

the ringing bells heard all over Moscow announced that the new Archpastor had arrived in the capital. On the next day the Most Reverend Innocentius, Metropolitan of Moscow and Kolomna, officially entered the great Church of the Assumption. On entering the Cathedral the Prelate delivered an address which was full of true humility.

"Who am I—he said—to dare to take the word and the power of my predecessors? A pupil of distant times, of a remote country, who passed more than half a life time on the frontiers; one who is only a common worker in Christ's vineyard, a teacher of children and of those who are new in the Faith."

With such humility did the Metropolitan Innocent enter into his new office. He was now more than seventy years of age, worn with sickness, nearly blind, yet he was full of strength and zeal for activity. Administering to the government of his new diocese, by his care he did much that was beneficial. He erected asylums for widows and orphans, organized different benevolent societies, sought to alleviate the condition of the poor clergy, took measures for the better education of the populace, and besides all this, sat in the Council of the Holy Synod, taking part in ministering the spiritual affairs of all Russia. On the 18th of May, 1871, exactly fifty years had passed from the day on which John Veniaminov was ordained a priest, and the whole body of the Clergy of the Diocese of Moscow tendered their heartfelt congratulations to the Metropolitan.

But in the midst of pastoral work and cares old age and bodily ailments already began to tell upon the Most Reverend Innocent. Finally sickness entirely weakened him, when on the 30th of March, 1879, he called to his bedside the house-warden, the Hieromonach Arsenius, that he may read for him the office said at the departure of a soul, and at 2 o'clock, on the morning of the 31st of March, Innocentius had passed away.