

this kind occur occasionally in Toronto. Some well meaning, but inexperienced individual learns all at once that a family is at starvation point ; forthwith a notice to that effect appears in a newspaper, and then comes an avalanche of provisions—five or six roasts of beef, twelve or twenty loaves of bread and other things in proportion are contributed with reckless profusion ; but it often happens that the last state of that family is worse than the first.

In 1632 the congregation of Priests of the Mission, established by Vincent, was formally sanctioned by Rome ; these priests are generally called Lazarists, from the convent of St. Lazarus in Paris, formerly their principal house. Soon after the formation of this order, its missionaries were found in Madagascar, Ireland (where one of them, merely for exercising his priestly functions, was shot near Limerick by a Cromwellian soldier), the Islands and Highlands of Scotland, Barbary and elsewhere. Vincent lived to see 25 houses of his order in active operation in different parts of Europe. The present Archbishop of Toronto was a Lazarist, prior to his elevation to the episcopate. The best known of Vincent's foundations is, perhaps, the Sisters of Charity, whose institution has for its object to procure for the sick poor, kind and intelligent nurses. At first they numbered only five, but others soon joined their ranks. Before the revolution Paris alone contained 34 houses of this order ; it has since spread far and near ; the mother house of the United States is at Emmittsburgh, Maryland, and is now occupied by two hundred professed sisters, with their dependents. Those who have seen these sisters in France and other foreign countries must have noticed their wonderful headgear, respecting which a curious anecdote is told : The French king was sitting with Vincent near a window in Paris, when one of the sisters, bareheaded, passed along the street. " Vincent," said the King, " why not give your sisters a bonnet of some kind ?" at the same time throwing toward her a napkin which chanced to be in his hand. The napkin spread in falling, and lighted on the girl's