

Would that it had been granted us then, as a crowning act worthy of those days of centenary rejoicings, to promulgate the Decree which we now make public! But circumstances did not allow of it.

“ At all events, if this recent and solemn approval comes late as a reward for the first fiftieth anniversary, at least it will impel our Work onward with a lasting momentum towards the second. For the Apostleship it will act as a superadded vigour from its own native source, as a more fecund vitality and as a renewal of youth and an earnest of prosperity.

“ The present Statutes have been framed with the utmost care, and worked out, we would willingly add, with a master hand. Indeed, they set forth, in a series of articles of admirable completeness and clearness, the *nature*, the *constitution*, and the *organization* of the Apostleship. Before expatiating on them severally, as the importance of the subject requires, we shall place them before our Associates.”

LETTER FROM VERY REV. L. MARTIN, GENERAL
OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS, TO REV. AUGUSTUS
DRIVE, S. J.

ROME, October 30, 1896.

DEAR REV. FATHER IN CHRIST :

I herewith send to Your Reverence to promulgate and to put into effect the *new Statutes* of the Apostleship of Prayer, lately issued by the Sacred Congregation of Most Eminent and Reverend Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church, presiding over the affairs and consultations of Bishops and Regulars.

Thus at length new vigour will accrue to the pious association of the Apostleship, now strengthened by certain and fixed laws, by which it can more fully exert its power and more safely and effectually attain its end. It is almost the common condition of human undertakings to start life from