

They landed in America with Columbus, and, with their sacred hymns and music, charmed the red Indian warriors on the banks of the Mississippi and the St. Lawrence. They landed at Botany Bay with La Perouse, and sowed the tiny mustard seed which has developed, within a century, into the glorious Church of Australia. They landed at Hokiang with Bishop Pompallier, the pioneer of the illustrious Society of Mary, and laid the foundations of a Church which within a couple of generations has developed into an Ecclesiastical Province that bids fair to rival in time the most flourishing portions of Christendom. And in the Missionaries of the Society of Mary they are steadily gathering in the isles of the South Pacific, and rescuing from barbarism and cannibalism the inhabitants of those islands with a zeal and heroism that forms one of the most interesting and glorious chapters in the history of Christian Missions.

Civilization.

But not only have the ambassadors of Christ converted the nations of the pagan world, they have also been the chief agents in bringing about the civilization of which the modern world is so proud. They tamed the savage warriors of the north, and formed them into the civilized nations of Europe. They knocked the fetters from the hands of the slave, they elevated woman, they guarded the sanctity of the marriage bond, they restrained the rapacity and cruelty of the warlike baron, they withstood the unjust laws of kings, and wrested from them the Magna Chartas of individual freedom. They protected the weak, they succored the unfortunate, they filled the cities with hospitals, orphanages, and charitable institutions, which were never thought of in pagan times. They rescued the masterpieces of the classic languages from utter destruction. They copied out and multiplied those masterpieces for the benefit of an ungrateful posterity. Cardinal Newman has said that those who now rail so eloquently at the monkish ignorance of the middle ages owe it to labors of those very monks that they are now able to write their names. The Protestant historian Guizot does not hesitate to say that the monks have educated Europe; and we have it on the authority of the infidel Gibbon that even one monastery of the Benedictine Order has done more for learning than the two Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. During the formation of the nations of modern Europe, the ambassadors of Christ held the chief offices of State. They were the Lord Chancellors, and guarded the nations' treasures. They were the custodians of the royal seal. They were the chief advisers of kings and emperors. They were the preceptors of the royal princes; and history shows that they used their extraordinary powers for the benefit of the people. It is to them the world owes its great universities. There are at present about one hundred universities in Europe. Before the Reformation no less than sixty-eight of them existed in a flourishing condition, and every one of those sixty-eight universities were either directly or indirectly founded and supported by the ambassadors of Christ.

'Those famous schools survey through Europe wide
From Albion's plains where Cham and Isis glide,
And name but one from Scythia to the West
By priests unfounded or by priests unblest.'

But I should never have done were I to recount all that the world owes to the labors of the ambassadors of Christ. Take away from our civilization what they have done, and you would have nothing left but darkness, ruin, and chaos. Listen to the eloquent words of Mr. Gladstone on the influence of the Church on civilization:—'Since the first three centuries of persecution, the Roman Catholic Church has marched for fifteen hundred years at the head of human civilization, and has driven harnessed to its chariot, as the horses of a triumphal car, the chief intellectual and material forces of the world; its art, the art of the world; its genius, the genius of the world; its greatness and glory and majesty have been almost, though not absolutely, all that in these respects the world has had to boast of.'

More Flourishing Than Ever.

Nineteen centuries have passed since the Fishermen of Galilee commenced the mighty task of founding this universal empire. The powers of this world, during those long ages, have ever been opposed to her, as they are at the present day, and as they will be to the end of time. 'Wonder not if the world hate you (said her Divine Founder), for it hath hated Me before you.' She is the source of all the blessings, temporal as well as spiritual, that the civilized world enjoys, and yet she receives nothing but ingratitude in return. Every century, every generation, has new methods of attack, still she survives them all. She has seen empires, kingdoms, and republics rise and flourish and decay. All other institutions grow old as a garment, and as a vesture they are changed, but she remains ever the self-same, and her years fail not. It is safe to say that never in her long history was she more flourishing than she is at the present day. The number of her children was never greater, her power of expansion never more manifest, the unity of their faith never more striking. She embraces peoples of every nation, of every color, of every language, but in matters of faith all are absolutely one. The hundreds of millions of her children are all subject to their priests, the priests to their bishops, and all—bishops, priests, and people—subject to Christ's Vicar on earth. Where is the king or emperor that has such wonderful power over his subjects? There on the banks of the Tiber is an old man seated on the Chair of Peter. Not one in every million of his subjects has ever seen him, yet all not only obey him, but love him with filial love. He speaks, and his words, repeated in every language, go forth to the ends of the earth. He issues a decree, and it is obeyed to the letter. He gives a decision, and the cause is ended—*Roma locuta est causa finita est*. He sends forth bishops, and they are received with open arms as the ambassadors of Christ. Though the powers of earth are arrayed against him, they cannot restrain his influence. Oceans, mountain barriers, difference of climate, difference of language, difference of customs, are no impediment to his universal sway over the minds and hearts of his children. Is it any wonder that even the enemies of the Church acknowledge that there is not and never was on this earth such another institution? O glorious Kingdom of Christ, blessed are thy children that know thee and love thee as their mother! Blessed are they that are nourished in thy bosom! Blessed are they that are ready to stand by thee through evil report and good report, and, if necessary, to shed their blood, like the martyrs of old, rather than renounce a tittle of their Divine inheritance.

We have assembled here to-day to witness the conferring of the Divine commission of ambassador of Christ on your Coadjutor-Archbishop. As a priest of this diocese he has for many years labored amongst you in a subordinate position. He has preached to you the Gospel of Christ. He has administered the Sacraments, and offered for you the Adorable Sacrifice of the Mass by the power and in the name of Christ. His life has been as an open book to you. You know his coming in and his going out. In season and out of season he was always at your disposal in the discharge of his sacred duties. He was not only your friend and counselor, but your Father. He fostered with special care the tender lambs of the flock. In sickness and sorrow he was at your side to console and comfort you. He ever had an open purse and a ready hand for the poor and destitute. He was an eye to the blind, an ear to the deaf, and he did not let the widow and the orphan wait. He was, in a word, 'The *soggarth aroon*.' And now that the Holy Father, the successor of St. Peter, the Vicar of Christ, has chosen him for the highest position in the priesthood, I feel sure your hearts go out to him with all the affection of devoted friends and loving children. You will pray that, like the Apostles, he may be filled with the gift of the Holy Ghost, so that he may be able to fulfil the divine commission imposed upon him to-day to the greater glory of God and the benefit of the souls entrusted to his pastoral charge. In entering on his new duties your

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