If we indulge in a retrospect on this occasion, it is to
s and thank God for the marvelous increase he has merci-
y vouchsafed to His Church in this Province. But a few
rs ago, and there were only a few scattered priests laboring
he Lord's vineyard in Ontario: Catholic families, poor and
riended, were toiling in the wilderness, striving to cut out
omestead from the reluctant forest; children grew up
hout religious instruction, and many of them were, in
sequence, lost to the church. The little ones of Christ
e famishing for the bread of life, and there were few or
consecrated hands to break it unto them. The Holy
rifice of the Mass, the great central act of Christian
rship, for which the most glorious structure ever de-
ned by human genius and built by human hands is
unworthy, could be offered up but at distant intervals, and
n only in the smoky cabin, or in the humble log chapel.
rriages were often unblest by the ministrations of the
urch, and the Sundays were unsanctified. The sick and
row-stricken were in many instances deprived of the con-
ations of religion; and, too frequently, alas, souls went to
ir dread account, unshrived, and unanointed, in the lone-
ess of the forest.

But the picture which now presents itself is, thank God,
ry different. Ontario is at present an Ecclesiastical Pro-
nce, having an Archbishop and four suffragan Bishops,
arly three hundred priests, and a Catholic population of
out 330,000. Happier than the faithful of other countries,
e possess a system of Catholic primary education established
law; we have a sufficient number of colleges and convent-
l academies for higher education, and also charitable insti-
tions for the protection of orphans, and for the healing and
mfort of the sick and suffering. Churches have arisen in
ur cities, towns and villages, and crosses gleam from their
eeples through the length and breadth of the land.

To the holy bishops and zealous and devoted priests who
ave passed to their reward, this happy state of things is,

under God, mainly duc
the heats; they sowe
"Sowing they went a
coming with joyfulnes
66.) It is for us clerg
began. On us the re
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tivity of the Holy Chur
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to separate from Lot.
also are our responsib

Let us clergy quit
animated with the spiri
the divine glory and
St. Paul, who counted
Christ, and who becam
win souls to God and
commission to fulfil, a
discharge its duties wi
or the endless misery
charity of Christ press
eyes the divine pattern
once shown us on the
the blessings of heaven
ministry fruitful in the
people. The greatest
work of the holy min
the grace of God will
fruitless fig tree, will b
plant and Apollo wa