

the mouth of the Priest that accompanied them to the end of their long journey, that they found in the desert their brethren, an altar, and two ecclesiastics, to whose care they had been confided. May the Lord in his goodness protect them !

"During this pastoral visitation I met, in different parts of my diocese, about six hundred German families, and it gives me pleasure to render testimony to the filial reception which they everywhere prepared for me ; I continually received from them the most marked demonstrations of respect, confidence, and attachment ; I hold in lasting remembrance the sacrifices they have imposed on the natives, in order to have amongst them Catholic Priests. As I cannot name all these generous colonies, allow me to mention, as an example of the receptions which I have met, that which awaited me at Blue-Creek. Having arrived at about two miles from the church, we met the entire congregation : men, women, and children, had come with their crosses and banners to welcome their first pastor. A bouquet of flowers was offered with simplicity to him and the Priest that accompanied him. The procession then commenced in midst of the endless forest. It was a lovely autumn evening ; the country presented that combination of circumstances, which the Germans appear to love ; the echoes of the woods repeated with emulation the pious canticles, in which the people, with one accord blessed God and invoked his saints. This multitude of voices singing the praises of the Lord, under ancient trees, made on me a stronger and sweeter impression than the finest composition of the greatest masters ; I never heard. The bril-

liant effect of the silk banners, upon which were painted the images of Jesus and his Mother, shining through the leaves ; the tints of the forest, so rich and varied, gilded by the last rays of the setting sun ; the solemn silence of those deep retreats, interrupted by the chaunt of hymns, ascending towards the throne of the Almighty, to thank him, that, in the midst of the most profound solitude, his bounty had also procured the benefits of religion ; the whole formed a scene as difficult to describe as the emotions it created.

"Accept &c.,

"**CELESTINE, Bishop of Vincennes.**"

*Letter of the Rev. Mr. Aug. Martin  
Missionary-Apostolic, to Dr. de la  
Hailandiere, Bishop of Vincennes.*

Logansport, April 16, 1841.

"MY LORD,

"With Easter week has commenced the second year of my ministry in the Mission that your Lordship has been pleased to confide to my care. I have informed you on different occasions of the Apostolic labours which I considered fit to interest your solicitude : at present I shall endeavour, according to the wish your Lordship has communicated to me, to lay before you an exact account of the present state of my Mission, of the hopes which it gives, and of the success which has hitherto been obtained.

"The Mission of Logansport, such as my predecessor, Mr. Francoir, left it to me, extended from the east to the southwest, over a surface of a hundred miles, along the Wabash, from Le Gros to Independence ; and in breadth, from the south to the north, that is, from India-