

cessary the augmentation of the dioceses and therefore it is our society is called upon unceasingly to distribute to new missions the alms which it has ceased to give to the old ones. Let us now pass the borders of the United States to the north. There is a land which was formerly French soil, and whose inhabitants remain attached to their old country by language and affection. Quebec and Montréal have no need of our help ; but all around them have sprung up, as off-shoots of a great tree, other dioceses which at different times have sought our assistance. Finally, in regions which extend almost to the polar circle, we meet intrepid apostles devoted to the conversion of the population which wander amidst the icy solitudes. They live like the savages, they follow their encampments, reside in miserable huts often covered with snow. Without any communication with the rest of the world, except at rare intervals, those truly heroic pastors seek out the wandering sheep, and lead them to God. By degrees they civilize those semi-barbarous tribes, and save them from the ruin to which contact with the traders would lead them, unless protected by religion, which teaches them to conquer their depraved appetites, and to forego the fire-water, in which they find the nourishment for their vices, and the seed of the diseases which decimate them. To complete our review we have only to say a word about the Christian settlements scattered in the midst of the sea of the Antilles. These islands were formerly, for the most part, French or Spanish, and, it consequence, Catholic ; at present, under the British rule, Protestantism has become preponderant ; Trinidad may be cited as an exception from this, but even there our mission is not free from embarrassment ; for in these burning regions we can find scarcely any vocations to the priesthood ; life passes quickly, and to fill up the vacancies