

months you have still abundant reasons to be thankful to 'the Father of Mercies and God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our tribulations' (2 Cor. i. 4). During that period your religious possessions in Halifax have been increased to the value of Four Thousand Pounds; the Mysteries of your faith have been celebrated with befitting splendour; the Word of God has been abundantly distributed to the poor, many hundreds of those who had neglected the Sacraments, have made their reconciliation with Heaven; new Institutions have sprung up to quicken and attest your zeal, and all that was valuable in the old has been consolidated and preserved. In a word, a large revival of faith and piety has taken place, and in spite of every obstruction the solid foundations of future progress and Christian harmony have been laid.

For, be assured, my dearly beloved brethren, the present foolish and criminal opposition will speedily pass away. I am sorry that you have been so much affected by it. For my part, I totally disregard it, although I lament the scandals which it has occasioned, and the vast quantity of good which it has obstructed.

My appointment to the dignity which I unworthily hold, took place without my knowledge or desire. It was to me an announcement which involved the sacrifice of every thing that was dear to me on earth—the country of my birth and affections, the cherished authors of my existence, the companions of my youth, the numerous and devoted friends of my maturer years, the ardent, generous and confident people in whose service I cheerfully expended the health and strength of my youth and manhood, the never to be forgotten people whom I so tenderly loved, and by whom I may say, without affectation, I was beloved in return.

I am ashamed to say that I made repeated attempts to decline this formidable burthen.

But the commands of the Holy See were imperative. Nova Scotia was chosen as the scene of my future labours. I was bound to renounce all things for the sake of Christ, and to employ

my feeble exertions in whatsoever part of the vineyard the Master of the family should place me.

Our Most Holy Father, Gregory XVI. appointed me to Halifax. With his canonical and apostolic commission, in his venerable name and authority, I appeared amongst you. The task before me was one before which the stoutest heart might quail. Formidable and numerous were the dangers which threatened me. 'But I fear none of these things, neither do I count my life more precious than myself, so that I may consummate my course and the ministry of the word which I received' (Acts xx. 24). I remembered that he who sent me was the successor of the Prince of the Apostles, of that Peter to whom our Great High Priest said, 'Upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. To thee I will give the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in the heavens' (Matt. xvi. 18, 19).

I know that those who refuse to hear that church are like heathens and publicans—that they who despise her ambassadors, despise Christ himself and his heavenly Father—that they who presume to rise up against her, will be dashed to pieces against this immovable Rock of ages.

They misunderstood my character when they fancied they could terrify me from the path of duty. They have left no means untried to scare me from my post. However, from that honorable position nothing but death or the voice of Christ's Vicar on earth, can ever call me. I hereby announce to them their resolve—determined, unshaken, and invincible.

But, my dearly beloved brethren, 'It is good to wait with silence for the salvation of God' (Lament of Jer. iii. 26.) 'All who take up the sword shall perish by the sword' (Matt. xxvi. 52.) 'But, those who sow in tears shall reap with joy' (Ps. cxxv. 5.) 'The God of all grace, after you have suffered a little, will himself perfect you, and confirm you, and establish you' (1 Pet. v. 10.) 'For where envying and contention is, there is inconstancy and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above, first indeed is chaste, then peaceable, modest, easy to be persuaded, consenting to the good, full of mercy and good fruits, without judging, without dissimulation. And the fruit of justice is sown