

Church in America, through the agency of this tri-annual Synod, are inconceivable. The ancient and canonical discipline of the Church will be restored and preserved, wholesome laws and wise constitutions will be enacted for her government. new Sees will be erected, and learned and pious candidates nominated for the approval of the Holy Father to fill them. In a word the prelate council of Baltimore is a flame of religious light which periodically bursts over the American Continent; its influence will be felt from North to South and from East to West of this vast continent; the intensity of its heat will wither the noxious weeds which immorality and laxity of discipline may have permitted to grow up and deform the fair surface of the church, whilst true faith, sound discipline, and those pious practices which fit man for companionship with the celestial spirits, by electing for him a spirit like to them, whilst living on earth among mortals, will be sure to flourish and spread, and to ever wax green beneath its benign, heavenly influence.

What a consolation it must be for the European Catholic, when about to abandon his country, friends and the homestead of his Fathers to emigrate to America, and particularly for the Irish Catholic, whom no other individual—be his country what it may, even far sunny Italy, or la belle France, so much favored by religion—can excel in attachment to his church and to the faith of his faithful and pious ancestors; what a consolation must it not be for him to find, on his arrival in a distant and foreign land, that, besides his good fortune in having his lot cast in a land teeming with plenty, and which is so rich in the best gifts of nature as to crown and reward his labours with most abundant fruits, he will find himself and his beloved family in the bosom of the same tender mother-church which so affectionately caressed him in his dear native country, and surrounded too, with those religious and literary advantages all within his reach—which form the Catholic Christian and the accomplished man.—*St. John Liberator.*

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

The sixth Provincial Council was opened at Baltimore on Saturday last with extraordinary solemnity. Twenty-three prelates were in attendance, of whom nineteen are titular Bishops of so many dioceses of the United States three are Coadjutors and one a Vicar Apostolic. The venerable Flaget, Bishop of Louisville, now in the eighty third year of his age, and thirty-sixth year of his episcopate, was absent; as also the Bishop of Boston, whose ill-health prevented his attendance; but each diocese was represented by the Coadjutor. At ten o'clock the procession was formed from the dwelling of the Most Rev. Archbishop. The the theologians and officers of the Council, above

forty in number, with a great number, of clerical attendants preceded by the cross, moved through the streets around the enclosure of the Metropolitan Church, followed by the Bishops in cope and mitre; the Archbishop with his attendants closing the procession. As they moved along, the large bell of the Cathedral tolled solemnly, and on their entering into the Church, the organ pealed its joyous notes, in unison with a numerous and most efficient choir. After Pontifical Mass, celebrated by the Most Rev. Archbishop, the Bishop of Cincinnati delivered an eloquent discourse, taking for his text the fourth verse of the sixteenth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. The impressive prayers and psalms appointed for the occasion were recited, and the Litanies sung, and the whole of the sublime ceremonial was performed with striking accuracy.—Eight Bishops, who for the first time took their seats in the Council, made the solemn profession of faith, kneeling on the steps of the altar. It was nearly three o'clock when the ceremonies terminated. Vespers were celebrated pontifically by the Bishop of Natchez, and a discourse delivered by the Very Rev. John Martin Spalding, Vicar General of the diocese of Louisville: the religious services of the day closing with the benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament. It is difficult to present an inadequate idea of the effect of the ceremonials on the crowds that thronged the Cathedral, and the streets through which the procession passed. All who were present at the ceremonies within, viewed them with intense interest and deep reverence, and listened with breathless attention to the eloquent addresses of the preachers. The eagerness of Protestants to witness the ceremonial surpassed that of Catholics themselves, with whom they vied in their respectful demeanor. It was manifest that these time hallowed rites have a powerful influence on the mind and heart, and that a Catholic Council is widely different from any of those Assemblies which are the creations of mere human policy, or wisdom.

The Bishop of New York preached on Monday evening; the Bishop of Pittsburgh on Tuesday; and the pulpit will be occupied we believe, on every evening of the week by some prelate or priest. Thursday (to day) the second solemn session is held, in which Pontifical Mass de Requiem is celebrated for the deceased prelates.—The Bishop of St Louis is to preach the panegyric of his pious predecessor, who finished his apostolic career at Rome, since the holding of the last Council. We understand that the Bishop of Charleston is to preach at the close of the Council on Sunday next.

PRELATES ASSEMBLED IN COUNCIL.—The Most Rev. Archbishop of Baltimore, Samuel Eccleston,