

in the rear of Bonsecours Chapel, that it might be seen by all navigators and others, both on approaching and leaving the Port. The sixth of October was appointed for the inauguration of the statue. Previously, the Bishop issued a "Pastoral Letter," of which we proceed to give a translation:—

"IGNATIUS BOURGET, *by the mercy of God and the favour of the Apostolic See*, BISHOP OF MONTREAL, &c. &c.

"*To the secular and regular Clergy, to the Communities, and to all the faithful of our diocese, health and benediction in Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

"We write this letter to you, dearly beloved brethren, in order to inform you that it is our intention to celebrate the inauguration of a new statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at Bonsecours on the Sixth of October next, at Nine o'clock in the morning, and in order to regulate the order of that ceremony,

"You will remember, yea, you will never forget, dearly beloved brethren, the august solemnity of the twenty-first of May last, when we crowned with such pomp, and afterwards transferred so triumphantly, the statue which has replaced the holy image of Our Lady of Bonsecours, that had been torn from us by some sacrilegious hand. Can you forget that joyful and pious ceremony, when our streets were embalmed, as it were, by the incense of our praises, and imbued with heavenly benedictions? You know also that ever since that happy day the image has been the instrument of divine mercy.

"Being especially desirous to restore to the holy Chapel of Bonsecours all the monuments which so endeared it to our fathers, we intend to proceed to the ceremony of the translation of the new statue, which will be fixed where a picture of the Blessed Virgin was formerly seen, on the front of

the Sacristy, looking towards the Port, as if to invite all who enter or depart to place in her their entire confidence.

"It gives us pleasure, dearly beloved brethren, to state to you some of the reasons which induce us to celebrate the inauguration of the statue at the present time, and we are assured that your piety will be interested in receiving from us an account of the order which will be observed on that occasion.

"In the first place, we determined to raise this new monument in honour of the Patroness of Montreal, on the Sixth of October, because that day is the anniversary of the solemn planting of the Cross on Mount St. Hilaire, by the venerable Bishop of Nancy, the mention of whose name is associated with the most pleasing recollections. That day also is particularly convenient to the proprietors and captains of Catholic vessels, who will eagerly embrace the opportunity of publicly manifesting their veneration for Mary, and of providing for their fellow-citizens the consolation of a new religious spectacle. Special prayers will be presented for several days previously, both at the Cathedral and at Bonsecours, that God may please to regard with favour the new honours we are about to render to his mother.

"The pomp of one of our imposing ceremonies will then be exhibited on our majestic river. You will clearly discern the reason, and you will acknowledge that rivers and seas, as well as the earth, ought to publish the glory of Her who brought into the world the Creator of all things. '*Quem terra, pontus, sidera colunt—claustrum Mariæ bajulat.* [Whom the earth, the sea, the stars worship—the womb of Mary bore.] The new statue will be placed on the highest and most conspicuous part of Bonsecours Chapel, in order that all who see it may remember, that the