

o'clock, every day of my Mission is a fast day. This fatigue caused me much inconvenience at the commencement; now I am made to it. When I have eaten with these worthy people a bit of bacon and maize bread, mistakened with a cup of very strong coffee, I mount my horse to proceed to another station, and go on thus every day until Thursday evening, when I return to Logansport, to attend to the principal congregation. Such is my life, my wandering life, in which the consolations surpass in quantity the measure of its toils. It is very true, that in Europe generally one does not conceive the fatigues and the dangers of a Missionary; otherwise more abundant alms and more fervent prayers would come to his relief: but it is also true, that one has no idea of the comforts which our Lord Jesus Christ vouchsafes to attach to these trials; otherwise the number of the labourers would be greater. What respect, what confidence, what gratitude and submission in our dear faithful; with what indulgence have they borne my ignorance of their language at the commencement! for, indeed, if the condition of a poor Priest, thrown in the midst of a civilised people, whom he understands not, by whom he cannot make himself understood, is unhappy, how much more sad is the state of the Catholics, who see their souls abandoned to a Pastor without hearing or speech? I render to them this testimony with the more satisfaction, as I know, my Lord, that they are for yourself as a small portion of the consolations destined, even in this world, to recompense the great sacrifices you have made, and the afflictions inseparable from the burden you have undertaken.

"The Easter time has just commenced under the most favourable auspices; the lent has been observed with an unusual exactness; the number increases of those who practice frequent communion; the parents interest themselves much in the instruction of their children: everything, in fine, promises in a short time a truly Catholic generation, whose piety will be a contrast with that total absence of religion which is daily gaining ground amongst the Protestant masses. For it is quite true, as wrote, in 1837, your holy and illustrious predecessor, that here there is no longer either faith, or the articles of a symbol; scarcely even does one meet religious opinions. It is a pity and affliction to see so many thousands of our poor brethren either slumbering in cold indifference or tossed about by a thousand contradictory and absurd systems. And yet, in the midst of this confusion of disbelief the true Church is being established: she watches with attention and calls with a feeling of benevolence: prejudices are disappearing from the upright minds, and many Americans, too much habituated to carelessness to seek and embrace the truth, have at least justice enough to respect it openly. But, at the same time, the animosity of some sectaries is increasing.

"I think I have never as yet spoken to you of the merits that the Mission of Logansport can offer for the maintenance of its Pastor; yet the subject is not without importance. At the commencement of my ministry; the formations of the canals being still in progress, the offerings of the Irish labourers were sufficient for my support. With them have departed all my resources, the population of farmers being able, with difficulty, to provide for themselves. These poor people, established one, two, or three years at the most, upon portions of the forest which they have purchased from the government, are scarcely commencing, after incredible toil, to provide themselves with cattle, and to cultivate the quantity of maize necessary for their own use. Within six months I have received altogether, from the entire Mission, in offerings, &c., thir-