

apostles whence went forth the first preaching of the gospel unto the entire world ; let them, finally, invoke all men, eminent for sanctity, who consumed their strength in this ministry or gave up their lives with their blood. To suppliant prayer let alms be added, the efficacy of which is such that they will make of persons the most distant and the most occupied with other affairs, the coadjutors of apostolic men, the partakers of their labors and merits. In our time many suffer from family embarrassments ; but let none of the faithful be on that account discouraged. The tax required for this work cannot be a burden to anyone, although many small subscriptions put together might eventually amount to quite a considerable sum.

Let each one, therefore, by your exhortations, Venerable Brothers, consider that his liberality, far from being injurious to him, will on the contrary profit him much ; because in giving to the poor one lends to God ; besides the practice of alms giving has well been called the most fruitful of all operations. In fact, if, according to the testimony of Jesus-Christ himself, he who gives a glass of cold water to one of the least, will not lose his reward ; he surely shall have a very great merit who by the least farthing given to the holy missions and by his prayers, exercises works of charity, works at once numerous, and varied, which the Holy Fathers have proclaimed divine among all since by them one becomes the auxiliary of God for his neighbor's salvation.

We are convinced, Venerable Brothers, that reflecting on these things and enkindled by your exhortations, all those who glory in the name of Catholic, will not fail in this pious duty which we have so much at heart. Yes, their efforts for the extension of the Kingdom of Jesus-Christ will