

CIRCULAR.

KINGSTON, 12TH FEBRUARY, 1862.

REV. DEAR SIR:--

I feel assured that the establishment of the St. Peter's Pence Association will meet with your warmest sympathies, and that you will lend all your influence to establish this Pious Society on a firm and solid basis, and induce all your people to enrol themselves among the members of the confraternity.

The principal end of this Pious Society is prayer and acts of Christian charity. The prayers shou'd have for their end to beg of God that He would give to His Ministers strength and light to combat the spirit of unbelief and indifference, and also to instruct the people both by word and example. We should also pray in a particular manner that the Almighty would protect the Holy See, and sustain with His supernatural counsels His Vicar upon earth.

The offering to be made by each member is one penny per month. Those who choose may give a larger sum; and those, if any, who cannot afford sixpence a year, may give less. For greater convenience this sum will be paid in two instalments, in March and in September.

You will please provide a Registry, in which are to be entered down the names of all the members of the Society.

The indulgences granted by the Holy Father to the Arch Confraternity at Rome, and which can be gained by the members of all the Societies affiliated with that of Rome, are as follows:

1. They who recite with a devout and contrite heart the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, and Creed, may gain seven years and as many forty days of indulgence.

2. A plenary indulgence is granted to all those inscribed in the Society on each of the three days of the Chair of Saint Peter in Rome (January 18), of S. S. Peter and Paul (June 29), and St. Peter in Chains (August 1st); provided on the said day the Faithful inscribed in the Society having been to Confession and Communion, visit devoutly some public Church, praying according to the intentions of the Holy Father expressed in the Brief, namely, for the concord of Christian Princes, the extirpation of heresies and the exaltation of the Holy Church.

3. For every good work directed to the end of the Society, the Holy Father grants 300 days of indulgence.

All these indulgences are applicable to the dead by way of suffrage.

The collections will be taken up each year on the first Sunday of the months of March and of September, and sent to the Bishop, who will forward them to Rome.

I hope, Rev. and Dear Sir, you will make your people understand and feel that it is their duty to join the St. Peter's Pence Association. No person, with a Catholic heart and Catholic feeling can remain unmoved whilst the enemies of Religion and Society seek to destroy the Church and to despoil the Sovereign Pontiff of his temporal possessions. The contribution which each one is required to give is small, indeed it could not be smaller. One farthing per week is indeed very little; but little though it be, if all our Catholics do their duty, if all, both rich and poor, old and young, parents and children, are enrolled in the Society, the amount from this Diocese will form a handsome sum, and will serve to give to His Holiness another proof of the love and veneration which his children in this Diocese bear him.

I remain,

Rev. Dear Sir,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

†E. J., Bp. of Kingston.