

but their early education, prejudice and ignorance, and above all, the dark and lying colors in which the true Church of Christ has been painted for them, make them afraid of looking towards that Church. We should be very sorry, indeed, that they would be obliged to join a Church professing such doctrine and practices as are falsely attributed to the Catholic Church.

The Council will see to the means of enlightening these erring children, and pointing out to them the way, the truth, and the life, and to follow in the way marked out for them by Jesus Christ our Lord for eternal salvation. The words of Christ are applicable to them: "Other sheep I have, who are not of this fold, them I also must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd" (John x. 16). I say, in fine, the Council will perform its duty of teaching the whole world, and pointing out the duties of rulers and people, for all are equally subject to the Church. The Bishops will return from the Council with increased zeal for the spread of the true faith, and for the more exact observance of the laws and discipline of the Church. What a glorious sight will this vast assembly present. Men, worn out by apostolic labors and cares, collected from every nation under the sun, speaking various languages, assembled under the glorious dome of St. Peter's, near the sacred shrine of the princes of the apostles, St. Peter and Paul, and in the presence of his august successor Pius IX., all speaking the one language of faith, united together by the strongest ties of brotherly love, and aiming at the one object, the advancement and glory of the kingdom of Christ on earth.

The tenth year of our administration of our Diocese is coming to its close, at the end of which time the Holy See demands from the Bishops of the Church of Canada (from other Churches more frequently) an account of their stewardship. Notwithstanding the numerous bodily infirmities, and the trials attending our charge, we have endeavored to carry out the object of our consecration. Through the great mercy of God, and the patronage of His Holy Mother, and the many self-sacrifices of a devoted clergy, assisted by religious communities of men and women, with the co-operation of an ever faithful and generous laity, great things have been effected. Our venerable predecessors are largely entitled to the glory of this success; we are but reaping the fruits which their labours have sown.

The priesthood of the Diocese has been augmented by 25 ordinations. 40 Sisters of St. Joseph have made their vows; 14 novices are at present in the convent. 39 nuns of Loretto have also made their vows, and there are 9 novices, with many postulants. Five convents have been established, viz.: St. Joseph's (Clover Hill), Loretto Abbey, Wellington Place, that of Bond Street, and Niagara Falls. A branch of the Loretto has been established at Hamilton, and one of St. Joseph's sent to London. Sixteen churches have been built in the Diocese, viz.: at Penetanguishene, Port Dalhousie, Bradford, Bell Ewart, Clareville, Christian Island, Fort Erie, Grimsby, Markam, Medonte, Whitby, Welland, Prince Albert, Brechin, Jordan and Uxbridge. A still greater number have either been enlarged, finished or decorated. All are supplied with sacred ornaments and likewise many old debts have been paid off.