

of the Sovereign Judge. May we save all whom God this day commits to our care as Pastor of His Fold, so that in the dread hour, when we shall appear to give an account of what we have accomplished in the performance of our sacred ministry, we may have the happiness of saying with Christ: «O Father, thrice holy, I have kept all those Thou hast given me, and not one has perished, save only the son of perdition.»

He then proceeds to outline his plan of action. Its extent must have made hell tremble and thrown consternation among the enemies of religion. Who may foretell the noontide splendor of a day whose dawning is so brilliant? And what glorious fruit may we not expect, ere the vesper bells of time ring out the sunset of a life so auspiciously begun? Before contemplating the realization of such magnificent promises, let us study the new light Our Lord has caused to shine within His Church. By its rays we shall more easily discern the secret of his influence on the destinies of the country he is to traverse, and where he is to leave in his wake a long path of glory, and a countless number of inestimable benefits to mankind.