

may be termed "the apostolic times" of the church of Upper Canada. Without going as far back as the labors of the Jesuit missionaries, and presenting such pictures of heroic devotedness and martyrdom for Christ's sake, the period during which the career of Bishop Macdonell runs is one of unusually trying circumstances and struggling against prejudice and passion, attended, however, with ever-increasing success, and a bright promise for the future harvest. To it may be applied the *Apollo rigavit* of the Apostle of the Gentiles, and even, in a great measure, the *Deus autem incrementum dedit*.

To the untiring zeal of Bishop Macdonell for the salvation of souls, to his persevering efforts on behalf of the rights of the Church, which he proclaimed and defended "in season and out of season," in the Senate-hall as well as from the pulpit, in the public press as well as in his official correspondence, may be attributed the really wonderful progress of the church in Upper Canada. What, fifty years ago, was but one diocese, under the pastoral care of the subject of the above biography, now forms a large ecclesiastical Province, numbering one archbishop, with four suffragan sees, besides a large portion of the newly erected Province of Ottawa, with a numerous clergy, cathedrals and churches, colleges and schools, and faithful without number.

Might not the Catholics of Ontario, illustrating the fecundity and vitality of the Church, repeat to their non-catholic fellow-citizens, the word of Tertullian to the Roman Emperor and Senate: "We are but of yesterday, and already we fill your halls and public places; your temples alone we leave empty," because, might they add, those which our Pastors, the successors of the Apostles, have raised to the glory of God, are thronged with our ever-increasing brethren who adore God in spirit and in truth.