THE GOSPEL. Let us act in the spirit of love, so as to disarm censure and opposition. No doubt angry feeling will arise and dissensions prevail, but they will be but as the storm which precedes the peaceful calm.

Romanism, it would seem, is not in such a state of decrepitude as we have been led to suppose. In this province its efforts since the organization of this Society have been unusually strenuous. No means have been left untried that spiritual authority or the increased wealth which the Legislature by a recent act has enabled it to acquire, have been spared to oppose our efforts and maintain its influence over the members of its fold. A religious publication, the organ of the Romish Church, is issued weekly in this city, which assiduously labours to caricature and vilify Protestantism, and to inculcate the dogmas and maintain the views of the Church of Rome. Tracts and publications of the like description are also in course of publication in large quantities and at a cheap rate. During the past autumn the Bishop of Montreal undertook a journey to Europe to obtain labourers to counteract the efforts of Protestants, and six Friars or Jesuits of high standing have already arrived from France, and formed an establishment at a short distance from Besides these Friars, and some already in the country, Montreal. other agents are expected, so that the most active influences are in operation to retain in this country the sway of that sceptre which in other parts is departing from the papal grasp. In Montreal a large and handsome Seminary has been recently erected, on the front of which are conspicuously carved the Arms and name of the Pope, along with those of the British Sovereign. This educational establishment, attended by some hundreds of children, is taught by several Friars, called "freres Chretiens," no doubt of that order which in former times was the most faithful and powerful upholder of the Faith of Rome.

But the principal means which Romanism employed this year in Canada was the Bishop of Nancy, a Bourbon refugee. Viewed as

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a demi-god by the ignorant who flocked in great numbers to listen to his discourses, and attended by an escort of the Romish clergy, he rapidly went over the Promace, imploring the people to retain their religion, denouncing the Missionaries, and enjoining the burning of the Bibles and publications distributed by them. "In many places huge crosses were set up, to serve at once as trophies of his spiritual triumphs, and as means of retaining the influence of Romanism. One, eighty feet in height, was erected on a high mountain in this district, with all those circumstances of pomp and superstition with which the ceremony of elevating the cross among Romanists is attended.

This increased activity on the part of the Church of Rome, demands a corresponding augmentation of zeal on the part of the friends of the truth. Compassion for the souls of men should prompt us to increased exertion. Your Committee would not place this Society in the attitude of contention with the Church of Rome, but they presume to say that if influences are multiplied to do injury, the only course of duty for the benevolent mind is to multiply influences to do good. Hitherto Protestants have been most painfully indifferent to the existence of Romanism in this colony, and like the Priest and the Levite of old, beholding the evil, have "passed by on the other side." The Mission at Grande Ligne and the efforts of this Society, may be called the first organized attempt ever made to promote the spiritual good of the French population of Canada. These exertions have had the unavoidable and foreseen effect of enkindling the zeal of the Romish Church. The attempt to diffuse the gospel necessarily interferes with the prosperity of that Church, and as a natural result its officers are aroused. Never were they more industrious, more determined than now.

But ean true Christians doubt that ultimate defeat will be the portion of those who fight against God? Our principles being evangelical truth, we never can be successfully opposed: our only danger is from the violation of our own principles.

With these introductory remarks your Committee will now proceed to lay before you, under their respective heads, notices of the Missions, Funds, Auxiliary Committees, and of various subjects to which it is considered proper to call your attention.

STATE OF THE MISSIONS.

The Society employs at the present moment the following seven persons, the Rev. JEAN EMMANUEL TANNER and wife, Mr. and Mrs. DANIEL AMARON, JOSEPH VESSOT, ANTOINE MORET, and J. S. CHEVALLEY.

The only two stations actually occupied by the Society's Missionaties are St. Therese and Belle Riviere, that of Montreal being at present vacant from the circumstance that Mr. LAPELLETRIE has left the service of the Society, and that the stations of Petit Brulé and Terrebonne have been given up as less central than Belle Riviere and St. Therese, whither the Agents have removed.

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1. BELLE RIVIERE.—Mr. and Mrs. AMARON continue to reside this station, where they have been joined by Mr. J. S. CHEVALLEY, wno arrived in this country in August last, and with Mr. AMARON, labours in the neighbourhood. Their visits are extended occasionally to St. Andrews, where a prayer meeting is held every third week. Mrs. AMARON continues to keep a school, which, however, is not well attended, owing to the opposition of the Priests.

At this station, two Canadians and their wives have left the church of Rome. One of the men shows by his conduct that he is truly converted, and the two women appear also to have begun to taste that the Lord is good and gracious.

2. ST. THERESE.—This village, now the county town of the municipal district of Terrebonne is about twenty-one miles north of Montreal, and is very favourably situated as a centre for Missionary operations in the fertile and populous country to the north of this city. There is a considerable number of old country settlers in the immediate and more distant vicinity, upon whose hospitality and assistance in trouble, our Missionaries may safely rely, and which was actually afforded during the season of outrage and persecution experienced by Messrs. VESSOT and PREVOST.

At this place our much esteemed brother, the Rev. J. E. TANNER, resides with his family, having arrived in this country in August last. It was the intention of the Committee, when requesting an ordained minister, to station him in this city in order that he might the better superintend the operations of the Society, but until the fields of labour have become more extended, it is deemed advisable, from this and other considerations, that he should for the present occupy St. Therese. In connexion with this station, he supplies Belle Riviere, L'Assomption, and other places with his Sabbath ministration. On the 27th December last the interesting service of his installation took place, in which three pastors of different denominations took a part, while members of various Protestant churches in this city assisted in the proceedings. Mrs. TANNER has a school, but like the other not numerously attended. St. Therese is also the head-quarters of Messrs. VESSOT and MORET, who, however, are generally absent visiting the surrounding villages.

At St. Therese, five men and five women have quitted Romanism. These ten persons show by their conduct, that they have sincerely forsaken the errors of that Faith; two of them only, however, appear to have been made partakers of the grace of God. One of these is the mother of a family, at one time a devoted follower of the Church of Rome; and the other is a young and intelligent woman of eighteen years of age, who is instructing herself with the intention of being useful in the Lord's work.

At St. Lin a young man has also left the Romish Church. He has had much to endure and contend with, but the Lord has wonderfully supported him. Should his health permit, he intends studying in order to make himself useful to his countrymen. At Industry village an old captain of Buonaparte's, and his wife, have also left the church of Rome. Their minds are not yet fully enlightened, but they give promise of being sincere followers of the word.

The following are some few details respecting a young woman who was a servant in a Christian family, and of whose conversion there can be no reasonable doubt.

"At _____," one of our labourers writes, "a person appears to us converted. She is persecuted by her own friends. Her father said to her one day, that if she changed her religion he would break her head or strangle her. She replied to him that she did not go to us for the pardon of her sins, but wished to be devoted to the Lord Jesus Christ, and that there was no other name given by which she could be saved. She is able to read, but her father forbade her to read the Bible. To this she replied, that anything else she would do to please him, but nobody should hinder her from reading the Scriptures. She lately confessed to some of her friends that she was no longer of their faith, and that she wished to follow the word of God, Let us pray for her that God may give her strength to persevere to the end.

When her views became more scriptural, her profession of the truth was more decided, and although removed from the kind master under whose roof she first received religious impressions, and exposed to persecution, it is a matter of fervent gratitude that she still maintains a consistent walk and conversation.

Besides these persons who have openly shown themselves in favor of the truth, there are in other places some more or less convinced, but who have as yet greater fear of man than of God.

CHARACTER OF OUR LABOURERS.*

In our last Report we emphatically expressed our conviction of the suitableness of our Missionaries for the work to which they have been called. Another year's experience calls forth, if possible, a still more decided expression of this belief. Going from house to house, offering to read and sell the Scriptures and religious publications, labouring always in the spirit of prayer, ready to converse of their Master and of His kingdom, humble yet fearless of danger, meeting persecution with kindness and forgiveness, they cannot fail in God's hand, to prepare a chosen people for his kingdom. Let us not forget, however, to be constantly engaged at a throne of grace in prayer for their success, as without the Divine blessing, they will accomplish nothing.

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^{*} The salaries paid to our Missionaries are here given. The Rev. Mr. Tanner receives £76 Halifax currency per annum, the unmarried *Colporteurs* from £48 to £60, and those married, about £70. These sums do not include rent, nor the expense of a horse, but combine all other charges connected with house-kceping and travelling. Besides these allowances, according to agreement with the Committee in Geneva, £5 stg. is set aside annually for each single Colporteur, and £8 to £10 for every married one, to be paid them with the interest accruing when leaving the service of the Society, so that in sickness or old age they may not be destitute after spending their strength in the Lord's work. The reserved allowance to Mr. Tanner is £10 currency. It is in place here to remark, that the outfit and pasage of the *Colporteur* has averaged about £20 stg., and of Mr. and Mrs. Tanner, £35 stg. each. By reference to another part of the report, the amount paid for furniture, printing, and miscellaneous expenses, will be seen.

The following extracts from their journals, we are persuaded, will sustain us in the opinion expressed of our esteemed brethren. One writes :---

"I had this day a conversation of three hours with a man whom I recommend to your prayers. He had the belief that we were endeavouring to bring about a rebellion. To this I replied, that if there was any more war, our arms for the fight would be only the word of God."

In reference to the persecution sustained at St. Therese in June last, when the lives and property of our Missionaries were wantonly assailed, we cannot refrain from inserting here an account of the termination of the trial of one of the assailants. After the man had been convicted and was about to receive sentence of sixty days confinement at hard labour, our Agent interposed, and requested that the greatest leniency, consistent with justice, might be shown to him. He stated that the only motive for bringing the offender to trial was to prevent similar violence, and not to revenge the wicked conduct of the prisoner, which he otherwise would have overlooked, as his religion taught him to render good for evil. After the magistrate had very forcibly addressed the prisoner, referring to the truly noble conduct of those whom he had injured, he was then set at liberty. When leaving the room our Agent went and offered his hand, declaring it to be a sign of his entire forgiveness of the offence. Mr. V. also gave his hand to the persons who had been security for the prisoner, and apparently actuated by very malevolent feelings towards himself, which after urging they at length took.

The following is a specimen of the sense entertained by them of the duty and advantages of prayer :---

"Let us pray without ceasing for one another, in order that we may be strengthened in the faith and love of the Saviour. It appears to me that the best way to advance the kingdom of God, is to deeply humble ourselves before the throne of grace, asking God continually in our prayers to open the hearts of these poor people to receive his word."

The following letter from one of the *Colporteurs* shows the patience with which they endure suffering, and their persevering efforts to communicate the knowledge of their Divine Master.

DEAR BRETHREN,—The year 1841 has passed away. I give thanks to God that notwithstanding my want of love, of faithfulness and of gratitude towards Him, he has not withheld his favour, his protection and deliverance in various ways. Already in this year 1842, he has supported me several times, particularly on Sabbath the 2d January. On that day I was with brother C. at a neighbouring village to carry a Hebrew Bible to the priest, because that during the week we had been to him with three Canadians to compare our Bible with his, when he had said ours was worth nothing, because it had not the books of Maccabees. I said to him, "Sir, you know that the Jews to whom the oracles of God were committed, never recognised them to be inspired." He affirmed that they had. I then said to him, "Very well, if you are sure that they are in the Hebrew Bible, be so good as to put it in writing. I will then certify that they are not, and it can be published in the public journals;" but he would not do so. The three Canadians heard us with interest, and I said to them, "You see clearly your priest is in the wrong, since he refuses to give me the writing." The priest seeing himself pushed to the wall said, "Bring your Hebrew Bible then, and I will

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examine it." This we did on the Sabbath in question. During the absence of brother C. I entered the church just as mass was concluding. When it was finished and the people were coming out, I saw one of the persons who had been with me to the priest, to whom I said, "I have brought a copy of the Bible in Hebrew, if you feel disposed come with me to the priest." Upon this the people surrounded us and listened with interest to our conversation, which lasted for about ten minutes. I took the opportunity of proclaiming the gospel, but Satan who never sleeps when good is doing to souls, stirred up trouble. A young man came forward to me crying, are you not one of the Swiss? "Yes," said I, "at your service." On that he said, "are you not ashamed to preach at the door of our church," and several began to shout and to push me away. I then retired to the middle of the highway, which passes the church. When there I said, "I am now where nobody has a right to say a word." I then began again to announce the gospel, but Satan having stirred up a number, they rushed forward to beat me, but others kept them back. I walked in this way for three acres, surrounded by the crowd, some striking at me with their fists, others trying to throw me down by putting out their feet and sticks. I fell three or four times. Snow balls were also thrown at me, three of which hurt me a little. At last I got to the inn. I can truly say that the Lord supported me, for all the way, although harassed on every side, I did not cease speaking to them of the love of God to sinners. I remarked that several seemed touched by the words I spoke. I continued to speak to them at the inn, but they were still more enraged. Seeing this, I said to them, "very well speak to me a little about your religion, I will listen with pleasure." There was immediately a great calm, but nobody spoke. "It seems then," said I, "you do not know anything about it since none of you says a word." At this moment a Canadian magistrate came to see what was taking place, and I went out to speak to him. The Canadians wished that I should be chased away, but he said, "no one has a right to chase him from this, he has as much liberty as you to be here, and I forbid any one from doing him harm or he will have to answer to me for it. If you do not wish to hear him go away." I then took the opportunity to speak to him also of the gospel. May God cause all these things to turn out for the best.

Some were desirous that he should have the persons punished who had assaulted him, but he would not. He only begged of the Canadian magistrate, who acted so nobly, to caution those persons against their wicked and illegal conduct. How striking the contrast between the spirit of Christianity as shown in our humble Missionaries, and of the Romish church as exhibited in the persecution which they suffer at the hands of her priests and people !

STATE OF THE FRENCH CANADIANS.

Though an unwillingness to wound the feelings of any by exposing the degradation of this people inclines us to be silent, yet a conviction that we ought to make it known to the Christian world, constrains us to enter into some details respecting their pitiable state. The temporal condition of many, although hitherto bad, is now becoming worse. Their farms are exhausted by over-cropping, producing little, and that injured by the fly, and to crown the evil, mortgaged frequently to nearly their value. They are so ignorant of agriculture as until recently to sell their manure to old country neighbours, and even now in many instances tempted to do so by the trifling remuneration it brings. Nor is it to be wondered at, when the same description of implements and system of agriculture prevail,

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vail, which their forefathers brought with them two centuries ago from the plains of Brittany.

At the present day it is computed that only one in fifteen can read, while scarcely any can write, and of even the rudiments of general knowledge there is an entire ignorance. It is true, in the cities and large towns schools are beginning to be established, and a better system of instruction employed, but in country parts the labours of the schoolmaster are principally confined to teaching by rote the Catechism of the Church of Rome, the communication of a scriptural or liberal education being not within the range of his ability.

The moral and religious state of the people is not less to be deplored, nor can it be expected to be elevated when the Bible is denied them, and the Sabbath trampled upon by their spiritual guides. The after part of this blessed day, viewed by the Romish Church as a day of rest and worldly recreation, is spent by the priests generally in such occupations as card-playing, or more rarely in fowling. As for the mass of the people, after listening in the morning to a service the meaning and language of which they know nothing of, and having exhibited their finery and the beauty of their horses or vehicles ; settled accounts with the village storekeepers, or concluded bargains with their neighbours, they return home to spend the hallowed hours of the Lord's day in card-playing, story-telling, racing, shooting, cock-fighting, or in intemperance and vice. Happily there is a prospect that one of the fruitful causes of immorality among them will be removed, it being understood that the evils and remedy of intemperance begin to occupy the serious attention of the Romish Bishops and Clergy.

In elucidation of the ignorance and superstition of the French Canadians, we subjoin extracts from the communications of our Agents.

The Rev. Mr. TANNER says of those whom he has met :---

"The greatest part are blindly submissive to their priests, and believe that they themselves can and ought to atone for their sins, by penances, and by giving money to say masses. The most part of the penances which the priests impose, consists in reciting in Latin, *paters* and *ave Marias*. They believe that there are men changed into howling wolves and long-tailed beasts; that on All-Saints' day the dead leave purgatory and walk on the earth, and that blood would spring_up if a Roman Catholic should dig in it.

As Lent is for them a time of penance, they dare not play then for money, but some of them play for prayers, that is, that he who loses shall recite a certain number of prayers, which God will place to the credit of the winner. Many of them wear medals and other things to preserve them from evil."

One labourer says :---

"Several persons forbade me to read the Bible to them, believing that as soon as it was opened, serpents would dart out of it !"

Another writes :---

" As I was leaving a house where I had been conversing with a number of persons, they all followed me to the door to look up to a cross which the Bishop

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of Nancy had erected on a mountain in sight, saying to me, that he had told them, that each time they east their eyes towards it, and repeated a certain number of prayers, they would gain an indulgence of 300 days." The writer adds—"I took occasion to make them understand, that the wood and tin had no virtue in themselves, and that the more we looked to external things to gain heaven, the farther we should be from it, and urged them to look to Jesus if they wished to obtain peace to their souls."

An Agent states :---

"I had the opportunity of speaking with a young man, a schoolmaster. Our conversation was very interesting. He appeared to seek after the salvation of his soul. I lent him a Testament, and I trust that it will be the means of making him understand that it is the blood of Christ which purifies from all sin. I put several questions to him as to how he expected to get to heaven. He said, 'I must go to confess, often do penance to efface my sins, and fast much. If I find that I have done something wrong, then I fast three or four days until I cannot stand it longer.' I then said to him, 'you have no need of a Saviour to efface your sins, since you believe you can do it by fasting.' These words made him quite confused."

BENEFITS TO THE PROTESTANT POPULATION.

Although the Society in its formation only contemplated the spiritual good of the French Canadians, yet the holy example and conversation of the Missionaries have greatly benefited the Protestant population scattered among them, often debarred by their isolated situation from religious instruction in their own language. Many individuals have been aroused to greater concern for their souls; and in one case, a person has been rescued from Romanism after having become warmly attached to its forms. From one person a letter has been received acknowledging himself to have been only a moral Protestant before he met with our Agents, but that through the grace of God he is now a spiritual one, not only protesting against the Man of sin, but against the sins and corruptions of his own heart. A strong barrier has also been raised to the intimate intercourse of the children of Protestants with those of their Roman Catholic neighbours, which not only tended to the deterioration of their religious practice and the unsettling of their views of scriptural truth, but often led to mixed marriages among them, the effects of which have been most disastrous. These alliances in any circumstances are painful to the pious mind, but more so in such cases where it has too often resulted that the children have been brought. up to the Romish faith, and not only lost the knowledge of their father's religion, but even of his language. On the ground alone therefore, of the good resulting to the scattered Protestant population of this country by the operations of this Society, it has a strong claim on the support of the Protestant community.

FUNDS.

The Treasurer's account shows a balance due him of £50 12s. 9d. The total income for the past year is £690 4s. 10d. from the following sources, Montreal, £339 17s. 5d.; other parts of Canada

East, 5 5s.; an been £ aries, 1 Paper, 1841, : 18s. 3d £46 18

Fron commu To the tude, fo Mission used in The since th the part the end consider Agent, The 1 man, w Society, them and been mi the pros still more Since been for The 1 lished in the fund the Age relieve tl Society. The la On the 2 a contrib is to be h friends he again upc ciated the The L esteemed already £

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East, £29 14s.; Canada West, £100 2s. 6d.; United States, £10 5s.; and Great Britain, £210 5s. 11d. cy. The expenditure has been £720 11s. 4d.; as follows, viz.: outfit and passage of Missionaries, £125 12s. 3d.; support of Agents, £394 8s. 7d.; Occasional Paper, and last Annual Report, and printing account 1840 and 1841, £56 1s. 5d.; furniture for St. Therese Mission, &c., £66 18s. 3d.; Missionaries' reserve fund, allowances of 1840 included, £46 18s. 6d.; rent, repairs, and miscellaneous expenses, £30 12s. 4d.

AUXILIARY ASSOCIATIONS.

From those Committees formed in Europe by the deputation, communications of the most friendly character have been received. To the Committee in Geneva this country is under a load of gratitude, for the services they have rendered in sending out our esteemed Missionaries, whose conduct has illustrated the prudence and skill used in selecting them.

The Committees in Glasgow and Edinburgh have contributed since the return of Messrs. TAYLOR and COURT, over £160 sterling, the particulars of which will be found in the list of contributions at the end of the Report. The donations from Edinburgh include a considerable amount collected by our respected friend and honorary Agent, Capt. YOUNG, 24th Regt.

The members of these Committees, and the last named gentleman, will please accept of the grateful acknowledgments of this Society, and we trust that a perusal of the Report will convince them and the contributors in Great Britain, that their aid has not been mis-spent; and that the success attending our labours, and the prospect of increased operations will call forth from them a still more enlarged assistance.

Since last Annual Meeting three Auxiliary Associations have been formed, a notice of which is subjoined.

The Ladies' French Canadian Missionary Society* was established in this city (as its constitution states,) to aid by its labours, the funds of the Parent Society, also to assist in the outfit of the Agents, and in the furnishing of the Mission Stations, to relieve the converts, and to co-operate generally with the Parent Society.

The ladies met weekly, and spent several hours at the needle. On the 22d Dec. they held a Bazaar, from the proceeds of which, a contribution of £100 to the funds of this Society was paid in. It is to be hoped that through their labours, and the continued aid of friends here and in Europe, they will be able to throw themselves again upor the liberality of the public, which so generously appreciated their exertions.

The Lochiel Association, formed 12th July last, of which our esteemed friend Mr. D. CATTENACH is President, has contributed already £3 17s. The following extract from Mr. C's. letter will

* An Extract from the Annual Report of this Auxiliary will be found in the Appendix.

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show the zeal with which the object of the Society has been taken up by the warm hearted people of Glengarry.

"The persecutions and sufferings of the missionaries called forth the deepest sympathy, even sighs and tears—while the interpositions of Providence, and their singular success during the short period of their labours in the great field that 'is ready unto harvest,' excited the most lively emotions of gratitude to the great Master of the harvest, so that several present could say, 'it is good for us to be here.' Twenty-eight persons subscribed as members of this new institution, after which office-bearers were elected, and the sum of £3 16s. 3d. cy. subscribed. (I have also yesterday and to-day obtained 7s. 6d. more.) Divisions are allotted to each of the Committee, so that the whole range within the sphere of the Society shall be voluntarily explored in behalf of the missionary cause. Money being so scarce, in order to make the Society easy of access (I mean membership), to all classes of our community, it was agreed that 2s. 6d. annually, 1s. 3d. paid on or before the 1st September, and 1s. 3d. on or before the 1st March, would constitute a member. We trust 'the Lord will not despise the day of our small things.' We pray it may be like the grain of mustard seed."

An Association was also formed at St. Therese, but as yet no communication from it has come to hand.

JUVENILE MISSIONARY ASSOCIATIONS.

This almost new feature in religious effort in this part of the world, gives the Committee great encouragement, and they view their establishment in every congregation as a matter of the utmost importance. It is impossible to estimate the pecuniary aid which they can render the cause of Missions, or the influence upon the minds of the young in preparing them to labour personally in the Missionary work. As an instance of what can be done, we would mention that the Sabbath schools of one of the congregations in this city, and that by no means a wealthy one, have contributed last year to this Society in nine months the sum of £36; and have engaged this year to support an Agent to the extent of £50.+

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO THE PRESS.

The thanks of the Committee are due to the Editor of the London Record, for the insertion of the greater part of our last Annual Report in his valuable paper, and for acting as the channel of contributions to our funds. In the United States, the Boston Recorder and New York Evangelist, and in this Province the Christian Guardian, Wesleyan, and Baptist Magazine claim also our acknowledgments for the favourable notices they have taken of the Society's object and operations. Other publications may have laid us under obligations, our ignorance of which alone prevents their being noticed.

CO-OPERATION.

Extended already as is this Report, we cannot pass over the

[†]Since the Annual meeting a contribution of L.20 9s. has been hauded to the Society from the Juvenile Missionary and Temperance Association in cohnection with the Rev. Mr. WILKES' congregation, being the amount of one quarter of a year's collections by the scholars.

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y from the WILKES' labours of our other brethren. A notice of them, however, must necessarily be brief.

At GRANDE LIGNE the work of the Lord continues to advance, as may be seen by the following extract from the Quarterly Paper of the Foreign Evangelical Society of New York, by which this Mission is now supported :--

"Through the blessing of God, this mission has taken a great extension. There is now a large mission house at Grande Ligne, which contains a chapel large enough to hold two hundred persons, rooms for schools, and apartments for the mission family, and a large number of boarders. At present the Church consists of about fifty members (all converted Roman Catholics), whilst as many more actend upon the preaching of the Word; fifteen young men and young women all hopefully pious, are boarding in the institution, and receiving a suitable training for being colporteurs and teachers. Two or three schools are maintained besides those in Grande Ligne; and earnest calls are made upon the Society for schoolmasters for no less than four villages more."

A new station has been formed at St. Pie, a village about 40 miles east of Montreal. The work was begun through means of some copies of the Scriptures, and the result was a call upon our friends at Grande Ligne to visit the place. The letter in the *Quarterly Paper* says :---

"Mr. Roussy lost no time in complying with their invitation, and fifteen to twenty persons assembled to hear what he had to say to them from God, who gave efficacy to his Word for doctrine, for reproof, for instruction. Eight among them abandoned the Romish church. Very soon after a second visit that Mr. Roussy made them, two of the men and two of the women came to Grande Ligne. The Lord poured out abundantly a spirit of love and prayer. All besieged the throne of grace in behalf of their new friends, who also prayed themselves, for their own conversion. All four were born again by faith in Jesus, and rejoiced with holy joy in the possession of the glorious liberty of the children of God. Since then Messrs. Roussy, Normandeau, and Cellier have visited St. Pie, alternately. I have also been there myself, and the new field of labor gives us all much joy and hope. There are now seven persons converted, who are so many preachers. It is very interesting to hear them speak of that truth which has made them free, and solicit others to seek after and embrace the same deliverance. Besides these, there are also twenty others who are much engaged in searching the Holy Scriptures, several of whom by their character and social position can exert a very great influence."

The Rev. Mr. LAPELLETRIE continues his zealous labours in Montreal as formerly, but not in connection with this Society. A Mr. GIRARD is also employed as a catechist in this city in connection with the Church of England.

The Montreal Bible Society in its Report bears testimony to the unwearied fidelity, zeal, and perseverance of Mr. HIBBARD in his distribution of the Scriptures among the French Canadians. From his journals the pages of our Occasional Paper have from time to time been enriched, and it is with regret that want of space causes us to leave out some interesting extracts to be found in the Report of the Bible Society.

OFFICERS.

The business of the Society continuing to increase, the duties of

your Secretaries have accumulated, and will probably continue to multiply. And as neither of them can devote his time exclusively to the duties of the office, it becomes important if you should see fit to re-appoint them, to add to their number.

Your Committee know of no person more likely to occupy the post with advantage to the Society than the Rev. WILLIAM TAY-LOR, whose faithful Agency in Great Britain and Switzerland, in connexion with Mr. COURT, as honorably mentioned in the last Annual Report, prepares him peculiarly for service as our European correspondent, in establishing a communication between the countries visited and this Auxiliary, of the very first importance to us, and to our French population. His name is therefore presented for your approval.

PRAYER FOR THE SOCIETY.

While seeking for aid in a pecuniary form, we affectionately and urgently solicit the prayers of God's people for the prosperity of this Society. If the church would pray without ceasing, it would soon be supplied with all needful funds to carry forward the cause of truth and piety. We attribute to prayer the circumstance that this Society has gained so much attention among us. But a short time since, and the proposition to labour for the evangelization of our French neighbours met very generally with a cold repulse. But in this city alone, not far from £350 has been raised the past year for this organization.

CONCLUSION.

Your Committee being now about to yield up to your hands the trust committee to them at last Annual Meeting, and solemnly to hand over to their successors in office this responsible and honorable work, they must express their profound and fervent gratitude to Him without whose favour they could have accomplished nothing. They would engrave upon their memories the record of His mercy, and consider it their crown of rejoicing that they were called to be instruments in carrying on the work of the Lord.

But fidelity to their trust requires that they should inform you that the ensuing year will bring upon you a work increasingly arduous, and demanding larger pecuniary means. *Three* additional labourers (one of them married) have been sent for by your Committee, whom we hope to see, ere many months, thrusting in the sickle, in one of the many ripe fields which are spread out on the right hand and on the left. Though all the labourers of this Society live with an economy which involves no little self-denial, the support of such a number requires a considerable amount of funds, especially as we are in the first stages of the work. But the Committee do most unequivocally believe this to be the Lord's work. They have the firmest conviction that the great Head of the Church smiles upon their unworthy endeavours, and has Himself determined that this work shall go forward. Sub

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you cduonal omthe the iety supnds, ttee hey iiles that They, therefore, beg leave to recommend to the members of this Society the laborious and unyielding prosecution of its designs. They urge upon their successors a rapid extension of operations, a constant increase of labourers, a fervent spirit of prayer.

For themselves, they are prepared, heart and hand, to uphold this cause against all reproach and opposition. Nor will they doubt for a moment that this Society, as with the heart of one man, and with humble but firm reliance upon the grace of God, will resolutely determine *never* to abandon this cause, until its triumph renders their support needless.

Subscriptions and Donations in aid of this Society will be received by the Treasurer, W. LYMAN, Esq., or by the Secretaries the Rev. Messrs. TAYLOR and STRONG and Mr. Court. In Europe they may be handed to the following gentlemen:

LONDON.—Messrs. Williams, Deacon & Co. Bankers, 10, Birchin Lane; Messrs. Smith, Payne & Smiths, Bankers; The Editor of the London *Record*; and Mr. Nisbet, Bookseller, Berners Street.

WOOLWICH .- Major Anderson, R. A.

CARLISLE.-Joseph Ferguson, Esq.

EDINBURGH.—R. Haldane, jun., Esq., W. S., 34, Drummond Place; A Bousr, Esq., Edinburgh and Leith Bank; Mr. Whyte, Bookseller, George Street; J. Peddie, W. S.

GLASGOW.-J. S. Blyth, Esq., Virginia Street; and J. D. Bryce, Esq., Fife Place.

GREENOCK .-- W. Martin, Esq. ; and A. Muir, Esq.

PAISLEY .- Rev. R. Burns, D. D.; and Rev. W. Nesbit.

HAMILTON.-James Mather, Esq.

ABERDEEN.-Alexander Leslie, Esq.

PERTH.-Peter Clarke, Esq.

N. B. Remittances from Europe may be conveniently made in Bank notes, enclosed in a letter addressed to the Treasurer or any of the Secretaries, Montreal, marked "per Halifax Steamer."

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CONTRIBUTIONS IN CANADA WEST.

Toronto, £32 128, 1d.

Rev. J. Harris.	Collected	in his	Congregation	by the	
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W. D. Taylor 0 5 0	Mrs. Rice 0 10	0	
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Thomas Waddell 1 1 0 J. H. Young 1 1	0
Archibald Greenshields 1 1 0 Alexander Naismith 0 10	6
Robert Strang 1 0 0 John Jamieson 1 0	0
Alexander Glasgow 1 0 0 William Kerr 0 10	0
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Nathaniel Stevenson	1	0	0	General Marshall	0	10	0
J. M. Swinton	0	10	0	Miss Soames	0	10	0
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Mr. Martin	3	10	0	W. Baldock, Esq	1	0	0
John Leadbetter	1	0	0	Rev. A. V. Elliot	2	0	0
M. M'Caul	1	0	0	R. Bevan, Esq	1	1	0
Alexander Stewart	0	10	0	Miss Hare	0	5	0
J. & J. Black	1	1	0	W. A. N	5	0	0
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Mr. R. Frame			C	R. Haldane, jun. Esq. Edin-			
J. Nixon & Son	1	1	0	burgh	2	2	0
George Gillespie	1	1	0	Lady Grey, per Mrs. Mackay,			
Robert Frame, jun	0	10	0	Edinburgh	2	0	0
George Stewart		1	0	Hon. Miss M'Kenzie, per Mr.			
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John King & Son	1	101	0	Alex. Leslie, Esq. Aberdeen.	2	0	0
J. & W. Campbell & Co	3	3	0	Robert Anderson, Esq. Milton			
Robert Bartholomew	1	1	0		1	0	0
James Laurie		1	0	Miss Hunter Blair, of Kennet Avon BridgeCongregation, per	1	0	0
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From Edinburgh Committee.

£50 8s.

Miss E. Prescott	£1	0	0
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Captain Young	1	0	0
W. A. Soames, Esq			0
Miss M'Donald			0

CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

£10 5s. 0d.

J. P. Williston, Northampton, Massachusetts.. £9 0 0 0

CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE ANNUAL MEETING.

Cellection £26	3	10	W. Greig	£1	5	0
Juvenile Missionaryand Tem-			Rev. W. Taylor	1	5	0
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Rev. T. Osgood 0	5	0	P.Hubbard, P.M., Stanstead	1	.5	0
Children at Miss Lyman's			And. M'Glashan, Toronto.	20	0	0
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To those desirous of co-operating with this Society, the following draft of a Constitution is respectfully offered.

PREAMBLE.—That this meeting cordially approving of the object which the French Canadian Missionary Society has in view, namely, "to provide means for preaching and otherwise disseminating the Gospel of Christ among the inhabitants of Canada speaking the French language;" as also, the means employed by that Society, the summary of doctrine to be held by its Agents and Officers, and the absence of denominational distinctions, as set forth in its printed Constitution, Articles 2, 3 and 4—does hereby resolve to form itself into an Association for the purpose of co-operating with that Society in endeavouring to improve the religious and moral condition of the French Canadians, to be called, "The———Association, Auxiliary to the French Canadian Missionary Society," with the following Constitution :—

I. That the business of this Association shall be conducted by a Committee composed of — members, with a Treasurer and Secretary (a President may be added if deemed advisable), — of whom to form a quorum. The Committee to meet at least monthly.

II. That an annual meeting of the Association shall take place in the month of ______, or at such times as the Committee may appoint, when a report of the proceedings during the past year, and the Treasurer's accounts for the same period, shall be presented. The election of office bearers shall also then take place.

III. That it shall be the duty of this Committee to aid the funds of the Parent Society by making collections, the proceeds of which, after deducting incidental expenses, to be remitted half yearly on the 1st of—and—, to the Treasurer of that Society.

IV. That it shall be the duty of this Committee to communicate the missionary intelligence furnished by the Parent Society, to meetings for prayer, and in particular to the Missionary prayer meetings held monthly for the general spread of the gospel; recommending on these occasions the Parent Society and its object, together with the progress of the gospel in Switzerland and France, as special subjects of prayer.

V. That as much as possible it shall be the object of this Association in its proceedings to promote a union among the members of all evangelical churches; and that it shall discountenance any manifestation of a sectarian spirit inconsistent with the constitution of the Parent Society.

VI. That this Constitution may be amended at any general meeting, previous notice having been given in calling it, of the proposed alteration.

APPENDIX.

LADIES'

French Canadian Missionary Society,

OF MONTREAL.

First Annual Report, read at the Anniversary Meeting, on the 2d

February, 1842.

ON the occasion of the first Anniversary of the "Ladies' French Canadian Missionary Society," your Committee hasten to express devout thankfulness, that, by the good hand of our Heavenly Father, you were led to make the effort which resulted in the formation of this Society on the 11th July, 1841.

The objects aimed at were, briefly, to provide funds in aid of the French Canadian Missionary Society, and assistance in other forms for the Missionaries and their converts; the ultimate object, the improvement and conversion of the French Canadians, commends itself to the heart of the Christian as a work equally interesting and imperative.

The means proposed, for the attainment of the objects specified, were frequent meetings of the Ladies to be devoted to needlework. These were held weekly for more than two months at the house of one of the members, but as it was thought this arrangement would prove inconvenient if continued, formal application was made to the Committee of the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society for the use of their room at the Depository, which was very kindly granted, and to that Committee are your Society indebted for the convenience of a comfortable and central place of meeting. In addition to the time spent at the stated meetings, many of the members devoted a portion of their time in working for the common cause at their own residences.

Collections were made as occasion required for the purchase of materials, besides which your Committee gratefully mention the frequent and liberal contributions of goods, by various Merchants upon whom your Committee had occasion to call. In this connexon your Committee have much pleasure in stating, that very handsome

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donations of manufactured articles were received from individuals in this city not connected with your Society; also from friends in Scotland, Quebec, and Northampton in the United States.

In the course of the summer it was decided to hold a Bazaar for the sale of the articles prepared, which was accordingly fixed for the 22d December last, upon which occasion Mr. A. Adams, with much inconvenience to himself, politely placed his rooms, in the Place d'Armes, at the disposal of your Committee. The pleasure of the occasion was much increased by the attendance of the bands of the 85th and 74th Regts., politely furnished by Lieut. Colonels Maunsell and Crabbe.

The sales at the Bazaar amounted to $\pounds 115$ 7s. 1d., $\pounds 100$ of which was paid to the Treasurer of the French Canadian Missionary Society. The remainder was retained for the purchase of materials for the further prosecution of the work. There are also remaining on hand, articles not sold amounting to about $\pounds 30$.

A just estimate of the good accomplished by your society since its commencement, can scarcely be made by a mere reference to the amount of money realized, although that is beyond the sanguine expectations of many. It has, moreover, drawn into friendly and Christian intercourse individuals of various Religious sentiments in the formation of a common cause upon the broad basis of evangelical Christianity, demonstrating that unity of feeling and action, which refutes the hackneyed argument of Papacy, and honours the cause of true Religion.

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of he its on Before closing this brief survey of your past labours, we will merely remark the abundant cause of gratitude we have for the extraordinary success which has crowned your efforts,—success, doubtless, beyond your most sanguine hopes. That this is owing to the gracious interposition of a Higher Power we cannot doubt. Let it incite us to greater diligence, to push onward in the prosecution of this good work, trusting the result with Him who is ever faithful to reward those who diligently seek to promote His kingdom and glory.

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