

origin of it back to the lawless ancestry of the sixteenth century. All the facts connected with this glorious history are known to many of you here present. Nay, some of you even, were personally acquainted with the grand old pioneers of the Faith in British Columbia before they were called to receive the reward of their labors. And you know, and all of us know, that they were men of illustrious virtue. Their names have not been blazed to the four corners of the globe, nor have statues of marble been erected to them. Yet their example and the memory of their deeds will ever live in the hearts of a loving people. They spent their days far beyond the borders of civilization, yet their life's work will not be forgotten, but will be gratefully and affectionately handed down to all succeeding generations. Nearly all the early missionaries have, I repeat, gone to receive their crown, yet I rejoice to think that a few of them at least have been spared to see this Jubilee Festival, and are in our midst today.

“When the first Oblate Fathers arrived in this country, some fifty years ago, a then unknown and untried land, little did they dream that there would be a celebration like this to do them honor; little did they dream they were laying the foundation of a great Metropolitan Church. Little too did they dream of the fruits and blessings that would come through their labor. It commands the admiration of this continent; and if it were known, it would command the admiration and love of the whole Catholic world. Little did they dream of this, I say, fifty years ago.

“And what a great change has come about, from that day to this. In 1860 there was not a bishop in this whole north-western country. No bishop in that vast region included between the 54th degree of latitude, down to the line of the United States, and