

From Yakoutsck the Archbishop, not considering his old age, often undertook journeys over his great diocese which now had become much more widened, exposing himself to privations and dangers. During one of these journeys, when in the port of Ayan, he was nearly captured by the English, who suddenly took possession of that town, they being then at war with Russia.

At the end of June, 1857, the Most Reverend Innocent was summoned to St Petersburg for the purpose of taking part in the councils of the Most Holy Synod. During his sojourn in the Capital an Imperial High Degree had been issued, granting two Vicars (assistant Bishops to an Archbishop), one for Yakoutsck and the other for Sitkha. In this way the labors of the Venerable Archbishop were made lighter.

The Most Reverend Innocent left St. Petersburg in the beginning of 1858, but before going to Yakoutsck he traveled through the Amoor Country, which was then annexed to Russia. The great Amoor River flows for several thousand versts and separates the Chinese boundary line from the Russian. During this journey the Archbishop stopped in almost every town by the River and held services. But what was still more simple, he would sometimes on passing a village give orders to land, and then he would commence to teach the inhabitants who had run together on the beach. And nothing on these occasions was hid from the Prelate; he entered into all the cares and needs of his people, both the spiritual and the bodily.

In 1862 the Most Reverend Innocent took up his home in the town of Blagoveshchensk on the banks of the Amoor. Here also he continued untiringly to fulfill the duties of his office, endeavoring much to firmly plant Orthodoxy in the diocese. From this place he likewise often undertook journeys along the Amoor and into other districts, personally inspecting and instruct-