

LES PROGRES DE L'EGLISE DANS L'OUEST CANADIEN APPRECIÉS PAR S. G. MGR IRELAND

Le vénérable archevêque de Saint-Paul a toujours porté un très vif intérêt au développement de l'Eglise dans nos plaines de l'Ouest canadien. En 1908, lors de la bénédiction de la cathédrale de Saint-Boniface, il est venu apporter le magnifique témoignage de son admiration pour les missionnaires de l'Ouest. On se rappelle, en particulier, en quels termes il a loué Mgr Taché et quel hommage il a décerné aux services rendus par lui à l'Eglise et à la patrie canadienne. Invité à assister le mois dernier à l'imposition du pallium au premier archevêque d'Edmonton, il s'est excusé de ne pouvoir s'y rendre par une lettre dont nous tenons à consigner le texte. Nous y joindrons celle qu'il adressait l'an dernier à S. G. Mgr l'Archevêque à l'occasion de la consécration de son Auxiliaire.

ST. PAUL, MINN., AUG. 14, 1914.

My dear Archbishop,

I shall not be able to be at the ceremony in the Cathedral of St. Albert next Sunday. I beg leave however to offer my sincere congratulations to you that are to be invested with the Pallium as the Archbishop of Edmonton, and at the same time to the Archdiocese of Edmonton that it has so grown in prosperity as to deserve the honor of becoming a Metropolitan See.

I now go back in memory to the years when what is now the Archdiocese of Edmonton was only a vast prairie, over which its sole priest, the venerable Father Lacombe, coursed in snows of winter and heats of summer, in search of souls amidst wild Indian population. What a marvelous change has come upon the territory now included in the ecclesiastical province of Edmonton!

I never believed what we see today was possible of realization. How things are changed! Truly you have in Western Canada a great country; and what is vital to the interests of religion you have had there great apostles of the Church, bishops and priests who had they lived in earlier days would surely have obtained the glories of canonization — glories which they deserved upon earth, which they receive around the throne of the Almighty.

May the Archdiocese of Edmonton still grow, still prosper; and may it always have as its ministers priests worthy to walk in the footsteps of a Taché, a Grandin, and a Lacombe.

Vere sincerely,

JOHN IRELAND,

Abp of St. Paul

MOST REV. E. J. LEGAL.