

out any restriction the same authority and the same jurisdiction to the local bishops, according to circumstances and persons, and under certain forms and conditions, to be hereinafter explained; and we forbid by these presents that any person soever be henceforth received into this Society or admitted to the novitiate or to membership. We equally forbid to admit, in any way, those who already have been received to take simple or solemn vows, under penalty of the nullity of their admission or profession, and other punishments at our discretion.

Moreover, we will, we order, we enjoin, that those who are at present novices be at once, on the spot, immediately and really sent away; and we forbid that those who have only taken simple vows and have not yet been initiated into any holy order, should be promoted thereto, either through the title and pretext of their profession or in virtue of the privileges granted to this Society in opposition to the decrees of the Council of Trent.

But, as the end we have in view, and which we ardently desire to attain, is to care for the general well being of the Church, and the peace of the nations, and at the same time to succour and comfort every one of the members of this Society, every individual of which we tenderly cherish in the Lord, in order that being free from the contests, disputes and vexations that had hitherto preyed upon them, they might more fruitfully cultivate the Lord's vineyard and more effectually work for the salvation of souls, we enact and we ordain that the members of this Society who have only taken simple vows, and are not yet initiated into holy orders, shall be released from these same vows, and leave their houses and colleges to follow up the calling which each may deem most suitable to his vocation, his strength and his conscience, within a certain time to be fixed by the local bishops, and considered sufficient to obtain an employment or an office, or to find some benefactor willing to receive them; the said time, however, not to exceed one year from the date of these presents, thus, as by virtue of the privileges of this Society, they might be excluded from it, without any other reason than that suggested to the Superiors by prudence or circumstances, without any previous citation, any act being drawn up, or any judicial rule being observed.

As to those who have been raised to Holy Orders, we permit them either to leave their houses and colleges, and enter some other religious order approved of by the Holy See, where they will be on probation as prescribed by the council of Trent,

if they are attached to the Society only by simple vows; and if they have taken solemn vows, the time of probation shall only be six months, in virtue of the dispensation which we will grant for that purpose; or else they may remain in the world as priests and secular clerks, entirely subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the local bishops where they will reside; furthermore, we order that, to those who thus will remain in the world, a suitable pension be assigned from the revenues of the house or college they lived in, until they are otherwise provided for, taking into consideration, however, the revenues of the houses and the charges attached to them.

But the professed members already admitted to Holy Orders, who, fearing not to have enough to live honestly on, either for want of a pension or from its smallness, or because of the difficulty of finding a retreat; or those, who because of old age and infirmity, or other just and reasonable motive, will not deem it expedient to leave the houses or the colleges of the Society, these will remain there on condition that they have nothing whatever to do with the administration of these houses or colleges; that they will only wear the dress of lay clerks and be entirely subject to the local bishops. We expressly forbid them to replace missing members, to acquire any house or property, conformably to the decrees of the Council of Lyons, or to alienate the houses, the property and establishments that they at present possess. They may, however, assemble together, in one or many houses, according to the number of members left, so that the evacuated houses may be turned to pious usages, in time and place, as may seem most in conformity with the Holy Canon and the will of the founders, and most conducive to the spread of religion, the salvation of souls and public usefulness. However a secular clerk, noted for his prudence and good character shall be appointed to preside over the administration of these houses, and the name of the Society shall be totally suppressed and abolished.

We declare all the Jesuits who may have been banished from any country whatever, to be equally included in this general suppression of the Order; and in consequence, it is our will that these banished Jesuits, even though raised to holy orders, if they have not entered another religious order, should, from this moment, have no other profession but that of clerks and secular priests, and should be entirely subject to the local bishops.

If the aforesaid bishops find that those who in virtue of the present brief have