

## THE FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Was formed at Montreal in 1839, upon a Catholic basis, and is under the direction of a Committee composed of ministers and members of various evangelical denominations, viz.: Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Methodists, and Baptists.

The object is the evangelization of the French Canadian Romanists, amounting to over 900,000 in Canada East, and 60,000 in Canada West. They have been long kept in a state of great ignorance, poverty, and superstition, under the yoke of a numerous and wealthy priesthood. To maintain her sway, the Church of Rome has called to her aid the Jesuits, who with various orders are spreading themselves, and exerting an unwearied influence over the country. They are influencing legislation, extending their agencies in Protestant Canada West, and also have their active connection with Romanists in the United States. By reason of large ancient endowment of tithes and of power on the part of numerous corporations, to hold lands in mortmain to an unlimited extent, and by innumerable dues exacted from the people, they have immense pecuniary resources in their hands. These are employed wholly for the advancement of Romanism, with its soul-destroying errors, by which it conceals the Saviour from the people, (see John, 20, 13,) and induces a fanatical trust in Mary and in relics, scapularies, and various lying wonders.

The means employed by the Society to counteract, under God, these mischievous influences, and to save the souls of the people, are:

1st. Circulation of the Scriptures and Religious Tracts by Colporteurs, and the systematic visitation of the people by Scripture Readers and Catechists.

2nd. Preaching the Gospel by Ministers and Evangelists.

3rd. Education of the young of both sexes at Missionary Institutes.

There are at present 33 missionaries of these different classes labouring between Ottawa and Quebec.

Over ~~Between 1,000 and 1,200~~ Romanists have embraced Protestantism through the efforts of this Society. Over 800 young persons have received a good secular and religious education, who, with scarcely an exception, have become Protestants, and who, mingling with the

900

people over the country, are diffusing an evangelical influence among their countrymen, and are often instrumental in the conversion of their relatives and others.

The operations of the Society might be greatly extended if they had more means at their disposal. The field is white to the harvest: prejudices have been extensively removed; the people are anxious for the education of their children, and for the possession of the Word of God; the missionaries are well received. A remarkable awakening has commenced among the French Canadians, and we have reason to expect that the next ten years will exhibit far greater results than the last twenty years have produced. It is believed by many that this is the most important general mission in Canada, as its anniversary meeting shows the largest Protestant audience in the British Provinces. There were about 3,500 at last anniversary.

The future welfare of Canada, social, intellectual, and spiritual, is closely bound up with the evangelization of the French Canadians. It would be as life from the dead to them as a people, and would also renew and invigorate the social system in Canada, and confer vast blessings on generations yet unborn.

Total receipts of the F. C. M. S. for the year 1859.....	\$11,816
Of this Canada contributed.....	6,480
((\$2,638 by Montreal alone.)	
Great Britain.....	4,348
The United States.....	991
The Expenditure was.....	11,418
But there was still a debt of.....	1,178

Contributions in aid of the Society are earnestly solicited, and may be paid to Rev. R. WALLACE, General Agent, whose address is INGERSOLL, Canada West.



1860?  
Missions

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Total receipts of the F. C. M. S. for the year 1859, \$11,818.

Of this Canada contributed \$2,498.

(\$2,628 by Montreal alone.)

Great Britain..... 4,348

The United States..... 991

The Expenditure was..... 11,818

but there was still a deficit of \$1,178.

Contributions to all of the Society are actually collected, and may be paid to Rev. R. WATSON, General Agent, whose address is: Quebec, Canada, West.