

The Catholic Record.

"CHRISTIANUS MIHI NOMEN EST, CATHOLICUS VERO COGNOMEN."—"CHRISTIAN IS MY NAME, BUT CATHOLIC MY SURNAME."—St. Pacian, 4th Century.

VOL. 5.

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PASTORAL LETTER
OF
His Lordship the Bishop of Ottawa
ON NEWSPAPERS, &c.
JOSEPH THOMAS DUHAMEL,
By the mercy of God and the favor of the
Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of Ottawa,
Assistant at the Pontifical Throne, &c.
To the Clergy, Religious Communities
and the Faithful of the Diocese of
Ottawa, Health and Benediction in the
Lord.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,
Many are the duties incumbent on a
Bishop. One of the most important is
undoubtedly that of preserving the de-
posit of Christian faith and morality in-
act in the hearts of his spiritual children.
In order to fulfil this obligation properly,
the Bishop, according to the advice of St.
Paul, should "preach the word, be instant
in season, out of season; reprove, entreat,
rebuke in all patience and doctrine."
2 Tim. IV, 2.

Those who govern in the House of God,
feel that in the evil days in which we live
this duty is a most imperative one. In-
deed, the time seems to have come, that
was foretold by St. Paul, in the following
words: "For there shall be a time, when
they will not endure sound doctrine, but
according to their own desires, they will
heap to themselves teachers, having itching
ears." (1 Tim. IV, 3.)
In the same way, our souls are forced
to declare, that good Catholics are not
alarmed, as they should be, at the per-
verseness with which wicked men labour
to inspire the minds of all, but especially
of youth, with notions contrary to Catho-
lic doctrine; not sufficiently indignant at
the hypocrisy with which some endeavor
to impress on their hearers the idea, that
the Church being persecuted everywhere,
it is out of place not only to insist upon
her enjoying her rights, but even to teach
those rights in unmistakable language.
These good persons are not alarmed, as
they ought to be, at the ardent zeal with
which men who pretend to speak in the
name of Catholic prudence, prevent youth
from knowing, that human laws are bad
when they are opposed to the natural or
divine law; or subversive of ecclesiastical
law; nor are they surprised when these
same men carefully avoid teaching the
natural and divine law, for the express
purpose of leading Catholics to believe in
the authority of civil laws only.

Dearlly Beloved Brethren, our heart is
filled with grief, at seeing that these men
are not satisfied with speaking thus, but
give vent to their ideas in a multitude of
books and newspapers, which they scatter
broadcast as intellectual food for persons
of every age and condition. Therefore we
have resolved to raise our voice against
so great an abuse and to remind you of
the precaution you must take in order to
prevent the evils which would result from
such books and newspapers.

In modern society the Press is an im-
mense power. Cognizant of all that takes
place, and prompt to publish all it knows,
it reaches, with the swiftness of lightning,
the lowly village and the wealthy city, and
penetrates alike into the proud mansions
of the rich and the humble cottages of
the poor. This power is fraught with
good, when, as should always be the case,
the writer has in view to enlighten all
classes on their rights and duties, and thus
to encourage them in the practice of
Christian morality. It is truly an apostle-
ship blessed by God and the Church, when
the writer valiantly defends everything
that is sacred and courageously protects
the poor and the weak. Alas, Dearlly
Beloved Brethren, all do not understand
this sublime mission of the journalist. If
there are some who fulfil this mission,
with heroic devotedness, there are others
who rush in a direction diametrically
opposite and whose pens distil only calu-
mny, impiety and immorality. They
deserve to be compared to birds of prey,
for like to them, coming oftentimes from
afar, they alight among us, only to tear
to pieces that respect for authority hard-
ened down from father to son, that faith
for which our ancestors bled, and that mor-
tality which has always been our safeguard
and our glory.

It was of such newspapers, Our Holy
Father Leo XIII, spoke, when on the 22nd
of February, 1879, he said: "the daily
press is one of the principal sources of the
deluge of evils which inundates us and of
the wretched condition to which society is
reduced."

Hearken, My Dearlly Beloved Brethren,
to the grave warning of our wise and
learned Pope, and be very prudent in the
choice of the newspapers that you allow
to come under your roof. How brilliant
soever they may apparently be, if they
teach error, they cannot properly be called
brilliant; for beauty is the splendor of
truth and they contain only error and
falsehood; if they do not exalt virtue they
cannot be good; for, although they some-
times clothe themselves with a showy veil,
it is often only a cloak for vices which
they endorse; and vice, as you know, is
worse than danger, it is evil itself. For
us, Catholics, and in fact for every one
possessing common sense, the only true
science is the science that bows before the

cross, the only true happiness is that
which virtue gives and the only real joy
is the peace of a good conscience.
Therefore, whenever there falls into
your hands any publication preaching
revolt against ecclesiastical or civil author-
ity, or making itself the echo of unhealthy
or of what is still worse, immoral litera-
ture, We beseech you, not to read it and
not to permit it to be read by any mem-
ber of your family. If you allow it to
enter your house, its presence will be the
cause of irreparable ruin, it will soon
weaken those principles of faith and
morals which you have impressed on the
minds and hearts of your children.

II.
Dearlly Beloved Brethren, a very
serious question will now naturally
present itself to your minds,
and it is this: Have our Canadian news-
papers remained Christian in their ten-
dency, and can we subscribe for them or
read them, indiscriminately?
Before giving an answer, it is necessary
to distinguish between Catholic and non-
Catholic newspapers.

As regards the latter, the faithful must
not forget that every non-Catholic pub-
lication treating of religious questions, ex-
cept as strictly forbidden. Of many rea-
sons, we may give one. In these publica-
tions, whether encouraging the most
shameless impiety, or religious error,
Christian truth is disguised, offending
misrepresented, and too often most un-
justly held up to the reader. How can a
Christian peruse such writings. We will
not say, without danger, but even, without
a blush? Besides these publications,
written by men devoid of all conscience,
there are others, also deserving of blame;
those newspapers which from time to time
direct their poisoned arrows against the
Church, her doctrines or her ceremonies,
or else against lay or her ecclesiastical
persons. One day it is a whole column,
next day, a short paragraph, another day,
a few sentences in a leading article, or in
the letter of some correspondent. You
can generally recognize them by the
eagerness with which they publish a
scandalous telegraphic despatch, or a story
more or less true, that may turn to the
disadvantage of Catholicity. It is evi-
dent, that such newspapers are out of
place in a Catholic home, and that to tol-
erate them there is a great imprudence.

Do we mean by this, that we would
wish to see you shut your doors against
every newspaper that is not Catholic?
No, Dearlly Beloved Brethren, for there
are some, the editors of which are true
gentlemen, who courageously pursue the
political, industrial or civilizing end which
they have in view, and who, for all the
world, would not stoop to propagate
lies or calumnies against Catholics or
Catholicism. These newspapers and their
editors are in every sense of the word,
respectable, and it is not our wish to
oppose, even in the least, their conscien-
tious efforts for the good of the country.

III.
Let us now speak of newspapers that
are Catholic, or at least edited by Catholics.
Have they always been entirely blame-
less? Whether by mistake or ignorance,
do they never contain false or dangerous
ideas? Are their editors as scrupulous as
they should be, when there is question of
morality? We do not wish to be too
severe, but we must point out to you
some abuses that are very serious and too
frequent. Be convinced, that our only
motive in giving you advice is to put
you on your guard and to warn you against
the errors of the day.

First of all, certain newspapers, other-
wise good and respectable, do not give a
becoming prominence to Catholic questions.
Entirely devoted to politics, they seem to
take no interest themselves, and not to
wish to interest their readers, in matters
relating to the Church. As far as they
concern, the editors are concerned, one would
think that the Pope, a prisoner in the
Vatican, is a stranger, and that the inter-
ests of religion are of no importance.
Catholics as we are, our hearts should
beat in unison with those of Catholics, all
over the world, and we should desire to
know all that concerns them. Silence is
sometimes a fault; want of discretion is
another, and at least as great a one.
Under pretence of giving, as some
indefinite or simply non-Catholic papers
do, the greatest possible amount
of news, it happens often and too often,
that these newspapers contain many most
pernicious sensational despatches; or else,
or prominent persons amongst them, in a
false, or very doubtful, light. Others,
carried away by a restless zeal, rush, with-
out waiting for the word of command from
the chiefs that God has given to lead them,
and even against their order, into the very
foremost line of the most delicate and
difficult questions. Be careful lest by con-
tact with such ideas, you might easily lose
the spirit of obedience and of respect
towards ecclesiastical dignitaries, or at least
you might feel in your hearts that such
growing weaker, whose sentiments are so
wholesome, and at the same time, obliga-
tory.

On the 13th of last October, Our Holy
Father, in an Allocution addressed to the
French pilgrims, said: that the first con-
dition of union and concord was submis-
sion and obedience to the Bishops. Why
should we not profit by this fatherly ad-
vice? Especially, why should not those
who write for the public, conform thereto
in their conduct and their writings. It was
to St. Peter and to the Apostles, and
through them, to the Pope and to the Bi-
shops, that Our Lord entrusted the care of
governing His Church. To them it belongs
to teach, to arrange matters of discipline,
and to interpret with authority, the deci-
sions of this same Church. Journalists
should keep this constantly in mind and be
guided by it. They would then be more
prudent, and they would not endanger the
sacred interests of religion in their party

quarrels or rivalry; and politics thereby
would gain by being more free and less
changeable. Let them read and ponder on
the Encyclical of Leo XIII, to the Bishops
of the Spanish nation. They will there
find that rule full of wisdom, that should
be their guide, both in attacking error and
in defending sound principles. This Ency-
clical ought to be published in all the
newspapers of the country.

For some time back, a custom against
which we must energetically protest, has
been adopted in some at least, of four news-
papers. Unable to find easily, thrilling
serial stories, likely to attract subscribers,
they borrow them, to a great extent, from
the most fashionable, but, let us remark,
not the most harmless novels. They do
not seem to be aware that this literature
even expurgated, contains in itself and
carries with it a germ of most dangerous
efficiency and voluptuousness. These
different scenes therein pictured, as unreal
as they are immoral, beget a thirst for an-
sual gratification which leads to reading of
the worst kind, and thereby to crime and
ruin. What must we say of that compla-
cency, with which the most minute
details of a scandalous story are described;
or again of the tone of levity, in which
facts utterly opposed to all Christian mor-
ality, are related? It is plainly impossible
for us not to condemn such a style of writ-
ing.

We also condemn those newspapers that
make it a point to belittle ecclesiastical
persons and others worthy of defence and
respect, as well as religious communities
and institutions that are eminently Catho-
lic. These writers, alike cowardly and
ungrateful, wish, it would seem, to destroy,
by one stroke of the pen, the purest and
most admirable works of charity, zeal and
heroism. Therefore not satisfied with
attacking the living, they assail even the
memory of the dead. History in their
hands, is nothing but a series of scandalous
or ridiculous facts, the perusal of which
is far from tending to improve the
present generation. By what rale of
criticism and with what good faith do
they proceed, in that, to them pleasing
enumeration, of private crimes, it is not
their object to examine here, but
certainly the effect produced is most
injurious and deserves our fullest con-
demnation. Therefore We remind such
writers and those who read their such
rules of these rules of Christian conversation,
framed by the Great Apostle: "But fornication
and all uncleanness or covetousness,
let it not so much as be named among
you, as becoming saints: Or sensuality,
or foolish talking, or scurrility, which is to
no purpose." (Ephes. V, 3, 4)

Let us, Dearlly Beloved Brethren, keep
in mind this warning, full of wisdom,
since it was inspired by the Holy Ghost;
it is intended to secure not only our happi-
ness in this life, but also and above all
our happiness in eternity. How can a
sincere Catholic take delight in either
writing or reading what his conscience
condemns? How can he have so little
shame as to relish blasphemies against
Jesus Christ and His Church?

IV.
What we have said with regard to news-
papers, equally applies to a multitude of
books published in our day. In them,
faith is ridiculed in the name of false
science, and morality is insulted without
any restraint. Under pretence of paint-
ing scenes true to nature, the writers
give themselves up to all the wanderings
of their imagination and often also, they
make anatomy of passion that is most
seductive. Our fathers and mothers, be
watchful, do not permit any of those
books to be brought into your house, for
they will bring with them dishonor
and ruin. Let us remind you, Dearlly
Beloved Brethren, that no book should be
read by any member of your household,
until you have examined it yourself, or
have had it examined by a priest, or by
some one, who, by his wisdom and Chris-
tian piety, is a competent judge. Want
of prudence in this matter has been the
ruin of many. In conclusion, Dearlly
Beloved Brethren, we wish to repeat, that
the remarks we have made, are not ad-
dressed to the good newspapers of our
country; for no person can surpass us in
our appreciation of the devotedness of
their editors. These men, in labouring
for the good of the country, are working
for God and His Church. Encourage them,
assist them, and We would add, be faith-
ful in paying your subscriptions. But be
on your guard and do not allow those
men to introduce themselves among you,
who come in sheep's clothing, but are in
reality, roaring lions seeking whom they
may devour. Especially, be careful not
to subscribe to such newspapers, or story-
papers, as have by name been condemned
by ecclesiastical authority; be careful,
never read them.

The present Pastoral Letter shall be
read and published, either altogether or
in parts, with suitable explanations, at
the principal Mass in Churches and par-
ochial Chapels open to public worship, on
the first Sunday after its reception, and
be continued on the following Sundays,
if necessary.

Given at Ottawa, under Our hand and
the seal of the diocese, and countersigned
by Our Secretary, this second day of
February, eighteen hundred and eighty-
three, the Feast of the Purification of
the Blessed Virgin Mary.

+ J. THOMAS, Bp. OF OTTAWA.

By Order,
J. SLOAN, Priest, Secretary.

WHAT IS SAID OF THE RECORD.

Ottawa, Bishop's Palace, Feb. 2nd, 1883.
Thos. Coffey—Dear Sir:—I am fairly
delighted with your excellent journal.
Please find two dollars enclosed, and con-
sider me a subscriber for the coming year.
With best wishes,
J. A. SLOAN, Priest.

CIRCULAR TO THE CLERGY
OF THE
**VICARIATE APOSTOLIC OF PON-
TIAC.**

1st. Our Hopes.—2nd. The Association of St.
Francis of Sales.—3rd. The Propagation of the
Faith.—4th. Powers.—5th. Dispensations.—
6th. Collection for the Pope.—7th. The sixth
Collection of Quebec.—8th. Our wishes.

Pembroke, 21st December, 1882.

I. OUR HOPES.

Dearlly Beloved Colleagues,
Three months have now elapsed
since we received episcopal consecration.
Having taken up an abode in this city of
Pembroke, chosen by us as the place of
our residence, and having recovered from the
deep emotions produced in ourselves by
the imposing ceremonies of the 21st
September, with the spirit of calm restored
to our mind, it became our duty to cast
our eyes about us and study the situation
which Heaven had made for us. We
came to understand more than ever the
importance and the difficulties of the work
entrusted to our pastoral efforts, the im-
mense extent of the territory placed under
our jurisdiction, the multiplicity of needs
under which our young Vicariate labors,
as well as the slenderness of the resources
at our disposal to meet so many wants.
Without going into a lengthy examination,
we saw at once the amount of work,
fatigue and privation reserved for us in the
accomplishment of the task laid upon our
shoulders.

Neither this spectacle, however, nor the
sense of our own weakness, can either
crush or even lessen our courage. Sacrifice
is the seal and the mainspring of holy
and lasting deeds. What is impossible to
man's debility is as nothing to the almighty
power of God. At the point where human
methods terminate, the divine operation
begins. The Apostle says: *Fideles vocacionem
vestram, fratres, non multi sapientes scien-
dam curam, non multi potentes, non multi
robore; sed quia vobis adhaerent mundi de-
i Deus ut confidat operibus et fides, et
improbis deit Deus et contemptis deit Deus,
et ea que non sunt, et ea que non deservit,
non gloriantur omnis caro in conspectu eius.*
(1 Cor. I, 25-29.) But beyond this, the
agreeable relations which we have had
with you, Beloved Colleagues in the
Holy Ministry, the tokens of respect, and
the professions of obedience reaching us
from all sides, the favor with which all
our flocks have greeted our arrival at the
head of this Vicariate, the good wishes
and kindnesses daily bestowed upon us by
you and the more intimate knowledge
which we have acquired of your truly
apostolic labors, all unite in showing us
that, in the pursuit of our zeal, we may
implicitly rely upon your desire and devo-
tion, as well as on the willing co-operation
of our Christian people.

II. THE ASSOCIATION OF ST. FRANCIS OF
SALES.

Mensis quidem multi, operibus autem pauci.
(St. Luke, x, 2). These words of the
Saviour may be applied in all truth to
that part of the Lord's vineyard confided
to our care, and indeed the dearth of
evangelical workmen, Dearlly Beloved
Colleagues, should be and is the first ob-
ject of our solicitude. It is true that
several young men of this Vicariate are
preparing themselves in different colleges,
to embrace the ecclesiastical state; certain
generous souls among you devote their
savings to train levites for the holy altar;
we ourselves furnish the means of educa-
tion three youths full of promise, but the
restricted number of prospective auxiliaries
and pressing requirements of the present,
and especially of the future, demand such
Catholic immigration as pouring into
our borders; the forest is invaded from all
sides; villages rise as by enchantment
along our great line of railway; missions
are being established, and from the depth
of their woods, the Indians stretch out
suppliant hands, asking for the bread of
the divine life and the living waters of the
sacramental fountains. Pray the Lord to
sow in the hearts of our youths the seed
of a holy vocation; carefully mature those
tender plants, so soon as you see them
opening to the sunshine of grace; encour-
age fathers and mothers to make sacrifices
in favor of their sons as have a
leaning for the ecclesiastical state, and
above all supplicate together the Master of
the Harvest to vouchsafe to send numer-
ous and diligent laborers in his fields.
*Rogate ergo dominum messis, et mittet op-
erarios in messes vram.* (St. Luke, x, 2).

To favor the development of ecclesiastical
vocations among young men who are not
endowed with the gifts of fortune, and to
meet the expenses entailed by years spent
in the seminary, we have found established
in this ancient portion of the diocese of
Ottawa, the Association of St. Francis of
Sales, and we rejoice therein. It is destined
to produce great fruits; the conditions of
application are easy and it offers numer-
ous spiritual advantages.

We pronounce a blessing from our
hearts on this pious association and recom-
mend it in a special manner to your most
ardent zeal. Explain thoroughly to your
parishioners the sublimity of its object, and
the plenitude of heavenly favors which
it may draw down upon them. Above
all see that children take an interest in
it. The aims fetched by innocent hands
produce a double fruit. In furtherance
of this view, you will take advantage of
the catechetical lessons, when you have
the children directly in your hands, and
when you can mould their intelligence
and incline their will according to your
pleasure; you will also attend to the same
in your parochial visits, when all
the families lay open to you their
houses, their purses, and their
heart. Who knows, perhaps a word
of yours, unconsciously spoken, may

give birth to a secret vocation, that will
 blossom with time. Every year in the
month of December, you will forward to us
at Pembroke the amount of the contribu-
tions placed in your hands.

You will receive with the present cir-
cular the new formula prescribed on the
7th of July last, to give the general abso-
lution to such as are entitled to it. Those
who are entitled to this favor are all the
members of the association of St. Francis
of Sales who wear the seraphic cordon.

III. THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.
The Association of St. Francis of Sales
will give pastors to the Church of Pontiac;
the Society of the Propagation of the
Faith will supply it with new sheep,
snatched from the jaws of the infernal
lion and the path of perdition.

It is heartrending to reflect that, in the
northern portions of this Vicariate, under
the shadow of our great woods, in the
midst of our labyrinth of mountains, on
the banks of our numberless lakes, there
wanders savage tribes still wrapped in the
darkness of idolatry. Doubtless, zealous
priests have undergone much fatigue and
made great sacrifices to form flourishing
missions in those distant parts, thus show-
ing to the world, once again, that in the
Church of God, the spirit of the Apostles
is ever alive. But the lack of pecuniary
means has prevented them from penetra-
ting everywhere and establishing residences
in many places, where they would be neces-
sary to watch the growth of divine seed
sown by them in the souls of the Indians.
Who will send apostles to these disin-
herited people; who will cause them to
hear the word of Jesus Christ, thus bear-
ing to them the treasures of faith? For,
as the apostle says: *Quomodo credent ei, qui
non audierunt Quomodo autem audient sine
predicatore? (ad Romanos, 10, 14.) Ergo
fides ex auditu, auditus autem per verbum
Christi (ad Romanos, 10, 17).*

Who will support the existence of these
apostolic men in the midst of their labors
and ceaseless wanderings? Who will make
the holy water of Baptism flow on thou-
sands of heads which have hitherto borne
no other yoke than that of Satan! Who
will build for this poor and destitute
people the chapels where they may chant
the praises of God, and where they may
purify themselves in the pool of salvation
at the head of the waters of baptism?
In one word, who will prepare for heaven an
infinite number of souls that ignorance
and brutal passions are dragging into the
eternal abyss? What if not the Society of
the Propagation of the Faith, that living
providence of missions; that most catholic
of all the associations, after the Church;
that work so visibly blessed of God. For
although counting only about sixty years
of existence, it has grown like the grain
of mustard seed, and become an enormous
tree whose branches spread their foliage
far and wide. It extends its beneficent
action all over the globe. Like unto the
spring of the Earthly Paradise, it has
divided into four great rivers, irrigating
all portions of the old and new continents.

To dispel coarse ideas and superstitious
practices, to change the moral condition of
nations, while relieving his material position,
such is the good that the Association of
the Propagation of the Faith has achieved
among all the infidel nations of the earth,
by the introduction among them of our
holy religion. Such is the good that it has
produced in our forests, and which it will
produce on a still larger scale, if we will
only encourage it within the measure of
our strength, and prove ourselves by our
generosity, worthy of its favors.

It is a very remarkable circumstance
that this blessed work, while it gives
succor to unfortunate people, also enriches
the individuals who extend it a helping
hand; it sheds streams of grace at once on
the donor as well as on those who pro-
tect it. All the Sovereign Pontiffs, from
Pius VIII, to Pius XII, Gregory XVI, Pius
IX, and Leo XIII, seem to have
taken pleasure in honoring it by multiplied
eulogiums and enriching it with numerous
indulgences. It would take too long to
enumerate them in this place, but you may
do so, when explaining this devotion to
your parishioners.

And then, when we consider how easy
it is to become a member of the Propaga-
tion of the Faith, what Christian would
refuse to enroll his name? Where is the
man so busy that he cannot find time,
during the day, to say one *Our Father* and
one *Hail Mary*, with this invocation: *St.
Francis Xavier, pray for us.* Where is the
man so utterly poor, that he cannot set
aside one cent a week? Ah! Beloved
Colleagues, make the faithful understand
well that alms is the word which will con-
vert poor infidels, the doctrine which will
enlighten the blind, the balm which will
soften the most barbarous hearts. With-
out going from home, they will preach
with the missionary, baptize with him,
visit abandoned Christian stations, hear
the last sacraments to the dying and open
the gates of heaven. By this means they
will secure perpetuity of faith in the
bosom of their families. A nation of
apostles can never become impious!

In thus inviting you so earnestly, my
Dear Colleagues, to establish and spread
the work of the Propagation of the Faith,
I am only carrying out the intentions of
Our Holy Father Leo XIII. In an ency-
clical letter, dated December 3, 1880,
he says to the bishops of the Catholic
world:

"You therefore, Venerable Brethren,
who are called to share our solitude, we
exhort you to work unanimously towards
helping with zeal and ardor the apostolic
missions, putting your trust in God and
allowing no difficulty to frighten you.
The salvation of souls is at stake for
whom our Redeemer sacrificed his life
and has given us, Bishops and Priests, the
holy mission of completing his body."

Hence by remaining at the post where
God has placed each of us, and watching
over the flock confided to us, let us strive
ardently to carry the successors which have
been entrusted since the beginning of the
Church, viz: the preaching of the Gospel,
aided by the prayers and alms of the
faithful. Let those who pray, invoke the
Virgin, Mother of God, who has the power
of destroying all the monsters of evil, and
her Most Pure Spouse, whom several mis-
sions have already adopted as guardian
and protector, and whom the Apostolic
See has lately proclaimed Patron of the
universal church; also the princes and the
whole college of apostles from whom
emanated the first preaching of the Gospel
throughout the universe; in time, all per-
sons eminent for sanctity who have con-
secrated their strength to this ministry
and have shed their blood for it. To
these prayers and supplications let there
be added alms-giving whose efficacy is
such that it will convert those who are
the farthest distant or the most occupied
of apostolic men and the associates of their
labors and their merits. In these times,
many are in straitened family circum-
stances, but let us not be discouraged;
the subscription cannot be a burden to
any, while a number of small sums put
together produce a considerable revenue."

When you set all these motives before
your parishioners, to induce them to join
in this admirable work, you will not
forget to insist upon a reason that is peculiar
to ourselves. I mean the assistance of the
Indian tribes living at our doors. They
are our poor, the spiritual paupers
whom Providence designs for our charity.
Who will deem himself obliged to extend
to them a helping hand, if we, their im-
mediate neighbors, remain insensible to
their misfortune? Our contributions will
be detached to the Central Bureau of the
Association at Lyons, whence, let us hope
that, in view of our immense needs, they
may come back to us with large increase.
Through the channel of our majestic river,
the waters of our lakes flow into the sea;
but the generous and fruitful sea returns
them in beneficent dews and rains. You
will interest the pious persons of your
parish in the success and development of
this work. You might resort to the means
suggested by the Board of Directors:
"One subscriber out of ten collects the
alms and pays the amount into the hands
of another member, who has ten hundred
collections to receive, that is one hundred
subscriptions." Spiritual regarding the
organization, we can be written to. On
this, as on all other matters connected with
our ministry, we are at the disposal of all.
To encourage and sustain the zeal of your
parishioners, you may, on the 3rd of Decem-
ber of each year, say a mass for the asso-
ciates both living and dead, and we allow
you to take the fee thereof out of the
funds of the Association. Every year dur-
ing the month of October, you will send
us the amount of the alms.

May Heaven bless your efforts, to draw
from this good work the most abundant
fruits of grace and salvation.

IV. POWERS.
We maintain in all their force and obli-
gation the synodal statutes and episcopal
ordinances which were in vigor in this part
of the diocese of Ottawa, at the time of its
erection into an Apostolic Vicariate.
These rules of discipline are the fruits of
wisdom and experience, and so long as
circumstances remain unchanged, they
must remain the same.

You will receive with these presents, on
a separate sheet, the renewal of the pow-
ers which our inaugural pastoral confirmed
to you until the new year.

You will observe that you no longer
have, in a general way, the power of say-
ing mass twice a day, nor that of saying
mass in a private house. In the event of
such powers becoming necessary, you will
send address yourselves to us to obtain
authority, taking care to state in your
letters the motives of your demand. De-
crees emanating from the Sacred Roman
Congregation, which we have lately seen
make us understand how desirous they
are at Rome that we should be resolved on
these two points.

V. DISPENSATIONS.
When you send any one to us to solicit
a dispensation from the bond of continen-
tiality, be so kind as to give him a letter
in which you will set forth the canonical
reasons militating in favor of such a dis-
pensation.

Similarly, in transmitting to us the
compendia received by you for dispensation
from bans, you will kindly add the
names of the parties thus dispensed,
that we may keep them in the archives of
the Vicariate, for future reference, if need
there be.

VI. COLLECTION FOR THE POPE.
The august Innate of the Vatican
is our father in Jesus Christ; the
Roman Church is our mother. Both
the one and the other, sorely pressed in
these days of evil, by the encroachments
of the Revolution, are confronted by great
needs. Christian children, let us hearken
to the wants of our father and not over-
look the wailings of our mother. *"Fid,
suscep sanctam patris tui et genitricis matris
tuas ne obliviscaris."* (Eccl. III, 14.)

A Diocesan regulation ordains that, on
the 29th September, a collection shall be
made for the Pope in all the churches.
Several perhaps, owing to the changes
taking place in September last, may have
forgotten to announce this collection. We
trust that they will supply the omission
on the first suitable Sunday, and that they
will send, directly on receiving them, the
offerings which the faithful will have
placed in their hands.

We shall have little to present to the
Holy Father, but we are anxious to give
him this tribute of affection. Doubtless
he will receive with emotion this mite of
poverty. He will smile at our good in-
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