

ions, nothing could occur more opportune for her than to see faithful christians enkindled with the desire of propagating Catholic truth and unite the efforts of their zeal and resources to endeavor to gain the whole world to Jesus-Christ."

Having thus spoken, Gregory the Sixteenth exhorted the Bishops to labor with care, each in his own diocese, so that an institution so salutary might every day increase.

Pius the Ninth, of glorious memory, did not swerve from the footsteps of his predecessor ; for he lost no opportunity to favor a society so meritorious, and to further augment its prosperity. In fact, by his authority, the most ample priveleges of pontifical indulgences were conferred on the association ; the piety of christians was roused to aid this work, and its more prominent members, whose special merits were proven, were clothed with divers marks of honor ; finally, certain institution which had been blended for the purpose of aiding and seconding it, were highly praised and exalted by the Same Sovereign Pontiff.

At the same time, thanks to the spirit of pious emulation, two other societies were formed ; one called the *Holy Infancy of Jesus*, and the other, *Schools of the Orient*. The object of the former was to save and lead to Christian habits the unfortunate children whom their parents, urged by indolence or misery, inhumanly exposed, especially in China, where this barbarous custom most prevails. It is these children that the charity of the faithful tenderly glean, that it sometimes ransoms and endeavors to wash in the waters of christian regeneration, in order that they may grow up, with the help of God, for the hope of the church ; or at the very least, that if they die, the means may be given them to obtain eternal happiness.