

Church innumerable legions of children. » (1) Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela heard with delight the voice of the missionaries

and were converted to the faith. » Such was the progress of religion in America, thanks to those missionaries whose names are barely known in history, that in the space of forty years, six thousand monasteries and six hundred bishoprics

Signature of Francis I

were founded. » (2) The Blessed Virgin reigned there as a sovereign.

But there is a portion of America that Christ has reserved from all time for his Ancestress : it is Canada. That land is to be her domain ; she shall be its sovereign ; everything in it shall bear the imprint of her name and the seal of her power. It shall be St. Anne who will direct Jacques Cartier to find the road to it ; she also shall preside over the founding of a colony worthy of the holy Church ; she, in spite of all obstacles, shall ever cause the faith to triumph and to reign there in all its splendor.

God who disposes of all things with gentleness, but who fails not to show his power to attain His end, had also decreed it, and time undertook to manifest His divine plans to such an extent that they shine in the eyes of the world. Thus, nobody hesitates to acknowledge that St. Anne is really the queen of Canada. She has established her authority in it, not by great changes and wonderful facts, but, according to the beautiful expression of Cardinal Lavigerie, because she was its « good godmother. » (3) In fact, however far we may go back in the history of Canada, we find St. Anne already exercising her holy influence, either by making events coincide with the day of her feast, or even by attaching her name to it.

(1) *History of the Church*, by Darras, vol. XXXIV, p. 182. — (2) *Ibid*, p. 183.

(3) *Cardinal Lavigerie*, by Mgr. Bagnard, vol. II, p. 114.