BISHOP DURIEU AND HIS WORK AMONG THE INDIANS. (Reminiscenses).

I saw Bishop Durieu for the first time at the mother house of the Oblates of M.I. in Paris, the first of September, 1879, a few days only before our departure for British Columbia. A day or two after, we were together at Montmartre, where we went to recommend our journey and our entire missionary lives to the Sacred Heart. The few days that remained were spent mostly in making ready for our journey, in procuring a few indispensable articles that could not be obtained easily in that far off country; among others, a small printing press that has travelled a good deal since.

We left Paris, Friday morning, September 5th, 1879, and arrived at the Håvre, about noon the same day. We were four in our party: His Lordship Bishop Durieu, Father E. C. Chirouse, Father J. M. Le Jeune, and a lay postulant. When we arrived at the Håvre, the Bishop was met at the depôt by one of his brothers who was living in the neighbourhood, and took his lordship to his residence, while we remained in the city, where we visited the curate of the Bretons, of which there are quite a number at the Håvre. Owing to the kindness of the reverend gentleman we had the happiness of celebrating the Holy Mass next morning, the day of our departure. We went on board the Pereyre, of the Transatlantic Company, Saturday, September 6th, towards noon, and left the port at one p.m.

Soon after we lost sight of land, we went, Father Chirouse and myself, to ask the Bishop to be kind enough to give us a lesson in the Indian language. His Lordship had already prepared for us a flying sheet containing about thirty Chinook words. We took much pleasure in reading that first lesson over and over again. We were quite decided to continue our study during the whole passage, but that same evening we began to experience the sea sickness, and for three days could not think of our Chinook. After that we resumed our studies, His Lordship passing us a new sheet every day with some thirty new words. In that manner we had most of the Chinook vocabulary before we reached New York.