

Prince of Pastors has placed in his hands, more easily visit the distant parishes of the territory under his jurisdiction, and better ascertain their material, moral, and religious condition.

For the Bishop, as his name indicates, is placed in the Church of Jesus-Christ as an ever watchful eye, to inquire into the spiritual necessities of the faithful, and bestow upon them his care.

You see, O. D. B. B., that the immortal Pius IX, although overwhelmed with tribulations, omits nothing which can contribute to your spiritual welfare. Manifest your gratitude by praying for him with redoubled fervor.

The wise rules of discipline, in vigor in the Arch-diocese of Quebec, and the dioceses of St. Hyacinth and Three-Rivers, shall continue to be obligatory in the parishes, which formed a part of these respective dioceses, until a more thorough knowledge of the new Diocese of Sherbrooke shall permit us to establish a uniform rule, based on the wise rules which maintain the Ecclesiastical discipline of this Province.

To-day, we are happy to render the solemn homage of our respect and gratitude to the venerable Bishops who have governed, with so much wisdom and solicitude, the flock committed to our care. You, O. D. B. B., "*Remember your Prelates who have spoken the word of God to you.*" (Hebs. XIII. 7.) The zeal they have shown for your spiritual welfare, the interest they will ever bear to you, undoubtedly render this obligation most agreeable to your grateful hearts.

Wherefore, having invoked the Holy Name of God, we have ruled and ordained, rule and ordain, as follows:

1st. We publish and promulgate by the present, the Brief of Our Holy Father, Pope Pius IX., dated the twenty eighth August, of this year, erecting the new Diocese of Sherbrooke;

2nd. The Feast of the Dedication of St. Michael, Archangel, titular of our Cathedral, shall be celebrated, each year, throughout