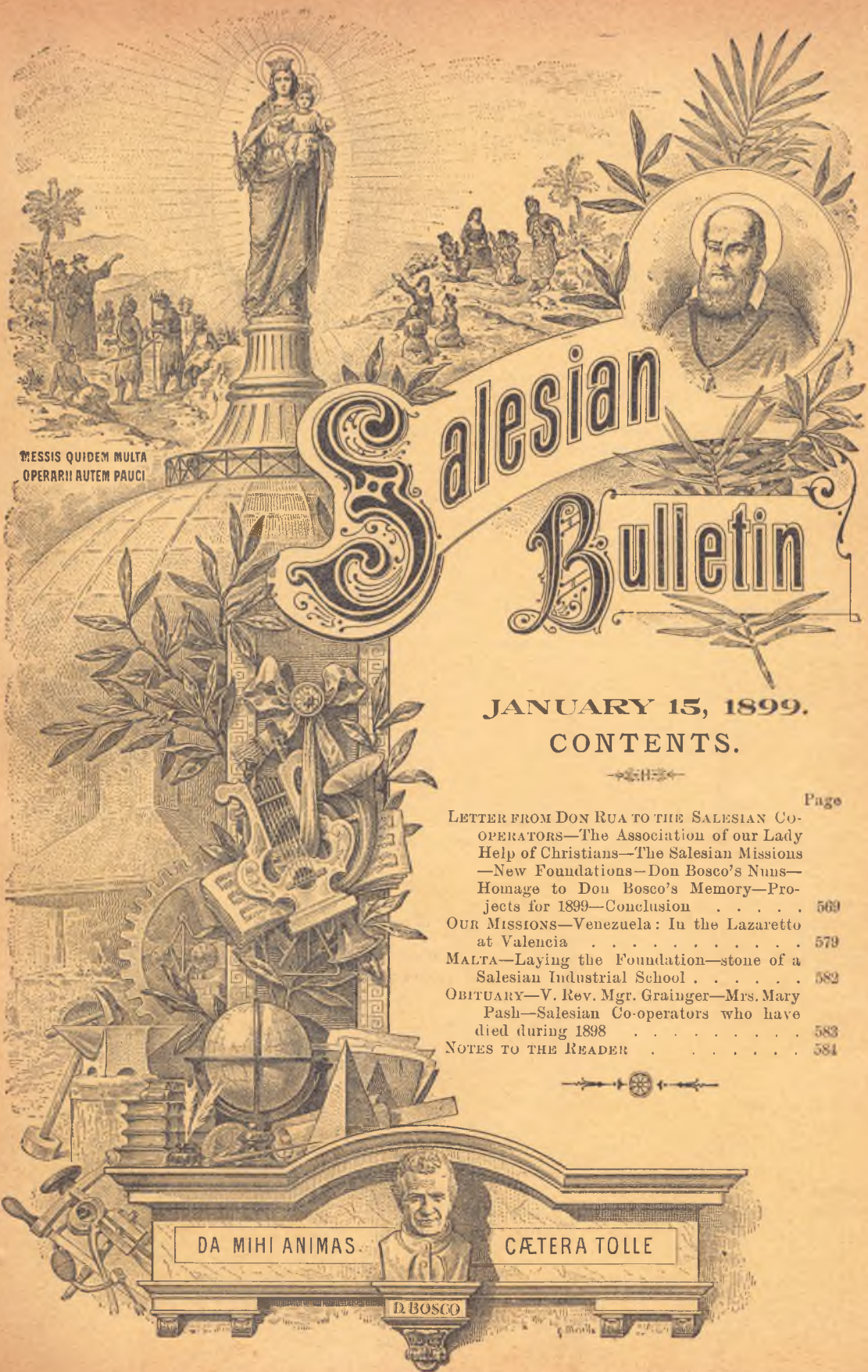


Correspondents are earnestly requested to repeat their Postal Address in every letter.



MESSIS QUIDEM MULTA
OPERRARI AUTEM PAUCI

Salesian Bulletin

JANUARY 15, 1899.
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DA MIHI ANIMAS.

CÆTERA TOLLE

D. BOSCO

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIPLOMA OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SALESIAN CO-OPERATORS.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT of the Association.

1. — All who have reached 16 years of age may become CO-OPERATORS if they so desire, and seriously intend to act according to the spirit of the Association.
- *
2. — The Association is humbly commended to the protection and benevolence of the Sovereign Pontiff, and of all Bishops and Priests in their respective dioceses and parishes, on whom it shall depend without reserve in everything relating to our holy religion.
- *
3. — The Superior General of the Salesian Congregation shall also be the Superior of the Association of Co-operators.
- *
4. — The Directors of the several Houses of the Salesian Congregation are authorized to enrol new Members, whose names and addresses they shall immediately forward to the Superior General, so that they may be regularly enrolled in the Register of the Association.
- *
5. — In districts wherein there is no Salesian House, when the number of the Co-operators amounts to at least ten, one of them should be selected as President—preferably an ecclesiastic—who will assume the title of Decurion, and take upon himself the correspondence with the Superior, or with the Director of any of the Salesian Houses.
- *
6. — All Members may freely communicate with the Superior, and lay before him any matter whatever they may deem worthy of consideration.
- *
7. — At least every three months, the Associate will receive a printed Report of the works that have been accomplished; the proposals that have come to hand, bearing on the purposes of the Association; and finally, the new enterprises to be undertaken for the glory of God and the good of our fellow-creatures. In the Annual Report this latter point will be treated more diffusely, so that Members may have a clear general idea of the Works to be accomplished in the ensuing year.

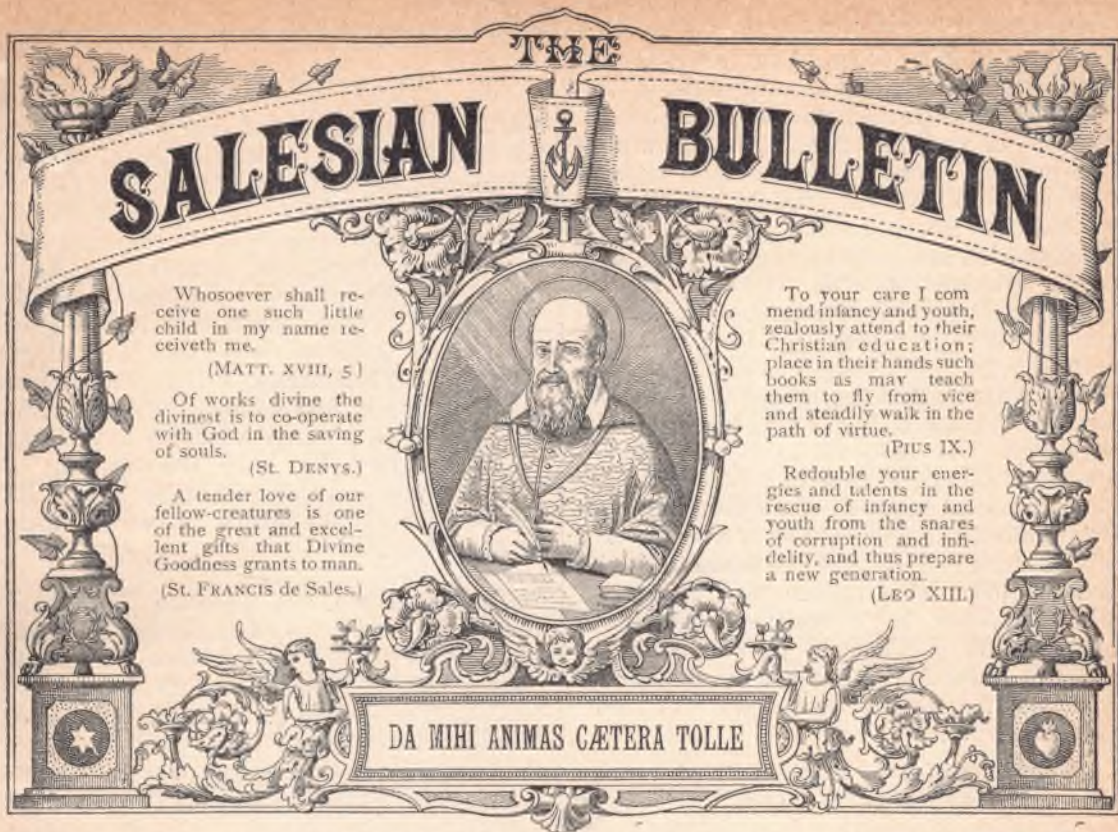
The names of the Associates who have passed to eternity during the year, shall also be forwarded to the Members of the Association, in order that they may be remembered in the prayers of all their brethren.

[The "Salesian Bulletin" has long since taken the place of the printed Report spoken of above.— Ed.]

8. — Every year, on the Feasts of St. Francis of Sales and of Our Lady Help of Christians (January, 29, and May, 24) the Decurions should organize assemblies of all the members in their respective districts, so that the whole Association may unite in spirit and prayer with their brethren of the Salesian Congregation, invoking for one another the continued protection of these our Glorious Patrons, and the grace of perseverance and zeal in the arduous undertaking that our charity and the love of God have imposed upon us in conformity with the spirit of our Congregation.

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES.

1. — There is no exterior practice prescribed for the Salesian Co-operators. In order, however, that their life may in some points approach to the life of Professed Religious, we recommend to them the following; that is to say, modesty in their apparel; frugality in their meals; simplicity in their furniture; reserve in their speech; and exactness in the duties of their state: they should also be careful to have the repose and sanctification prescribed on all Feasts of Obligation exactly observed by those over whom their authority extends.
- *
2. — They are advised to make a Spiritual Retreat of some days in the course of every year; and, on the last day of every month, or on such other as may suit their convenience better, to make the exercise of a Holy Death, going to Confession and Communion, as though it were really to be their last. For the annual Retreat, and also on the day upon which they make the Exercise for a Holy Death, they can gain a Plenary Indulgence.
- *
3. — All the Associates should say one "Pater," and one "Ave," daily, in honour of St. Francis of Sales for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff. Priests, and those who recite the Canonical Hours, are dispensed from this Prayer. For them, it will suffice to add their intention to the recitation of the Office.
- *
4. — They are recommended, furthermore, frequently to approach to the Sacraments of Penance and of the Holy Eucharist; the Associates being able, every time they do this, to gain a Plenary Indulgence.
- *
5. — All these Indulgences, both Plenary and Partial, can be applied, by way of Suffrage, to the souls in Purgatory, with the exception of that for the hour of death, which is exclusively personal, and can be gained only when the soul is about to enter into eternity.



THE SALESIAN BULLETIN

Whoever shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

(MATT. XVIII, 5)

Of works divine the divinest is to co-operate with God in the saving of souls.

(ST. DENYS.)

A tender love of our fellow-creatures is one of the great and excellent gifts that Divine Goodness grants to man.

(ST. FRANCIS de Sales.)

To your care I commend infancy and youth, zealously attend to their Christian education; place in their hands such books as may teach them to fly from vice and steadily walk in the path of virtue.

(PIUS IX.)

Redouble your energies and talents in the rescue of infancy and youth from the snares of corruption and infidelity, and thus prepare a new generation.

(LEO XIII.)

DA MIHI ANIMAS CÆTERA TOLLE

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LETTER FROM DON RUX TO THE SALESIAN CO-OPERATORS.

DEAR FRIENDS AND CO-OPERATORS,

ANOTHER year has run its course and a new year has begun. But although 1898 has gone and can never return, your good works and merits remain, as well as the inestimable benefit accruing to the children under our care, and to the Salesian Missions from your co-operation. How your hearts must be filled with joy at the consideration of this, dear Friends! And to convince you that you have indeed reason to rejoice, I propose to place under your notice a *resumé* of the undertakings the Salesian Society has been enabled to successfully accomplish, with God's

grace and your generous support, during the past year. Afterwards I will offer for your consideration a few projects I should like to see realised in the course of 1899.

THE ASSOCIATION OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS.

For two years, I have been specially recommending to you the *Association of Our Lady Help of Christians* for encouraging and maturing among adults vocations to the priesthood; and it is most gratifying for me to see the growing interest and sympathy awakened by this work, which is among those our venerated Founder Don Bosco had greatly at heart.

Last year, this Association, thanks to your charitable aid, enabled as many as three hundred young men (and these nearly all out of their teens and poor) to prosecute their studies with the object of embracing the

ecclesiastical state. Some, having terminated the course of humanities, have entered the Seminaries of their respective Dioceses; others, desirous of devoting themselves to the foreign missions, have entered the noviciates of various Congregations which exercise an apostolate in heathen lands; whilst our own Congregation has gained not a few volunteers for its missions. Our Institute at Treceate alone, in the Diocese of Novara, not to mention those at Valsalice, Chieri, Sampierdarena, Lugo, Lombriasco, Foglizzo, and Ivrea (where exist flourishing branches of the Association), gave thirty young men to the Seminary. Our Institute in the Martinetto quarter of Turin, gave a like number to the Diocesan Seminary. In connection with this Association, two new Houses of Studies have been opened in Italy, one at Pedara in Sicily, and the other at Genzano near Rome. In other countries also, where the Salesians are to be found, particularly in France, Spain, and the Argentine Republic, the number of Institutes for adult vocations has been notably increased.

Don Bosco of holy memory used to say that this Association is destined to render incalculable service to the Church and society now-a-days, when a great scarcity of priests is felt. Therefore, my frequent recommendations of this beneficent Institution to your charity will not seem too oft-repeated. It is a work of such importance and urgency that all should take an interest in it, and gladly contribute something towards its advancement. Those of our Co-operators who are in a position to do so, might undertake to provide for the education of one or more of the young men who, in great numbers, daily apply to be received in our Houses to pursue their course of studies preparatory to the priesthood; — for we still struggle to maintain our Seminaries on the footing of free establishments, with portals open to the poorest of the poor when they manifest a true Apostolic vocation. Such a step cannot fail to bring joy and happiness to you and your families; and besides, the prayers of him, whom your charity will have been instrumental in attaining the sublime office of the priesthood, will draw down upon you the choicest blessings from above, and the great good he can do as a minister of God will be ascribed in part to you by our heavenly Father. May I not hope then that you will give the Association of our Lady Help of Christians a thought, and help to promote it with your charitable alms?

THE SALESIAN MISSIONS.

Divine Providence has ever watched over the Salesian Society with tender care; but where the protecting hand of Providence is particularly visible is in our Missions. Scarcely twenty-four years have elapsed since they were initiated, and already they have spread over the extensive tracts of the South American Continent, penetrated into Central and North America, and also Africa and Asia. Our missionaries, it is true, have had to undergo great and innumerable privations and sufferings in those vast regions of the Lord's Vineyard, but with the blessing of God and your constant aid, they have done wonders for the extension of the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

In the remote and desolate Tierra del Fuego, the spirit of evil is abroad, and, enraged by the success of our missionaries, has been harassing them in various ways. The total destruction by fire of the Candelara Mission, the petty persecutions of outsiders, the heavy debts hanging over the St. Raphael's Fuegian Settlement on Dawson Island (where four hundred Indians of the unfortunate Ona race, which is fast disappearing from the face of the earth, are fed and clothed at the expense of the Mission), and innumerable other trials, have endangered the existence of those Missions, and severely taxed the energies of our missionaries, who were on the point of seeing the fruit of so much toil and suffering slip from their grasp. But God in His infinite mercy came to the aid of our brethren and rendered the devices of Satan useless, by raising up a multitude of generous souls in our behalf, with whose charitable contributions the Candelara Mission was rebuilt, the debts of St. Raphael's Settlement reduced, and, what is more, new Missionary Stations established at St. Vincent's Point, Porvenir, and Ushuwaia. Thus you see, dear Friends and Co-operators, that notwithstanding the many drawbacks and difficulties our missionaries encounter at almost every step, much has been done for the unfortunate inhabitants of Tierra del Fuego. We have, moreover, good reason to believe that the Argentine Government is about to yield to the repeated entreaties of our missionaries, and redress in some degree the grievances of the Ona and Alecaluffe Indians, by granting them a larger extension of land, and safeguarding them against the injustices and brutalities of speculators and adventurers.

The sons of Don Bosco engaged in preaching the Word of God in the Pampas, have been quite as fortunate in enlarging their sphere of action. They have founded two new residences, one at Victorica and the other at Sta. Rosa de Toay; and full of unwearied zeal and courage, they are continually traversing those immense plains, giving missions in the *haciendas*, villages, and centres of population, with the most gratifying results. The authorities and people thank God for having given them the Salesian Fathers to attend to their

first step in that direction was taken by the late Father Unia, who has with reason been called the "apostle of the lepers." Since his death, the work has been taken up by Father Rabagliati. He has visited almost every district of Columbia in order to place himself in touch with the spiritual and temporal needs of the lepers, and held conferences and meetings for the purpose of awakening a charitable interest in their behalf. In the face of almost insurmountable difficulties, he is pursuing his course with an earnestness



Salesian Church and Mission at Gualaquiza (Ecuador).

spiritual needs, as formerly they hardly ever saw the priest.

It is for me no small satisfaction on turning to the other Republics of South America to note the development of our Society almost everywhere. In Peru, the native land of St. Rose of Lima, "Festive" Oratories, Schools, Workshops and Agricultural Colonies have been established at Arequipa, Hoja Redonda and El Callao to the joy and benefit of the respective populations. The number of Salesian foundations in Columbia has also been increased by the addition of Missionary Residences at Uribe and Villavicencia, on the extensive *Llanos* of St. Martin; after repeated invitations from his Grace, the Archbishop of Bogota, to which invitations I found it impossible to comply sooner on account of the scarcity of *personnel*.

Work of another and heroic kind, in which the sons of Don Bosco have been now engaged for some years in Columbia, is that of assisting the poor, suffering lepers, who, it appears from trustworthy statistics, number *thirty thousand* in that Republic alone! The

and constancy of purpose that cannot but be admired. And the outcome of his efforts is a veritable crusade in favour of the most wretched beings on earth. His lofty design, which springs from the charity of Jesus Christ, is to provide them with the comforts of our holy Religion, so as to help them to bear their misfortune with patience and fortitude; to better their temporal condition with the assistance Government and the people afford him; and to take the necessary precautions to prevent further propagation of the dread malady. The experiment is being tried with decided success at the Leper Village of Agua de Dios for several years past, and, since last year, at that of Contratacion in the Department of Santander.

The work of our Missionaries in Ecuador may also be referred to with thankfulness. Although several of our *confrères* were exiled during the revolutionary disturbances some two years ago, the Salesians attached to the Mission among the Jivaro Indians of Mendez and Gualaquiza were left undisturbed. They have had to suffer, it is true, many privations

in the course of the last two years owing to the unsettled state of the country, but notwithstanding this fact they have enlarged the Mission to meet their present requirements; erected a new Church in honour of our Lady Help of Christians; and founded another Mission at San José, about four days' ride from Gualaquiza. They have also given successful missions among the Jivaros, reconciled several of the hostile tribes, and explored a great part of the virgin forest of the Vicariate. Besides, we have been enabled to re-open the Salesian Houses at Cuenca and Riobamba which our brethren were obliged to abandon during the savage riots two years ago. I hope that the day is not far distant when our missions in Ecuador will regain their former flourishing condition.

But our survey of the Salesian Missions does not end here. From the forests of Ecuador the mind easily reverts to the forests of Brazil, amidst which is to be found the Teresa Cristina Colony, the Mission directed by our missionary fathers and catechists on behalf of the fierce Coroados. It was, as you doubtless remember, three young Indians of the Coroado tribe whom Father Balzola, the Superior of that Mission, brought to Turin last year, to take part in the missionary section of the Exhibition there. The visitors to that section who saw these three children of the forest still in a rude and savage state, will have been able to form an idea of the great courage and patience and zeal the missionary needs, to bring the true faith to bear upon them and to wean them from their savage mode of life.

They remained with us for four months. During this time they were taught the mysteries of our holy faith, and acquired sufficient instruction to be baptised before returning to their native wilds. The solemn ceremony, which took place in the Sanctuary of our Lady Help of Christians here, will ever remain impressed upon my mind. It was the prelude to the rich harvest of souls that will assuredly reward the efforts of our missionaries, provided that they are not deprived of the material assistance so indispensable for their work.

An important feature in the history of our missions, is the exceptionally numerous band of Salesians that left Turin in the course of last year. It included a hundred and thirty persons, and thus stands forth as the largest expedition of Salesians that has left for foreign

lands. It was the pressing solicitations of our two missionary Bishops, Monsignor Cagliero and Monsignor Costamagna, and other Superiors of our Missions (who came to Turin to take part in the General Salesian Chapter held in August last), induced me to arrange for this numerous departure. The foreign Bishops and clergy thought that that was a favourable opportunity to plead in person the cause of so many poor souls who are still strangers to the truths of the Gospel, a cause which had prompted them to supplicate me by letter on several occasions, but which I had not seen my way to assist. I could not resist the eloquent entreaties they made me in person, and I promised to help them, no matter what sacrifice it might entail. Consequently, reinforcements were sent to meet the requirements of the more urgent of our missions in Palestine, Africa, Tierra del Fuego, Patagonia, Matto Grosso, Ecuador, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Chili, Paraguay, Bolivia, Venezuela, Columbia, and San Salvador.

From this brief reference to our missions you can easily understand, dear Co-operators, how your generous contributions are employed, and why I so often have recourse to your charity. After God, the existence of our missions depends chiefly on you, and their expansion is the thermometer, so to speak, of your bountiful charity.

NEW FOUNDATIONS, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSES ALREADY EXISTING.

But whilst endeavouring to meet the requirements of our missions, I have not been unmindful of our work at home. In Italy, we opened another Sunday Oratory in Milan, in response to the urgent solicitations of our good Co-operators of that city; and, through the generosity of local friends and benefactors, we were enabled to enlarge considerably the Salesian Institute in Alessandria (Piedmont). Among the undertakings proposed to you in last year's Annual Report, was a Church at Spezia to provide for the spiritual needs of the population of that town. It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the corner-stone was blessed in June last, and that the building of the sacred edifice is being actively pushed forward. The construction of the Sacred Heart Institute at Bologna, had so far advanced last year, that a portion of it was finished and inaugurated, and is now the home of a multitude of poor boys withdrawn from the dangers of the streets. Salesian Institutes have also been opened, in

the course of last year, at Lanusei in Sardinia, at Bova in Calabria, at Caserta, and at Castelnuovo d'Asti, the birthplace of Don Bosco. Several Sunday Oratories were also initiated. Among the principal, may be mentioned that at Biella with a public Church adjoining, and that at Perosa Argentina (Piedmont).



FATHER BALZOLA AND THE THREE COBADO INDIANS.

English-speaking Co-operators will be glad to hear that the work of our Society in England is steadily advancing. Tired of replying negatively to innumerable demands for the admission of poor boys to our Institute at Battersea, London, we decided to enlarge the existing premises. The outlay was considerable and has been only partially cleared; nevertheless, the building was successfully terminated in September last and with this addition the Institute, which formerly could contain not more than about seventy boys, is now capable of affording accommodation for twice that number. A new feature in the present establishment is the industrial department. As a beginning we have fitted up two workshops, one for tailors and the other

for shoemakers. When we can see our way to still further enlarge the place, we will add workshops for printers, carpenters, smiths, etc.

The desire to prepare English-speaking young men for the priesthood induced us last year to erect a building, but a very small one, adjoining St. Joseph's Church and Presbytery at Burwash which were entrusted to us in 1897 by his Lordship the Bishop of Southwark. Situated in a healthy spot in hilly Sussex, this new establishment is admirably adapted for a House of Studies. Already several young men have received the habit there, and are pursuing their studies preparatory to the priesthood. This work of great promise, I warmly recommend to our English-speaking Co-operators.

In France, notwithstanding the heavy loss we sustained by the death of several Superiors in that country, we have been enabled to enlarge our Institutes at Menilmontant (Paris), Marseilles, and Montpellier; and besides, thanks to the generosity of a charitable lady, we have assumed the direction of an Orphanage at St. Denis, near Paris, for the education of orphans from four to ten years of age. This Orphanage will admirably serve the purpose of a Branch House to our Institute in Paris and those in the district.

During the past year, also, two new foundations were made in Spain; one at Salamanca, the other at Valencia; whilst it is encouraging to note a steady development of all our Institutes in that country, especially of those at Seville and Barcelona.

Among other foundations worthy of mention, is the opening of a new House at Trieste with a Sunday Oratory adjoining. And negotiations for a Salesian Institute at Osveçim in Galicia, are almost terminated.

ON BEHALF OF THE EMIGRANTS.

When speaking above of the work of our missionaries, I overlooked a work of an important kind which is being accomplished by them, namely, that in favour of the poor emigrants, who have a special claim upon the missionary. I cannot pass over in silence this feature of the Salesian apostolate in foreign lands. A portion of the charitable offerings you so generously contribute towards Don Bosco's Institute, is devoted to provide them with the spiritual aid they stand so greatly in need of. In all

the South American Republics, and especially in Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil, every effort is being made to help to preserve them in the faith of their forefathers. Public Churches, Schools, Institutes, Colleges and Sunday Oratories have been built in no small number to this end; and it is most gratifying to relate that the work of our Fathers has been abundantly blessed.

Encouraged by the happy results obtained in South America during twenty-five years, we have accepted other missions exclusively for emigrants in Switzerland, Africa, and the United States.

In Switzerland, where Catholic emigrants are exposed to deteriorating influences of many kinds arising from their continual contact with Protestants, we were induced to accept last year, an Italian mission at Zurich, at the express wish of the Holy Father whose attention had been called to the neglected spiritual condition of the emigrants by the Bishops of Switzerland. The beginning is hopeful and full of promise.

Our brethren at Tunis and Alexandria (Egypt), are also actively engaged in a like work. Unwearied in their labours, they minister at once to the spiritual and temporal needs of the poor emigrants and their children.

The record of our work in behalf of the Italian emigrants in the United States yields us likewise great encouragement. Besides the Italian Church of SS. Peter and Paul at San Francisco, which was entrusted to us by Archbishop Riordan in 1896, it was found necessary last year to erect the Church of Corpus Domini in another quarter of the town for the Italian inhabitants; and to take charge of an Italian Mission in New York.

THE SISTERS OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS.

This Report would be incomplete were I not to give a summary of the work accomplished by another branch of that immense fabric Don Bosco bequeathed to posterity, the Sisters of our Lady Help of Christians. The year just gone by had a special interest for them, as it marked a memorable epoch in the annals of their Institution—the silver jubilee of their foundation. The Holy Father with paternal solicitude, desiring to give Don Bosco's Nuns a public token of his benevolent interest on their behalf, granted them several important spir-

itual favours. The event was celebrated with becoming solemnity and splendour in all the institutes of the Order by the Nuns and their pupils, as a debt of gratitude they owe Almighty God for having watched over their humble Congregation during these twenty-five years with such loving care, and to invoke His choicest blessings on the good benefactors, living and dead, whose charity has been the means of forwarding their good work. The recollection of those bright festivities prompts me to offer my grateful thanks to the Eminent Prelates, Parish priests and distinguished personages who by their presence and kind words added greatly to the solemnity and *eclat*. I am convinced that their condescension will have been a fresh inducement for the Nuns of Don Bosco to persevere in their work for the greater honour and glory of God and the good of souls.

In speaking to you of the development of this Institution during 1898, precedence should be given to an account of the Nuns' operations on the missions. Their zeal, devotion, and courage in the hospitals, in the Leper Villages, and among the savages, are a constant source of gratification and thankfulness. Of the numerous band of missionary Nuns that left Turin last year, some were destined for Punt Arenas (Magellan Straits) to take charge of a hospital there, others for the Leper Village of Contratacion in Columbia, others to open a Noviciate at Bernal in the Argentine Republic, and others for the missions in Tierra del Fuego and Matto Grosso (Brazil). Other foundations worthy of special mention are, an Academy in Lima, an Orphanage with a Sunday Oratory adjoining at Hoja Redonda (Peru), and another Orphanage at Tulancingo in Mexico.

The Sisters have also opened new Houses at Eckmuhl in Algeria and at Porto Farina in Tunis. These places are favourite spots for emigrants, who, for the most part, are deplorably ignorant in religious matters. The influence of the Nuns on these poor people will, I am certain, bring about a better state of things.

We have every reason to be thankful to God for this wide extension of the Congregation of our Lady Help of Christians in missionary countries; especially so, on considering that this extension has in no wise interfered with its development in Europe. A glance at what has been accomplished at home will show this.

At St. Denis near Paris, the Nuns assumed the direction of the St. Gabriel Orphan Asylum founded with the object of providing a Home for little orphan children, who during their tender years stand in need of some one to bestow on them a maternal care and solicitude. All who are acquainted with the social conditions of France's capital and its environs, will not fail to realize the usefulness of such an institution for the rescue of innocent children from the streets.

Last year their Congregation was also introduced into Switzerland, where they under-

is a constant source of pleasure and encouragement to me, but I have been particularly gratified by the demonstration which was initiated last year in honour of our beloved Father and Founder. In my letter of last January, I called your attention to the tenth anniversary of Don Bosco's death, and invited you to offer up special suffrages for the repose of his soul. Almost everywhere this event was celebrated with solemn funeral services and other commemorations. The Editor of the *Italia Reale*, with the support of the nobility of Turin, conceived the idea of signalling the event by means of an



Garden.



Chapel.



Convent.

Mother House of the Nuns of our Lady Help of Christians at Nizza (Italy).

took a foundation at Muri, for the purpose of attending to the education of the little girls of that small town.

The number of new Houses opened in Italy by them, in the course of 1898, is nine:— Infant Schools at Perosa Argentina and Borgo Campidoglio (Turin); Academies at Civitavecchia, Genezzano and Isola d'Asti; Schools and Work-rooms at Cassolnovo and St. Salvatore; and Hospitals at St. Salvatore and Arquata. In connection with all these foundations, there are "Festive" Oratories which are arks of salvation for many poor girls, especially those of the working classes.

INTERNATIONAL HOMAGE TO DON BOSCO'S MEMORY.

Whilst this wonderful growth of Don Bosco's Works points clearly to the protection of our Lady Help of Christians on the one hand, on the other it is certainly due to your unstinted generosity and benevolence.

The deep attachment that you, dear Friends and Benefactors, bear to Don Bosco's memory

Œuvre Permanente which was to take the form of a monumental Church to be erected by the Tomb of Don Bosco at Valsalice, under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales, Patron of our Society and of the Press. It was to be the homage of the Catholic Press to the memory of Don Bosco who had done so much during his lifetime for Catholic literature and journalism. Certainly no better monument could have been proposed, and I am pleased to see that this demonstration has already assumed an international character as was originally intended. The popularity which has greeted this "Homage," the various national and local Committees formed in several towns of Europe and America, and the activity with which the building of the sacred edifice * is being pushed forward, give me every reason to hope

* The foundation-stone of this new Church at Valsalice, Turin, was laid by his Eminence Cardinal Manara, Bishop of Ancona, on the 3rd of September last, in the presence of eight Archbishops and Bishops, and of a concourse of distinguished clergy and nobility.—ED. S. B.

that the Church will be finished by the end of the century.

I cannot conclude this portion of my letter without tendering my grateful thanks to the Catholic Press, which has so warmly taken up this project, and also all who have taken part by their charitable alms in the erection of this tribute of affection to Don Bosco's memory. And I hope, furthermore, that the names of all of you may be inscribed in the album to be placed beneath the High Altar of the Church as a perpetual memorial of all those who have concurred in any way to the building of the sacred edifice.

JOYS OF THE SALESIAN FAMILY.

I was, however, to experience other consolations. During the exposition of the Holy Shroud, which awakened so much interest and was the occasion of a grand and solemn manifestation of devotion by Catholics all the world over, I had the pleasure of making the personal acquaintance of an extraordinary number of our Co-operators and Benefactors, who, attracted to Turin by the exposition of the Holy Shroud, deemed it their duty to call at the Salesian Oratory in order to say a prayer in the Sanctuary of our Lady Help of Christians and visit the room where Don Bosco died.

An interesting event that also had place last year at Turin was the Exhibition of Sacred Art and Catholic Missions at which our Missions were well represented. The many interesting and rare objects on view there from our Missions in Tierra del Fuego, Patagonia, Brazil, Ecuador and Mexico, were greatly admired by the visitors to the Exhibition.

A modest display of articles, made in several Salesian Industrial Schools, and Work-rooms of Don Bosco's Nuns, formed part of the Sacred Art Department of the Exhibition. These objects were highly praised and rewarded with several Diplomas, and gold and silver medals. This kind appreciation will, I doubt not, stimulate our masters and pupils to still greater exertion.

Most flattering, moreover, was the decision of the Commission of the *Opera di Provvidenza ed Assistenza*, which allotted to the Salesian Society a prize of £200, offered by a pious lady of Turin to the Catholic Institution that best provides for the education of the poorer classes. As Superior of the Salesian Congre-

gation, I feel greatly honoured by the above decision, and feel called upon to offer my grateful thanks to the charitable donor and the members of the Commission.

The Third Marian Congress, held likewise at Turin in September last, was a veritable triumph for the Queen of Heaven, and gladdened the hearts of the Salesians who owe so much to our Lady. During those days of rejoicing, I had the satisfaction of convening a Re-union of the Diocesan and Regional Directors of the Salesian Co-operators (who came to Turin in large numbers on that auspicious occasion), to consider the best way of advancing God's glory and of saving poor and outcast children from a life of misery and sin. The Re-union, I may add, was all that could be desired.

To crown all was the inauguration of the monument to Don Bosco at Castelnuovo d'Asti on the 18th of September last, in the presence of the Archbishop of Turin and six other Bishops, and a great concourse of people. I shall not attempt to put in words the tender emotion I felt on that memorable day at the sight of the enthusiastic multitude gathered in Don Bosco's birthplace to render him homage. It will suffice to say that I prayed with all my heart to Almighty God to shower down His choicest blessings on the promoters of that never-to-be-forgotten solemnity, and all who have contributed in any way to the erection and inauguration of this splendid monument.

PROJECTS FOR THE YEAR 1899.

As you can see from the above, dear Friends and Co-operators, our heavenly Father has been most bountiful towards us during the past twelvemonth, bestowing upon us with lavish hand His benefits which, like to roses, have gladdened us with their fragrance. But, alas! there is no rose without thorns here below! And with our joys have mingled sorrows, deep wounds caused by the hand of death which has deprived our Society and the Association of Salesian Co-operators of members they could ill afford to lose.

These frequent bereavements of our brethren and of our pious benefactors are a constant reminder to us to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into His vineyard, and make us desire to see the spread of the Association of our Lady Help of Christians for maturing the vocations of adults. Hence,

I feel called upon also this year, to warmly recommend this Work to your charity, and to beg of you to persuade your relatives, friends, and acquaintances to enrol themselves as subscribers in an Association so rich in spiritual privileges. The larger number of Dioceses in almost every country; our present Missions; and those we are being urged to undertake, especially among the Indian tribes of Paraguay, Para, and other parts of America, stand in great need of Catholic priests. Much could be done to increase the number of priests by the Association of our Lady Help of Christians, were it to receive the support of all those good souls who are desirous of spreading the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Pray pardon me, then, dear Friends and Co-operators, if I seem to insist too much on this point. I am convinced, as I am sure you also are, that we cannot do anything that is more acceptable to God, than co-operate in the making of a priest. And you can exercise this co-operation in various ways. By making the Work for Adult Vocations more widely known or by furnishing the means wherewith to maintain and educate the poor children entirely dependent on us; for it is in part from among them that our ranks are recruited, inasmuch as many follow the heavenly inspiration to unite themselves with us in order to confer on others the benefits they received in former days. By watching over and cherishing the vocations of those of our children, relatives, or friends, who feel themselves called to the ecclesiastical or religious state; and by providing that no selfish interests, no mistaken affection, nor wordly prejudices prevent them from carrying out their vocation. Catholic parents ought to have no greater happiness nor greater ambition on earth than to see a child of theirs become a minister of the King of kings. What consolation for them at the hour of death! Then the thought that they have generously consecrated their child to the service of Him who is to be their Judge, will sustain them on their last journey, and enable them to present themselves without fear before the tribunal of God. It ought likewise, to be a generous soul's best boast to devote his energies and his whole life to extend the kingdom of God on earth, to wrestle souls from the clutches of Satan and set them on the path that leads to heaven. They who are labouring to win the world to Christ, are surely well-deserving of

society, because they contribute to the moral and material welfare of the people, far more than do armies, laws, tribunals, prisons—On the other hand, parents who hinder their children from following their vocation, or they who turn a deaf ear to the inward voice calling them to a religious life, are responsible to God for the many souls lost on that account. Resistance, when it is a matter of vocation, is often the cause of endless strife, severe misfortunes and reverses in a family, and inevitably give rise to regrets and remorse.

But if you desire to co-operate efficaciously in the formation of zealous workers and missionaries, I would suggest to you something else besides giving your name to the Association of our Lady Help of Christians; namely, to enable me to assure on a solid basis the existence of our noviciates and seminaries, which are the source whence come our fellow-labourers. The maintenance of these Houses is a heavy burden on our shoulders, as the novices there who are going through a course of study or apprenticeship preparatory to going out on the missions, or to taking their places as professors or foremen in our Colleges and Institutes, are for the most part, entirely dependent on us, and this not for a year or two but for several years together.

I have never yet called your attention to this vital point in the interest of the Salesian Congregation; but, on the eve of the twentieth century, I think I cannot make a better suggestion to provide a legion of zealous souls for the next century, who, under the standard of Don Bosco, will labour in a hundred ways to restore the kingdom of Christ among the people.

The Houses destined for the formation of our *personnel* are numerous. They are to be found in nearly every country where the sons of Don Bosco have penetrated. In Italy: Valsalice, Foglizzo, Ivrea, San Benigno, Lombriasco, Genzano, San Gregorio (Sicily);—in England: Burwash;—in France: St.-Pierre de Canon, Rueil;—in Spain: San Vincens dels Horts;—in Belgium: Hecthel;—in Portugal: Pinheiro;—in the Argentine Republic: Bernal;—in Uruguay: Las Piedras;—in Brazil: Lorena;—in Chili: Macul;—in Columbia: Fontibon. May Divine Providence inspire some generous persons to make an annual endowment to the noviciates of their respective countries. We could then receive a greater number of the young men

who are daily applying to us to be received in the Congregation, and more easily respond to the pressing demands that are coming in from all parts to undertake new foundations.

CONCLUSION.

Whilst warmly recommending the above works to your charity, I also rely on you to help me to bring to completion the much

poor, homeless children from a life of degradation in the streets, maintaining them, and instructing them in our holy religion. Your charity enables these poor children to learn a useful trade, or enter on an honoured career, become useful members of society, and faithful children of the Church. It is the means of providing our youth with Christian educators, our towns and villages with zealous priests, and heathen peoples with intrepid



Salesian Church of our Lady of Snow in course of erection at Spezia.

needed Churches, which are in course of building, at Spezia (Italy), Sarriá (Spain), and Marseilles (France); and the Institutes being erected at Milan and Bologna (Italy), at Santander (Spain), at Muri (Switzerland), and all those Houses opened during the last few years and not yet completed.

From what I have briefly stated above, you can easily see for yourselves what has already been done and what still remains to be done, and the thousand ways your charitable aid may be employed. Before concluding, I would call your attention to a few words of our beloved Founder Don Bosco concerning the benefits derived from your generous assistance. "Your charity, dear Co-operators," he says, "is the means of rescuing hundreds of

missionaries. It is the means of building Churches, wherein the faithful may gather to hear the Word of God; sing His praises; and find strength to bear all for Him by receiving Him within their hearts. It is the means of printing and publishing thousands upon thousands of good books, the object of which is to disseminate healthy principles; counteract the evil effects of pernicious publications; controvert erroneous teachings; strengthen wavering souls in their faith; and induce the erring to return to the path of virtue. In a word, dear Friends, your charity is the means of extending the kingdom of God here on earth, of bringing the Prince of Peace to reign in individuals, families, and nations; and of making Him known and loved all over the universe, so to speak, as-

sisting in the fulfilment of the prophecy: *Dominabitur a mari usque ad mare*, — 'He shall rule from sea to sea.'

"Do not hesitate, then, dear Friends to give me your valued support in furthering these works on behalf of our holy religion and civilisation. Your generosity will draw down upon yourselves God's choicest blessings. If you are His priests, He will reward you by rendering your sacred ministry most efficacious and fruitful; if fathers and mothers, he will reward you in your children who will be a source of joy and consolation to you; if a superior, in your community and pupils. In whatever state you may be, God will surely bless you both temporally and spiritually. What is more, He will fill your heart at your last hour with that holy peace which is a foretaste of the joy and happiness that await you in heaven."

I would ask of you one more favour before laying down my pen. Last November, as you are aware, the Catholic world celebrated the eighth centenary of the solemn commemoration of the Holy Souls with special suffrages. The Salesians and their pupils all the world over, did not fail to take part in this solemn commemoration by special prayers, which were offered up for the repose of the souls of all our deceased Co-operators and Benefactors. And, now, I take this opportunity to warmly recommend these departed friends to your prayers also.

Let us not forget, meantime, that sooner or later death will overtake us as well. Nay, many of those who read this Report, will have ceased to live before another year begins, and among them, perhaps, the writer of this letter. Let us, therefore, be prepared so that in whatever day or hour God calls us to Him, we may be able to say with all tranquillity and confidence: "Behold O Lord I am ready."

And whilst offering you my most grateful thanks for all your past benefits and for all those your inexhaustible charity is preparing for Don Bosco's Works, I beg to assure you of a participation in the prayers of our community and little children, that we may be all united in the enjoyment of a happy eternity.

Recommending myself in turn to your prayers, I remain,

Dear Friends and Cooperators,

Your humble and ever grateful servant in Xt.

MICHAEL RUA,

Superior-General of the Salesian Society.

Turin, January 1, 1899.



VENEZUELA.

IN THE LAZARETTO AT VALENCIA.

The following letters from Father Bergeretti, Superior of the Salesian Institute at Valencia, addressed to our venerable Superior-General, Don Rua, speak for themselves:—

Valencia, June 1, 1898.

V. REV. AND DEAR FATHER,

IN all the twenty-seven years of my missionary life, I have never assisted at such heartrending scenes as have taken place in the hospital of Valencia, during the seven weeks of my chaplaincy here. Truly, small-pox is one of the most repulsive and destructive scourges that afflict mankind.

More than four hundred persons afflicted with this disease have been admitted already into the hospital. The building is quite full; every available space has been utilised for the sick, and yet patients are being continually brought here. The epidemic has broken out in almost every quarter of the town, and defies the efforts of the Government and Municipality to localise it. The project to isolate all cases of small-pox meets with great opposition on the part of both rich and poor. A great many of the rich will on no account allow any of their family who may be stricken with small-pox, to be taken to the hospital, whilst the poor hide their sick; and in this way they greatly facilitate the spread of the disease. This want of precaution has been the cause of whole families being destroyed

Besides myself, there are four French Nuns of St. Joseph of Tarbes in the hospital assisting the inmates. These Angels of charity are performing wonders; they seem to multiply themselves, so great is the amount of work they do from morning till night. They pass from bed to bed, attending to the wants of the poor sufferers with unwearied patience

and kindness and gentleness, consoling them and doing much to allay their pains. It is in great part owing to their delicate tact that nearly all who have entered the hospital, have made their Confession; and of the sixty who have died, not one has died without receiving the last Sacraments. What more could we desire? Surely, we are being more than amply repaid for what little we are obliged to suffer in this house of woe.

Besides this epidemic, which has filled the people with grief and consternation, another sad misfortune has befallen Valencia, by the sudden death of the principal parish priest of the town, the Very Rev. Francis Pérez, a great friend of ours and a worthy member of the Association of Salesian Co-operators. He was a pious and zealous minister of God, esteemed and beloved by all: by the children for his gentleness; by youth for his prudence; by the aged for his righteousness; by the poor for his great charity. He was, in the words of St. Paul, "Given to hospitality, gentle, just, holy, chaste," and for these virtues he was held in high esteem and veneration not only by his parishioners, but by all who knew him. During the three days his body lay in state in the Cathedral, all Valencia turned out to pay a last act of homage to the beloved deceased. Already several Masses have been said for the repose of his soul. The Month's Mind is to be solemnly celebrated, and the Salesian choir has been invited to undertake the musical part of the functions. I recommend the deceased to the prayers of our *confrères* and Co-operators, as one of our dearest friends and benefactors.

What a change has come over Valencia in the space of a few weeks! Only a short time ago the city was busy, gay, and full of animation; at the present moment it is almost desolate. The streets are deserted but for the funerals, and the squads of soldiers pacing up and down the city on the look-out for insurgents. Through one gate of the city, political prisoners are being led into exile; whilst through another, the wounded in the fratricidal conflict, which still continues, are being borne into safety. Many brave men have fallen in the battle which was fought on the plains of Carabobo. Now and then skirmishes take place between the soldiers of the Republic and the insurgents; and the number of dead and wounded daily increases. The train that runs between Valencia and Portocabello has been attacked by the rebels on several occasions. The present state of

affairs renders it particularly dangerous to travel on foot or by rail. The young men have been, with but very few exceptions, enrolled in the army; some, compelled by Government, the others, of their own accord. The people are in a continual state of apprehension, as news has reached here that the rebels may be at the gates of the city at any moment. The sound of a shot or any unusual noise is a signal for the various patrols to be on their guard, and serves to increase the fears of the population. The houses of suspected persons are entered at all times and subjected to a thorough search; plantations are destroyed by fire; cattle stolen everywhere to supply the combatants with food, and perhaps this state of things will last for months and months, prolonging and increasing the many dreadful misfortunes which afflict the inhabitants of Valencia. Commerce is paralysed, bread is dear, and the price still continues to rise, so that many of the poorer classes see starvation staring them in the face. It is true that Government is doing something to remedy these evils, but as the civil war absorbs its resources, it can do but little. The well-to-do citizens are not behind-hand in helping their destitute brethren, and they do so with bountiful charity. And I am consoled to see that the poor inmates of the hospital claim their particular attention....

With this letter, I enclose the programme of the festival and the octave of our Lady Help of Christians, which we are celebrating with special services in order to appease God's anger, and implore Him to remove the terrible afflictions that weigh so heavily upon this unfortunate city. He has certainly visibly protected the Salesians and their alumni. So far, the dreadful disease of small-pox has not touched our numerous household. On Whit Sunday, thirty of our pupils made their First Communion; and their innocent prayers united with those of the people, will not have failed to touch the Heart of our Divine Lord, and will, I am sure, hasten the day of deliverance from the sad calamities that hang over Valencia. I cannot hide from myself that I am in constant danger of contracting this frightful epidemic, and I therefore recommend myself in a particular manner to your prayers, dear Father, and beg of you to ask the prayers of our *confrères* and Co-operators for this unhappy town of Valencia. I remain,

Your affectionate Son in J. C.,
F. ANDREW BERGERETTI.

Valencia, July 23, 1898.

V. REV. AND DEAR FATHER,

I SHALL not fail to write to you frequently in order to set your mind at ease concerning us. I regret that I am not yet able to give you favourable news about this town, which has now become a centre of that fearful epidemic, small-pox. The disease continues at present to rage most violently. Since my last letter, one thousand, eight hundred and forty-six people have caught the disease, and as many as five hundred and thirty-eight have died from it, which implies a mortality of nearly thirty per cent.

Naturally, the alarm among the people is widespread; and should the epidemic endure much longer, the town will soon be all but desolate. Many of the inhabitants have already fled into the country, whilst those who remain, afraid to sally forth into the streets, hide themselves indoors, so that the town has the appearance of being deserted.

In the lazaretto, which is overcrowded, the most heartrending scenes take place. The beds are placed quite close to one another, all being occupied, and in many cases by two and even three persons; with the result that when one of these dies, the other occupants are often obliged to pass some hours by the side of the corpse, before it is taken away. Sometimes the deceased is a mother with her fever-stricken children clinging to her; sometimes a child clasped in the arms of its dying mother. One poor creature, just before breathing his last, threw his arms about his neighbour, and shrieked out: "Come, you must accompany me to the other world." Every now and again, a patient becomes violently delirious, and rushes wildly about the hospital, jumping on to the beds and filling the occupants with terror, and causing endless confusion and mischief.

The wards are so overcrowded that, in order to administer the last Sacraments to the dying, it is necessary to carry the sick to the door, or move the bed of the person into the middle of the room. Twenty children have been born and baptised in the hospital, and the greater number of them will never know what it is to receive the loving embraces or hear the sweet accents of a father or mother. There are at the present moment so many little orphans that, were we in a position to take charge of all those recommended to our care by their dying parents, we could people a large institute.

Of all the dwellings situated in the neighbourhood of the hospital, every one has had one or more cases of small-pox. It would seem that the locality is most favourable for the propagation of the dreaded disease. Even the dogs help to spread it. Every day witnesses several hungry curs hanging about the lazaretto in search of food. The consequence is that they almost inevitably catch the disease; limp home covered with sores, and communicate the infection to the children who play with them. The matter has lately awakened a great deal of attention, and greater precautions are being taken in this regard and in other matters, so as to prevent propagation. The carts for carrying the sick are covered, and a bell is rung as the cart moves along, to warn the people to close the doors and windows of their dwellings. The houses, moreover, are being disinfected, and the roads cleansed; still, many parts of the town will profit but little from this, as there exists no drainage system in Valencia.

Since I came to the hospital, I have been recommended not to go out to administer the last Sacraments to small-pox patients in the town; but seeing that the parish priests, once they enter a house where the small-pox has appeared, are not allowed to visit people affected with other diseases—a circumstance which I could not help thinking, might deprive some poor fellow-creature of the last rites of the Church,—I deemed it my duty not to act on such advice; and I am glad of the course I adopted. As I conjectured, several poor souls would have left this world without being able to make their Confession or receive the holy Viaticum to strengthen them in their last journey, had I done otherwise.

I am now not the only Salesian attending to the small-pox patients; all our priests and brothers have placed themselves at the disposal of the town authorities to be of service to the sick. Father Montanari has been appointed President of the Commission for Vaccination, and accompanies the doctors from house to house on their mission; for vaccination has become absolutely obligatory for all. Father Savoia is attached to the hospital; Father Roffredo is filling the curate's office at St. Joseph's Parish Church; Brother Opalski goes round collecting for the erection of the new lazaretto; Father Voghera is assisting Father Arocho at the Cathedral; whilst our other brethren are taking care of the few boys who, being unable to go home to spend

their holidays are remaining at our College. One of the Brothers, a native of Curaçao, who caught the small-pox, is, I am pleased to say, quite well again.

I was called out a short time ago to bless a marriage between two people stricken with small-pox. The civil ceremony took place first. The registrar, standing at the door of the room wherein the couple had been carried in their beds, took down their names in the presence of four witnesses, and declared them indissolubly united. When he had terminated, I heard the young people's confession, and then blessed their union according to the rite of holy Church; immediately afterwards, I administered Extreme Unction to them. The honeymoon they will no doubt spend in heaven, as I hear that the husband is already dead. Several marriages have taken place in a like manner.

A unique and curious sight in the neighbourhood of the lazaretto is the great number of asses to be seen there. The place has quite the appearance of a donkey-fair. People ride to the lazaretto on their asses, or use them to convey the sick there, and when they leave the place they make a present of the beasts to the hospital. Fear that the animals may carry the disease away with them is the motive of this. This fear sometimes leads them to excesses. On several occasions, poor creatures stricken with small-pox have been left to die of hunger, simply because those who ought to have attended to them were afraid to go near them. In one instance, a wretch set fire to a house which contained a small-pox patient, and the poor creature was burnt alive before assistance arrived.

I find that persons addicted to intoxicating liquors easily fall a prey to small-pox, and, with but very few exceptions, are seized with what is called *black* small-pox from which they seldom recover. A doctor, who was a heavy drinker, lies in one of the wards of the lazaretto, suffering from a very severe attack of the disease, notwithstanding that he vaccinated himself as many as eighteen times!

Of the persons attached to the establishment six contracted the small-pox. Four of these have died, the other two recovered.

I hurriedly conclude this disjointed letter in order that it may start by to-day's mail. I would ask you as a great favour to send me some medals of our Lady Help of Christians. The people have great confidence in the Blessed Virgin's intercession, and are

continually asking me for medals; but I have now given away all I had.

Bless, dear Father, your children in Valencia, and pray for us.

Your obedient Son in Christ.,

F. ANDREW BERGERETTI.



MALTA.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE SALESIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.



THE Salesians have accepted the kind invitation of Sir A. J. Fremantle, late Governor of Malta, and will soon extend their labours to Malta.

The Institution that will be entrusted to them comprises an Industrial School for deserted and neglected boys, and a Reformatory for juvenile offenders, and is the first Institution of its kind the sons of Don Bosco have so far accepted. The following account of the laying of the Foundation-stone of this Industrial-School is taken from the *Daily Malta Chronicle* of Dec. 13th last:—

On Saturday last took place at Sliema the interesting ceremony of laying the Foundation-stone of the Industrial school for deserted and neglected boys.

The site on which this much needed institute will be erected is the gift of Mr. A. M. Galea, a wealthy gentleman who understands that worldly goods are not given to us for our exclusive benefit, but that a share is claimed by the country as well as by those who have been less fortunate in the great lottery of life.

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather the attendance was large and among others we noticed Sir Gerald Strickland, The Honble R. and Mrs. Micallef, Hon. L. Gatt, C. E., Hon. and Mrs. P. Samut, Hon. J. Bencini, Hon. and Mrs. Bonici, Mr. Savona, Mr. Azzopardi, Mr. C. Mallia, Captain and Mrs. Price, Miss Caruana, in addition to many more whom we have no space to record.

At 3.30 p.m. His Excellency the Governor attended by Major Biancardi A. D. C., arrived on the ground, being received by Mr. Galea whilst the Band of the Royal Malta Artillery played the National Anthem.

His Excellency having taken his place on the dais specially erected for him, Master Galdes read the following address:

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Last year we celebrated in these Islands the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The celebration of those festivities is already a thing of the

past. But it has pleased your Excellency, before departing from our shores, to leave us a lasting memorial of that happy event.

It is to us a source of no small gratification to meet on the very spot, where it has been decided to erect in commemoration of the Jubilee a monument of Christian Philanthropy, a Reformatory and Home for Boys. The Institution has for its object the shelter of destitute and neglected children and the reformation of juvenile offenders, who, after being rescued from a life of sin and shame, will, under the fatherly care of the worthy Sons of Don Bosco, be trained in virtue, and be also taught some useful trade which will help them to earn an honest livelihood and become in time good and useful members of the community.

This happy day will ever remain impressed on the hearts of the Maltese now gathered here publicly to express to your Excellency their gratitude for the kindly feelings shown towards those who so ardently desire that it should be erected in this populous district.

The Government, the people, both by the votes of their representatives in Council and by their subscriptions, rich and poor alike, to the Jubilee Memorial Fund, have contributed towards the noble work which your Excellency is now about to inaugurate.

Government is going to name the road in front of the Institute "Strada Don Bosco." It is our earnest wish and prayer that in memory of this auspicious day, another neighbouring road may bear your Excellency's name.

We hope that the people of Malta will soon come forward and crown the memorial by the erection of a Public Chapel.

May this Institute, the "Salesian Reformatory and Home for Boys," of which your Excellency has kindly consented to lay the Foundation-stone, be a lasting witness of the devotedness of the Maltese to the Faith of their forefathers and of their loyalty to their beloved Queen.

To which His Excellency made reply :

MGR. FARRUGIA, MR. GALEA, LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN,

The necessity of an Industrial School for the training and reformation of deserted and neglected children has long been felt in Malta, and when I arrived here nearly five years ago I was struck by the painful spectacle of young boys in Prison which could not but have a bad effect upon their whole future lives.

The generosity of Mr. Galea and the co-operation in this instance of the legislative council has enabled the Government to take advantage of the good work performed in Italy by the Salesian Fathers by inviting them to extend their labours to Malta.

I was, (in my capacity as a Middlesex Magistrate) for several years a manager of the great English Industrial School at Feltham, and I have consequently always felt much interest in such institutions.

My experience has taught me that the utmost care should be taken to follow out the careers of the boys after they have left the School; as the subsequent career forms the real test of Industrial and reformatory training.

You may have to guard against the wicked action of certain parents who by gross neglect or by designedly encouraging their children in mendicancy, endeavour to have them brought up at the expense of the State

for many years, and then try to resume possession of the boys at the end of their training, and by this means undo all the good which has been effected.

To avoid this we found at Feltham the necessity of enforcing the law stringently of making the parents contribute to their utmost towards the support of their children in the Reformatory,—and when the time arrived for discharge, we endeavoured if possible to get employment for the boys beyond the reach of their relations and so-called friends.

For we found beyond doubt that those boys who returned to their bad surroundings generally relapsed, whilst those who got away from them, nearly always turned into valuable men.

With these hints, derived from my former experience of similar institutions, I must express my gratification that almost my last appearance in public at Malta, has been in connection with the promotion of so good a cause, and this building will besides prove a lasting memorial of Maltese loyalty in the celebration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

At the conclusion of this speech a little child of Mr. Galea presented His Excellency with a beautiful bouquet.

Monsignor Farrugia, representing His Grace the Archbishop, said a few well chosen words before performing the religious part of the ceremony, after which the stone was lowered into its place, His Excellency declaring it "Well and duly laid."

We feel sure that the community will ever be grateful to Mr. Galea, who, in addition to presenting the valuable site has also contributed £1000 towards the eventual cost of the Institute, which is surely the monument her Majesty herself would have deemed the most fitting as a proof of the loyalty of the Maltese in the celebration of her Diamond Jubilee.



THE VERY REV. MONSIGNOR GRAINGER.

It is with feelings of profound sorrow that we have to record the death of a zealous Salesian Co-operator, in the person of the Very Rev. Monsignor Grainger, which sad event took place on December 22nd last at Exmouth, where he was Rector of the Mission. Born in Ireland on February 5th, 1845, he was, on his mother's side, a nephew to the Archbishop of Glasgow. In 1874, he was appointed *Cameriere d'Onore di Cappella e Spada* by Pius IX; and in 1881, he was ordained priest by Cardinal Monaco de la Valetta. He took up his abode at Truro the following year, and at once set to work to build

a Church and presbytery which he terminated in 1885. His health, which had never been robust, completely broke down two years later, compelling him to leave Truro. Father Grainger, following the advice of his physician, settled down in Exmouth, the mild climate of that place suiting him admirably. Here he erected the pretty chapel for his small but devoted flock of Catholics, among whom he passed the last ten years of his life, and endeared himself to those who knew him, Catholics and Protestants alike, by his charity and attention to his priestly duties. In 1888, Pope Leo XIII, made him one of his *Camerieri Secreti*. "A keen student and a clever linguist," says one of our contemporaries, "but above all a man whose heart was in his priestly work, Monsignor Grainger leaves behind many in Devon, Cornwall, and other parts of England who will mourn his loss and long remember his many virtues."—R. I. P.

MRS. MARY PASH.



WITH the feelings of children bereaved of a parent, we have to chronicle the death of Mrs. Mary Pash, in whom the Salesians at London have lost one of their earliest friends. When they arrived in England some ten years ago, practically unknown, it was Mrs. Pash who tended to their wants, and, up to the time of her death, did all she could for them. She was greatly respected for her piety, gentleness, and simplicity of manner. She had the happiness of giving three of her daughters to religion; and a son of her's was one of the first scholars studying under the Salesian Fathers in England, but he died when quite young, leaving behind to both his Superiors and companions, a record of his many and not ordinary virtues. Mrs. Pash ceased to live on the 9th inst. fortified with the Rites of Holy Church. We warmly recommend her to the prayers of our Readers.—R. I. P.

SALESIAN CO-OPERATORS WHO HAVE DIED DURING 1898.

The Empress Elizabeth of Austria.

The Right Rev. P. Caprotti, Bishop of Hyderabad, India.
 Asselin, Mrs. V., St. Roch, Quebec, Canada
 Barbara, Rev. Sr., Ursuline Convent, Blackrock, Ireland.
 Billen, Mr., Saint Trond, Belgium.
 Callaghan, Miss Mary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, England.
 Ciccolungo, Rev. G. B., Fermo, Italy.
 Clyster, Mr. M., Zolder, Belgium.
 Crowley, Mrs. Mary, San Nicholas, South America.
 Custos, Mrs. Euphemie, Alexandria, Egypt.
 De-Leusse, Marquis, Lyons, France.
 Dirking, Mrs. Frances, Merfeld, Germany.
 Donaghey, Mrs. Bridget, Dundee, Scotland.
 Draws, Mrs. Anne, Chicago, U. S. A.
 Enzweiler, Mr. Peter, Chicago, U. S. A.

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