

worldly desires and banish the hope of celestial goods, what is to expected from those who use the mind but to desire, and the body but to procure, pleasure ? Do such men, ask of God with importunity to suffer himself to be moved, and to lead by his victorious grace to the divine light of the gospel the nations sitting in darkness ? Do they assist the priests who labor and combat for the faith ? The evil of the times also helps to warp the generous dispositions of even pious persons ; whether it is that the extent of iniquity has cooled the charity of many, or that domestic want, political disturbances, to say nothing of the fear of still worse, times, have made them for the most part more economical and less disposed to give alms

On the other hand, numerous and grave necessities overwhelm and press the apostolic missions ; the recruiting of evangelical workers will every day become more difficult, and it may even happen that they cannot be found in sufficient numbers and with sufficient zeal to replace those whom death has carried off, old age has overpowered, and hard labor has broken down. For we see the religious families from which a great number of missionaries came, broken up by unjust laws ; we see the clergy torn from the altar and bound down to military service, we see the goods of both the religious and secular clergy exposed for sale

Moreover, new routes having been opened, the result of a more extended exploration of places and peoples, towards countries till now held impassable, manifold expeditions of the soldiers of Christ have been formed and new stations have been established ; thus do we to day require many workers to devote themselves to these missions and bring them seasonable assistance.

We pass over in silence the difficulties and