

CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

FOUNDED IN FAVOUR OF

THE ORATORY OF THE SACRED HEART

AT THE CASTRO PRETORIO IN ROME

TO WHICH IS ATTACHED THE CELEBRATION OF

SIX MASSES DAILY IN PERPETUITY

offered for the intentions of those who make a single contribution

OF ONE SHILLING

ADVANTAGES.

1. During the erection of the magnificent Temple, recently consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, at the Castro Pretorio in Rome, it was established that, as soon as the grand edifice were finished, the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin and other

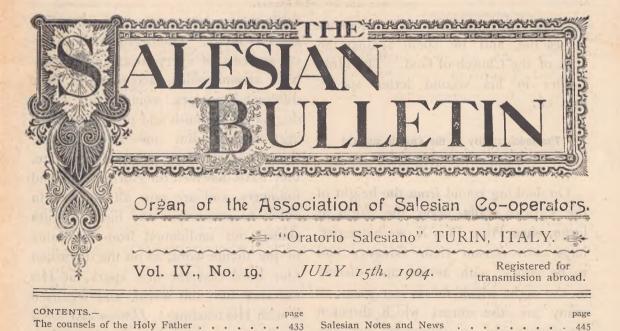


prayers should be daily recited therein, and Holy Mass offered on Fridays for all Contributors to the Building Fund of this International Monument of devotion to the Sacred Heart. In order to augment these spiritual advantages and admit to their enjoyment a greater number of the faithful, the Charitable Association of the Sacred Heart of Jesus has been established in the above-named church; whereby all the members participate in the fruit of six Masses daily, in perpetuity, offered for the intentions of those who are inscribed in the books of the Association and have given an alms of One Shilling once for ever towards the Oratory of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

2. Two of these daily Masses will be celebrated at the Altar of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, two at that of Mary Help

of Christians, and two at St. Joseph's. We may remark that Don Bosco's venerable name is associated with the two last-mentioned Altars, for on them he offered the Holy Sacrifice during his last stay in Rome.

- 3. Besides the six daily Masses all MEMBERS, both living and dead, participate in the fruits attached to:
- (a) The recital of the Rosary and the imparting of Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, which takes place every day in this church;



The counsels of the Holy Rathers

Salesian Notes and News

Graces and favours obtained

Various Gleanings

T was just about this time last year, that the whole world was plunged in the deepest sorrow and mourning by the death of the lamented Leo XIII. Within a short time, the Divine Head of the Catholic Church had given to His flock another Vicar, who is happily reigning, and who is thus about to celebrate the first anniversary of his ascending the Pontifical throne.

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His Holiness Pius X, in his first encyclical letter, likened himself to the great Archbishop St Anselm, who was struck with awe and terror at the troublesome career in store for him. In another letter, given on the occasion of the 13th centenary of the death of Pope St. Gregory the Great, the Apostle of England, the Holy Father draws another comparison between his Pontificate and that of St. Gregory, who fled from Rome that he might not be elected to succeed Pope Pelagius II.

And if indeed Pius X has escaped the plague and famine which raged in Rome in the early part of Gregory's Pontificate, he has still to contend with enemies of every sort, both open and secret, and has perhaps even a greater weight to bear than had his saintly predecessor thirteen centuries ago. But the sovereign Pontifts have always been the mainstay of Christianity, and let the storms of irreligion and heresy beat

ever so furiously, they will tire themselves out, and be spent against the rock of the Church of God. The Holy Father in his second letter speaks first of:

The Indefectibility of the Church and the need of fidelity to Her.

On looking round from the height of the Vatican walls upon the world at large, says Pope Pius X, we have perhaps more reason than Gregory had to be struck with terror and dismay at the sight which meets our gaze; so many are the storms which threaten on every side, so numerous are the bands of the enemy that press around, and at the same time, so entire is the abandonment in which we are placed trom all human aid, to withstand and beat off these attacks. But when we reflect on what ground we stand, and where it is that the Pontifical See is established, we feel doubly secure on the firm groundwork of the rock of the Church of Jesus Christ.

Kingdoms and empires have come and gone; nations renowned for culture in peace, and prowess in war have passed away; as though weakened and decrepit with old age, their dissolution came, and they ceased to exist. But in the meantime the Church of Christ, indefectible by its very essence, united with her divine Spouse in an indissoluble union, still remains, appearing to the world radiant in her eternal youth, strong as in the first fervour as she came forth from the Heart of Jesus expiring on the cross. The great men of the century have in turn stood up

against her; they are gone, but She remains intact. Numberless philosophical systems of every form and species have arisen, which, according to their different inventors, would refute every dogma of the faith and prove its teachings absurd. But one after another these systems have met the same fate, they have deceived their originators and followers, and are now all but lost in oblivion; meanwhile the light of truth shines out undimmed from the flame of the divine word, as on the day when Our Lord cast the first spark, at His entrance into the world, and fertilised it with His teaching! Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Armed with this unshaken faith, resting secure upon this immovable rock, and feeling in the depths of our soul all the grave responsibility which the Primacy lays upon us, but at the same time conscious of the vigour which the Divine Will has given to us, we remain tranquil, assured that the winds will eventually disperse the hostile voices which cry out on every side that the Catholic Church has run its course, that her doctrines have had their day and passed once and for all, and that soon she will be condemned either to accept the dictates of science and of civilization without God, or give up all connection with society. At the same time we must recommend to all, both high and low, of whatever position or rank, the absolute necessity of remaining steadfast to that Church which alone possesses the words of eternal life, which points out the true path of reason, which is the safe-keeper of the truth, and the one source of peace and happiness in this vale of tears.

The Holy Father then goes on to speak of:

The chief error of our times and its fatal consequences.

To-day, although the world rejoices in the benefits of an advanced civilization, yet it seems deprived of that life which has been, and is yet, the fount and only source of whatever good exists, or has existed in times gone by. But when schisms and heresies arise the church cuts off the withered branches from the trunk, and causes that vital power to dry up within them, so that t' eir ruin may be the more certain, and their strength never again recovered.

In this error which is the mistake of our time, lies the source of all other evils, the cause of the shipwreck of innumerable souls, and of so many other failures which we deplore, and the many that are to come unless some remedy can be found. It is the utter denial of all supernatural order, even to the extent of denying the Divine intervention in the creation and government of the world and the possibility of miracles; this truth once removed, the foundation of the christian religion must necessarily give way. The very existence of God is impugned, refuting with unheard of temerity, and in the face of every principle of reasoning, the invincible force of the truth that effects must be traced to their first cause which is God, and to his infinite attributes. For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made; his eternal power also and divinity (Rom. I. 30).

In this way a door is opened to every error, equally repugnant to sound judgment and dangerous to good morals. In fact the denial af all supernatural principle, the real Knowledge falsely so called, mentioned by St. Paul in his epistle to Timothy, has given rise to a historical criticism equally deceptive. Everything that is in any way referred to a supernatural order, either because it belongs to it, or presupposes it, or finds in it its only explanation, is cancelled without further hesitation from the pages of history. Such are the divinity of Our Divine Saviour, His incarnation by the operation of the Holy Ghost, His resurrection and the like dogmas of our faith. Science once set out on the wrong path, strikes out by mere caprice from the Holy Books whatever is at variance with it, or is contrary to the theses it wishes to establish. Having disposed of the supernatural order, the story of the founding of the church must be placed on another footing, and thus the monuments of history represent to the world only a mutilation of that given them by their authors.

Many are so caught by the show of an extraordinary degree of learning, and the apparently convincing arguments brought forward, that they either lose their faith, or are severely shaken in it. There are others indeed who, steadfast to their faith, are led to condemn critical research as a destroying influence, while it is in itself a safe and useful method of advancing knowledge when rightly applied. Neither class is able to perceive the false supposition on

which deceitful maxims are raised, and which when properly sounded lead to conclusions plainly absurd and false.

Not less painful are the disastrous results, which this denial brings to the moral life of the individual and of civil society. When once the principle obtains that nothing divine exists beyond this visible world, there can be no more restraint to unbridled passion, and the most undesirable results inevitably follow. The existence of depraved morals has indeed become world-wide, and civil authority cannot put a remedy to evils, while that authority denies that all power is from God. Its one restraint is force, which indeed it cannot always use, or always have at its command. Thus secret disorders spread everywhere, the reign of free-will and licence is extended, and overturns all order human and divine. Take away the belief in God and all respect for law and institution is at an end, justice and liberty are trampled under foot, and even the union of the family, the unit of social life is destroyed.

In times so hostile to the kingdom of God there is the greatest difficulty in applying the prompt and necessary remedies which Our Redeemer has placed in the hands of His Church, in order to keep the people to their duty. And yet there can be no salvation, but in Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. For there is no other name under heaven given to man, whereby we must be saved (Act IV. 12). To Him therefore recourse must he had; the teaching that fell from His divine lips must be listened to once more, since He alone can show us the path of regeneration, He alone can teach the truth, and he alone can restore life, for He has said Himself: I am the way the truth and the life (John xIV. 6). Men have tried to

build up an edifice rejecting the corner stone; but the building is brought to the ground upon its builders and buries them beneath its ruins. But Jesus Christ remains as the firm corner stone of human society, and the verification of those words are brought home to us, that out of Him there is no salvation:

This is the stone that was rejected by you the builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other (Act. IV. II. 12).

Such are the words of the Vicar of Christ on the prevailing evils of the day, which he is desirous of uprooting so that the kingdom of Jesus Christ may be extended more and more. Our Cooperators, whose distinctive mark is attachment to the Apostolic See, will, by their prayers and works endeavour to further to their utmost, the Sovereign Pontiff's intentions.

Book Notice.

We beg to call the attention of our Readers to the following interesting and instructive penny pamphlets recently published by the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland:

St. Patrick in the Far West. By the Most Rev. John Healy, D.D.

St. Columbanus. By Rev. M. O'Riordan, D.D., D.C.L.

St. Mary Magdalen and St. Agnes. By Rev. Robert Kane, S.J.

Pius X. By Charles Dawson.

The Dying Shirtmaker. From the Diary of a Missionary Priest.

The Infidel. From the Diary of a Missionary Priest.

The Miser's Death and the Broken Heart. From the Diary of a Missionary Priest.

The Hymn Book of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland.

Handbook of the Forty Hours' Adoration. By a Priest of the Diocese of Dublin.

Devotions in Honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Induigenced Prayers to Mary Immaculate.

Don Rua's Representative in America

(Extracts from his Secretary's Correspondence)

(Continued)

VERY REV. DON RUA.

I am now sending you the first news of our visit to the Houses on this, the Pacific side of the South American continent. I have told you that after ten days sail from Pernambuco we reached Rio, and then Montevideo, or rather, an islet two hours' sail away from it, where we had to spend five days quarantine, as all ships from Brazilian ports might be infected with yellow fever. We had to resign ourselves to this enforced delay, and wait on the island called Flores (flowers)—a complete misnomer. Imagine an abrupt, rocky islet without a vestige of cultivation or vegetable life, and you have an idea of the place on which we had to stay. It was also a waste of time for us, while at only a few hours' distance our confrères of Uruguay awaited our arrival. Fr. Gamba, provincial of the Houses of that Republic, impatient to meet Fr. Albera, left his house and joined us in the guarantine. With more company things grew brighter, and Fr. Gamba had had experience of this kind of thing, as twenty-five years before when coming as a cleric over to America, he had shared the famine that fell to the lot of those, who were in quarantine on the same island. He told us, we had been brought there for fumigation, to kill all the possible microbes in our baggage. They certainly did nothing to us, and the baggage was all heaped up in the saloon and might have been disinfected while we were asleep. No evidence of it has ever come to light, and I do not suppose ever will. Even the officials seem to make light of the infection, mixing freely with the supposed diseased, and taking all the seriousness out of these hygienic precautions. Fr. Albera was quite contented with our stay, during which he was able to say Mass for the numerous immigrants, and exchange some words with them to their greater profit.

Mendoza.

The quarantine being ended, and having made a brief stay with our confrères at Montevideo

and Buenos Aires we crossed the country to Mendoza, the Monferrato of the Argentine Republic, as it stands in a great wine-producing district. Others call it the city of earthquakes and they are not far wrong, for the last in 1861, counted no less than 12,000 victims. Some of the older people can still give vivid descriptions of the awful scenes, and they still cause terror and dismay though they they happened forty-three years ago. Mendoza was by no means a religious city; but God who shows His mercy even when chastising, allowed this catastrophe to occur on the last day of a fruitful mission. The few penitents who were awaiting their turn to go to confession, were buried with the confessors under the ruins of the church. But Mendoza does not seem to have profited much by this terrible scourge; faith and good works are not yet the distinctive mark of the rising town.

Various religious communities are labouring there, especially the Jesuits, who did very much towards enabling the Salesians to open a house in the town. In 1892 we obtained six little rooms, which had to do duty as schools and dwelling for the community; eight months afterwards they had a chapel to accomodate two hundred persons, and enlarged the building, so that Fr. Albera saw two hundred and sixty pupils, of whom seventy-seven were boarders, and three hundred attending the festive Oratory. The nuns of Mary Help of Christians had been quite as successful with the girls of the parish. In a congratulatory entertainment the children gave evidence of their careful training, and their gratitude to those whose labours are devoted to their benefit. Fr. Albera was especially pleased with their regularity at the Sacraments, and he himself preached to them during the month of

The conference to the Co-operators was given by our bishop Mgr. Costamagna. This companion of his school life, in his studies and ordination, this special friend of Fr. Albera had been long waiting for his arrival, and had come down to Buenos Ayres to urge on his setting out for the west, where he, the bishop, is the Vicar General of Don Rua. His Lordship Mgr Costamagna is known to all the people of these districts; they know the energy and zeal of this untiring Apostle who was the first of the Salesians to penetrate into Patagonia, with great risk to his own life. He was the first to enter Bolivia, and to him the fifty-eight Houses and numerous churches in the Argentine are chiefly due. Chile, Peru and Ecuador have also been the scene of his labours, in different periods of his fwenty-five years of missionary life in America. In the six years of his episcopate, he has administered Confirmation to over 160,000 persons, penetrating quite fearlessly where others would dread to approach.

At Rodeo.

Before finally leaving Mendoza, we visited a small township with scattered houses, but which with the neighbouring districts has a considerable population. It is rather too distant from the city, for the fulfilment of religious exercises, but not far enough away to escape the contagion of its bad examples.

We were lodged in a neat country house, owned by a lady who was early left a widow with two little boys. She gave us entire disposal of everything, and at table always took the lowest place herself. This is none other than the lady who in 1898, offered to the Salesians twenty-five acres of land, if they would attend to the spiritual needs of the people; the value of the land has since increased fourfold. But more than that, this good lady offered her own house with the land attached, as a convent for the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, and is now completing a church dedicated to the Queen of Heaven which will cost about £3.000.

This pious woman, who was blessed with such a goodly portion of this world's things, has by her generosity made herself poor for the love of Christ and the glory of his Church. The words of Holy Writ arise to our lips: Sacramentum Regis abscondere bonum est; followed by those others: Opera autem Dei revelare et confiteri honorificum est. And now through her charity the Holy Mass is celebrated every day at Rodeo, and on Sundays and Feast-days many approach the Holy Sacraments; a festive Oratory has also been established.

This good lady is however not the first benefactress of the House at Rodeo; Her grandmother had given to the Salesians the ground and part of the House which now forms the institute of Don Bosco, while she herself at the age of eighty years retired to the Convent of the Sacred Heart, where Almighty God gave her another ten years of life, in which she became the edification of the whole community, who yet speak of her with veneration.

On the Cordilleras.

In the company of Mgr. Costamagna we made the ascent of the Cordilleras, and it was well that we had such an experienced guide with us; for he had crossed these very heights about three months before, when they were covered with several feet of snow. His courageous undertaking was much spoken of on both sides of the heights which divide Chile from the Argentine. But for us the passage was not so formidable. In the summer months the snow and ice have disappeared, but still many dangers were said to be in store for us, though we knew them to be exagerated. From our experiences in so many journeys we have discovered, that out here it is generally thought, that Europeans are incapable of bearing even slight fatigues or facing any dangers; but on the other hand we have also dicovered that often the glowing descriptions are partly imagined. Yet I would not have you think that crossing the Andes is a very delightful occupation, especially for one like Fr. Albera, advanced in years and of feeble health. The journey would give free scope for lengthy descriptions, but our missionaries who have crossed and re-crossed these heights in their expeditions have already given them. It was on these slopes that in 1887 Mgr. Cagliero sustained a serious injury, by a fall from his horse in one of the dangerous passes.

When we had reached the culminating point of the ridge, at a height of over 12,000 feet, we beheld before us the state of Chile; we took a lengthy survey of the seemingly interminable stretch of land, which slopes down to the Pacific in front of us, and away to the Magellan Strait in the South and to Peru in the North. Many Confreres in the different Houses of this State are awaiting the visit of Don Rua's Representative, and our train will soon land us in their midst.

(To be continued.)



PATAGONIA

(TERRITORY OF NEUQUEN)

XXX

Pastoral Visit and Mission of His Lordship Mgr. Cagliero Vicar Apostolic of Patagonia.

(Continued)

Roca.

In the valley of Colloncurá-A tempest-Cordial hospitality-Lost in the pampas.

The Bishop would have preferred to continue his Pastoral Visitation as far a Lake Nahull, but the approach of the winter season, with heavy rain, ice and snow, made a change of plan advisable. As we began our expedition by following the river Neuquen to the Northern limit, so now we decided to end it by travelling to the Southern boundary, following the course of the river Limay, giving Missions in the three chief centres, Colloncurá, Sanicó and Alarcon.

On the 8th of April, having taken leave of our Confrères and their boys and the good inhabitants of Junin, we set out, the worthy corporal and the two soldiers, who had accompanied us from Las Lajas, taking charge of our baggage and horses.

We passed through the pleasant valley of Chimehuin leaving behind us the lofty mountain Lanin, the fantastie heights of Santa Julia and the long chain of the Andes. Crossing impetuous torrents and the river Quilquihué we ascended the steep hills of Chimehuin and from thence by good paths we rode swiftly down to the valley of Colloncura, a distance of about thirty miles.

But our journey had been too prosperous..... All at once a furious storm broke over us, the high wind and torrents of rain soon reduced us and the poor soldiers to the condition of birds fallen into a pond, whilst we tried to encamp on the right bank of the swollen river. We spent the night in keeping up large fires, so that we might not perish with cold.

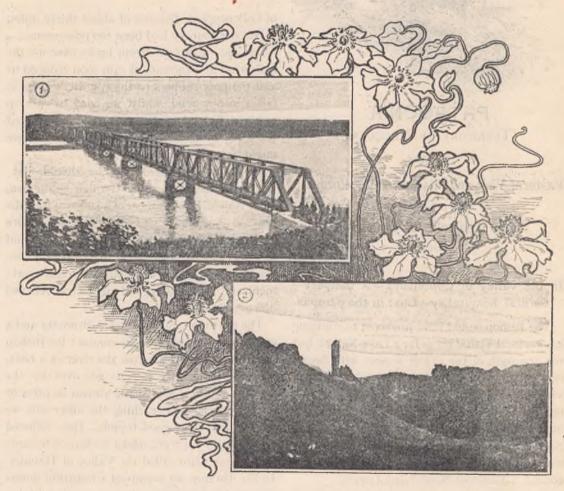
Providence arranged that we should find shelter in the house of a German gentleman, M. C. Ahlefeld, the manger of a large estate. His generous hospitality was of the greatest service to His Lordship, who, from the piercing wind and cold rain on the descent of Chimehuin, contracted fever and a bad cough. Careful treatment and above all a good night's rest relieved him greatly.

The next morning Lieutenant Brunetta and a company of soldiers came to conduct the Bishop and the Missionaries across the river in a boat. Some of the sturdy recruits got over by the rocks, the others forded the stream in carts or on horseback. On reaching the other side we took leave of our good friends. They folloved the course of the river, whilst we turned towards a low-lying plain called the Valley of Thunder. In the distance we perceived a beautiful domeshaped hill, from the side of which issued a stream, winding in and out through rich pastures, until it reached the Colloncura.

On a lofty eminence, shaded by an orchard of apple-trees we descried the house of a certain Mr. Delhagaray, a good old man from the Basque provinces of France. The Bishop chose this house as the centre of the Mission he wished to give to the inhabitants of Colloncura and the surrounding district.

Mr. Delhagaray and his family, delighted to entertain the Vicar Apostolic of Patagonia, offered their best rooms for the chapel, reception room and bed-room. In this house there were four Masses said each day, the Word of God was preached and Catechism given, to teach the Indians the principal Mysteries of the Faith.

Through the Bishop's affability and kindness not only were all the Indians brought to the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Matrihaving before our eyes an enchanting view of lofty heights, steep slopes and the picturesque meadows of the *Limay*. We left behind us the rough and dangerous roads, travelling swiftly and pleasantly across the pampas. But unfortunately the sky now grew dark and we were overtaken by a second terrible hurricane.



Iron Bridge on the Neuquen and the Tobas (Patagonia).

mony, but the few Christians living in the neighbourhood were also induced to approach the sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist. Amongst these were one aged host and his family, who, having left France many years ago had lived far from all spiritual help on the vast Patagonian plains. To show their gratitude, the Indians offered us the best they had, sheep or lambs for the support of our poor orphan children at Junin.

Leaving Colloncura we skirted the Cordilleras,

In our haste and confusion we missed our way. By the help of a good Indian, whom we met accidentally, we got back into the right road and then exerted ourselves to escape from the storm. But once more we lost our way, finding ourselves on a steep slope exposed to all the winds of heaven. Later on, in the middle of a valley, our tired horses refused to carry us further..... and to complete our misfortunes, to the rain and wind were added a storm of hail and nocturnal darkness. We sought in vain some hut or

shelter..... Fr. Milanesio retraced his steps and finally disappeared. The others separated, seeking in the darkness some place of refuge; at last a soldier, after crossing swamps and streams, discovered in the distance a small house.

This was a little store kspt by a good Italian family, whose eldest son had been a pupil in our House at La Plata. They received us with all possible kindness, giving us at once a reviving cordial. Then they lighted an enormous fire in the kitchen to dry our soaked garments. They prepared an excellent supper and gave us straw covered with sheepskins to sleep on.

The next morning brought clear, calm weather, so that we were able to continue our journey as far as Sanicó, where we arrived for Sunday 13th April. Having said Mass and preached, notice was given that in the afternoon the Sacrament of Confirmation would be administered to the children, and that the adults should prepare themselves for the other Sacraments. But here our labours had not such good results for more reasons than can be explained now; and seeing that our exhortations were of no avail, we set out for our next halting-place.

The coloured stone—Mission—A Victim of Laguna Honda—At Pantanito.

We passed though a beautiful stretch of country, which seems to have been specially blessed by Providence. Here is seen a rare and curious stone. In shape, size and height it resembles a large table. The lower part is of a purple colour and the top of a delicate and brilliant white, which attracts the attention of all travellers and is called *The coloured or mottled stone*. We could not have chosen a better or more romantic spot in which to take a rest. The wind and sun might have been troublesome, but for the useful bushes which protected us trom these enemies.

Shortly after we pursued our way towards Mount Colorado and from there to the Cañada Grande, a fine plateau, in the centre of which is a large lake called Pampa. On the 24th we had already reached the foot of The Eagle's Stone, a large and lofty rock, whose highest point resembles a flying eagle. The wires of the electric telegraph stretch across this fertile plain and over the rocky hills as far as the famous Lake Nahuel. The line is well constructed and seems strong enough to bear the storms and floods of the Limay.

A little before sunset we reached our next destination, a place called The Northern Stream; here we were kindly received and well treated by Messrs Canero, owners of several houses and flourishing estates in this neighbourhood. They are three good charitable Italians who by a laborious, simple and well-spent life have put together a small fortune. They are three in number, but one in heart and purpose. They have preserved intact the treasuse of the faith received from their parents; and they bring up their children as Christians, the tutor being required to give them a lesson in Catechism every day. During the two short days of the mission the masters with their numerous dependants fulfilled their religious duties and the Bishop confirmed the boys and girls of the neighbourhood. It was a beautiful sight to behold the Missionaries ever in the midst of the people, catechising and exhorting, whilst Fr. Milanesio instructed the Indians, preparing them to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, the Holy Eucharist, and sanctifying the families by Christian Marriage.

The respectful attentions of these good brothers their cordial hospitality and above all their humble, practical faith made us forget our past sufferings and recalled the days of the primitive Church, when the Apostles, lodging in private houses, converted them into Churches by celebrating the Divine Misteries and preaching the Word of God.

Having completed this short but fruitful mission, we set out for Pantanito nearly thirty miles distant. After a while we saw once more the picturesque valley of the *Limay*, where leaving its bed amidst the high rocks it extends itself majestically over the verdant plain, bathing an immense number of beautiful islets. In the distance, resembling an impregnable fortress we beheld the *Serra del Tigre*, and whilst journeying along the banks of *Lake Honda*, amongst the bushes we found two graves, one of which we seemed to be freshly made. We could not pass without a short prayer for these two buried away in solitude!

The ascent of the Sierra Colorado is easy the path being traced in zig-zags; it is remarkable for the reddish colour of the soil and for its pyramidal rocks. The descent of the Picasa is also easy and pleasant. From the summit there is a charming and extensive view, namely, the whole expanse of the Limay and

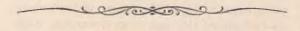
Pampa regions, which, seen from this height, resembles an immense sea surrounded by the ranges called the Lions' Hills.

Towards nightfall we reached *Pantanito*, a pleasant valley nine leagues in length, through which run the waters of the river Limay. Here we found encamped two hundred and fifty conscripts from St. Martin who saluted us withgreat respect and attention. The good Lieutenant Brunetta had some supper prepared for us, at the same time giving orders that some soldiers should cover a cart with oil-cloth that it mightserve as the Bishop's bedroon.

But we observed that the Lieutenant and his conscripts were not in the best of spirits; on enquiring the reason, we found that the recently-made grave, close to Lake Honda, was that of a poor soldier who had accidentally fallen into its deep and treacherous waters. The heroic efforts of the officers and of his comrades were unavailing, and he became the victim of his carelessness.

In the absence of any enclosure we could not catch the mules to tie them to our travelling cart to prevent them from straying; but the soldiers at once provided us with a fence, forming themselves into a square enclosing the animals, and quickly forcing them to submit.

At the sound of the bugle we, like soldiers, stretched ourselves on the ground and taking the horses' saddles for pillows were soon in deep sleep. The trumpet-sound in the early dawn aroused us from slumber, and a short time after saw us already on our journey southwards.



MATTO GROSSO (Brazil)

Good news from the Mission to the Coroados- Borörös Indians.

(Letter from the Rev. John Balzola).

Barreiro, Cuyaba, Colony of the S. Heart.

VERY REV. DON RUA,

Thanks to the visible and continual protection of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of our good Mother Mary Help of Christians, I can again send you good news. In June I gave you an account of the arrival of one hundred and forty

Indians, who took up their abode near us; and now I must tell you that after the two months and a half which they have spent with us we look forward to the happiest results. May Our Lord be praised, and to those who have helped us by their daily prayers we offer heart-felt thanks.

Various works have already been undertaken. In the first place we have built a tiny dwelling for Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and now enjoy His perpetual Presence; four bare walls of brick and in the middle a small altar. We have made plans for four rows of huts round the sides of a magnificent square about a hundred yards each way, and now at least twenty are ready. In the centre of the Square a large hut, called *Bryito* has been built, where the men assemble on feast days. At present it also serves as a dormitory for the children.

We have also cut down the trees of a large extent of forest and in the ground thus cleared, divided into small allotments, each family of our neophytes is taking lessons in agriculture. All the children attend school and several of them have already learnt the sign of the Cross and the Hail Mary, and know the capital and small letters of the alphabet. This is not much, but it shows that they are not wanting in intelligence. Having lately received a copy of the beautifully printed Invito Sacro for the feast of the Coronation of Mary Help of Christians, I made them spell the words of the title, and you cannot imagine how greatly touched I was in hearing them read these few words in our own tongue. The girls, who attend the Sisters' School have already learnt to sew a little and some of the house work suitable for their age.

So far we have not administered Baptism to any except a few infants, because, please God, we hope after a little further instruction they may understand better the great grace of Redemption. What a happy day that will be for all! Let us hasten it by united prayer!

One of our troubles is that of not having enough to clothe them with. We have received from our House at Cuyaba a few small things, some shirts and pieces of stuff, but these are insufficient for so many people. We hope to succeed in giving at least one long shirt to each. These are being made as quickly as possible, and as soon as they are finished they are given to those who have not yet got one; they are received as great treasures. This also is a sign

of God's blessing. An old man, an ex-cacique, was presented with a shirt, but he gave me to understand that for him, a cacique, it was too little.

"I am a captain! I am a captain!" he said.

Not having either a pair of trousers or a waistcoat to spare, I gave him one of my vests and a pair of drawers. You have no idea, how delighted he was. Later on I gave him an old pair of trousers and he followed me about, saying.

- "I am Captain Lulu and my trousers are torn!"

So I decided to have them mended and now he sets great value on them, for when he is in our house he wears his shirt, vest and drawers, and when he goes out hunting usually only his vest. One must have patience with these poor children; and thank God that they are so docile.

From what I have said you will understand, how happywe are to be with these good Bororos who show us great respect and obedience; but on account of Clarismondo's massacre of their companions, related in the Bulletin of October 1902 by our Provincial Fr. Malan, each time they

see any other European they are terrified and run away, as happened on the morning of the 13th inst. Whilst I was preparing to say Mass, Captain Joachim arrived and said to me:

- "Father, whilst I was asleep the Bororos all took to flight!"
 - "Wherefore?" I enquired.
- "Because last night some soldiers arrived down there and they were afraid."

I could scarcely believe this possible and wished to see for myself. In the huts there were only a few men and dogs left.

Turning to the Captain, I said:

- "Captain Joachim they have done wrong.

Had they remained with us no one would have dared to touch them; away from us, some misfortune may overtake them. You must call them back.

He understood my speech and sent at once some of the few who had remained to recall the others. They went to the top of a hill and began shouting; they knew that the others were hidden amongst the rocks. After Mass they all came back with the exception of one family who had gone some distance and only returned towards evening. Calling together a few I went



Lake Lacar and the frozen stream on the north side of the Lanin,

to see who could possibly have arrived in the neighbourhood and found our good friend and Co-operator Mr. Barboza who was known to most of the Indians, with an officer and two soldiers on their way to join the detachment of Araguaya. This friend of ours had brought us three beasts of burden, laden with goods sent from the House at Cuyaba; but, arriving late at night, so as not to scare the Indians, they had

halted near a stream in the Colony, and the Indians, seeing this, had been all the more alarmed in consequence.

However even this was providential; for it served to diminish the fear in which they lived and encouraged them to trust in our promises. Henceforth, in order to make light of their fears, when I saw some one coming, I would call out "fly, fly, for the soldiers are coming! You can return to-morrow." And they would begin to laugh, saying "No, we are not going away any more." There are, however, not many opportunities for such jokes, for usually, no living soul comes this way and barely once a month does the post arrive.

Your last letter, dear Rev. Father, in which you gave me such good advice regarding the Indians, and for which I thank you with all my heart, reached me in August (1). We learnt the news of the death of His Holiness Pope Leo XIII from the newspapers of Matto Grosso about a month after, barely in time to celebrate a Mass for his soul on the thirtieth day, at which many Indians were present. On the 17th July whilst the Holy Father was dying, the first baby was born in the Colony; as it was the Feast of Pope St. Leo IV in honour of the Holy Father it was christened Leo Pecci; and to another baby born to-day I have given the name of Pius, in honour of the new Pontiff, the news of whose election has at last reached us.

One of the two bari (their priests) is the Indian Michael Rua, a brave and intelligent man; he took part in many skirmishes and saved himself by flight from Clarismondo's attack. I have gained his confidence and have learnt from him many particulars of their religious superstitions. Some account of these may be interesting.

The devil, it seems, transforms himself into an angel of light in these forests and causes himself to be adored instead of God. He told me that the object in blessing certain animals and fishes, as they do, screaming at the top of their voices, biting like mad dogs the things that are blessed, with their bodies all trembling as if possessed, is that they must invite the Good Marebba to come and eat some of the game or fish, so that the Indians may afterwards eat of them with impunity. He added that they have to

shout loudly because the good Marebba is only one and lives in the fourth heaven. In the first, second and third beaven are many Bobe and Marebba, but they are not good and seek to destroy the Indians. With the good Marebba there is also a very good woman, and there is also a son Marebba. Only the two Bari (of whom as I said the Indian, Michael Rua isone) can communicate with the good Marebba, whilst the rest communicate with the son Marebba. And as the good Marebba is invoked to take their game and their fish, so the Son Marebba is invoked for the healing of the sick, another extraordinary ceremony. The reason of their trembling is that the Bope is with them face to face, and limb to limb. When the ceremony is over the god retires and they remain quiet. After death the Bari alone ascend to heaven where Marebba lives the others remain on earth; and for this reason when they see a falling star they break forth into despairing howls, for they say: "The Bari is enraged against us and is coming down on earth to kill us."

We all noticed that whilst he was relating these things the poor Indian began to tremble, so that I had at last to leave him in peace. I will give further details in another letter: but it seems to me one can make use of the above in teaching our holy religion, speaking to these poor Indians of the Unity of God, of the Incarnation of His Divine Son and of the Divine Maternity of the Blessed Virgin (that good woman who lives in the fourth heaven with Marebba). May Our Lady Help of Christians and the Sacred Heart of Jesus bless our words and our labours.

In conclusion I implore you not to forget us. Our numbers are large and we need help. But as in seeking the kingdom of God all other things will be added to us, we promise you, Beloved Father, to remain ever true and worthy Sons of Don Bosco, and do you pray for us and recommend us to the charity and the prayers of our good Co-operators. Bless more especially

Your devoted son in Corde Jesu

J. BALZOLA

(Salesian Missionary)



⁽¹⁾ This letter of Fr. Balzola, written on the 31st August, reached Don Rua Dec. 19th.



The feasts of Mary Help of Christians.

The anniversary of the feast of the Coronation of Mary Help of Christians, and the great feast-day itself, were made the occasion of unwonted splendour and solemnity at the Sanctuary at Turin. To an eye-witness of that memorable round of celebrations of last year it would seem impossible that such enthusiasm should ever again recur; but omitting that exceptional day, the feasts of this year assumed a character of solemnity and fervour far outstripping previous years.

The choirs of the various Salesian Institutes in and around Turin, making six or seven in all, rivalled each other during the preceding month in the excellent rendering of the music of the solemnities leading up to the feast. One of the Salesians preached every morning and evening, and his words were so effective, that one could foretell that the feast would really be one of the triumphs of Our Blessed Lady.

Perhaps the news of a very recent extraordinary favour, the recovery of a sick nun, obtained through the intercession of the Queen of Heaven, tended to increase the devotion and enthusiasm. The novena commenced on the 15th of May, and these few preceding days presented quite an edifying and almost unique sight, in the number of daily communicants and suppliants at the altar of the Help of Christians.

On the 16th the bells of the Sanctuary announced the eve of the anniversary of the coronation, and devout worshippers of all ranks hastened to the Sanctuary, to avail themselves of the opportunity of gaining the plenary indulgence granted by the late Holy Father Leo XIII. The day itself was one uninterrupted passing and repassing to the Sanctuary, and more than a thousand received Holy Communion on that day alone.

At 7 a.m. the Most Rev. Mgr. Bertagna, titular Archbishop of Claudiopolis came to celebrate Holy Mass at the altar of Mary Help of Christians. He afterwards proceeded to the choir where in the presence of the Very Rev. Don Rua, and the principal superiors of our society, he unveiled a bronze tablet, as a memorial of the Coronation. It is placed below the cornice of the marble frame enclosing the picture. The inscription, from the pen of the Rev. Prof. Cerruti is as follows:—

Ob memoriam faustissimi diei XVI. Kal. Junias An. MCMIII quo nomine atque auctoritate Leonis XIII Pont. Max. Augustinus Richelmy Card. Arch. Taurinensium multis adstantibus episcopis adclamantibus universis aurea corona redimivit imaginem Virginis Christi Adjut.—Hunc titulum laeti gratique extare voluimus.

"As a memorial of the happy occasion, the 17th of May 1903, when in the name, and by the authority of Leo XIII, Pope, Augustine Richelmy, Cardinal Archbishop of Turin in the presence of many of the episcopate, and amid the enthusiasm of the whole assembly crowned the image of Our Lady Help of Christians.—With joyful gratitude we desire to erect this tablet."

The Superior of the Oratory, having read the inscription aloud, intoned a hymn to Our Lady

in which the whole assembly heartily joined. A cleric who had for eight months completely lost his voice, on account of paralysis of the vocal chords, suddenly regained his voice and he eagerly joined in the hymn of praise.

In the evening Mgr Bertagna gave Pontifical Benediction. The favour granted by Our Lady at the moment of the unveiling of the tablet soon spread from mouth to mouth throughout the city and drew a great number to the Sanctuary.

On the feast of Pentecost, May 22nd the concourse was extraordinary. The most Rev. Mgr. Spandre, auxiliary to the Cardinal Archbishop of Turin assisted at the Mass and Pontificated at the evening vespers. On the 23rd His Lordship returned to celebrate the Community Mass, and afterwards addressed the boys assembled in the Church.

At midday the Salesian Co-operators were gathered together for their conference, which was given by one of our missionaries, and presided over by His Lordship the Bishop of Biella. Many bands of pilgrims were arriving from all quarters and by all trains, special arrangements having been made by the Companies for that purpose. From Liguria, Piedmont, Venice, Lombardy and Milan the groups were turning their steps to the sanctuary of the powerful Help of Christians. The exterior of the Sanctuary was illuminated in the evening.

The long expected day dawned at last. Pil-grims still came in to swell the crowds of the preceding day. About 3a.m. the Sanctuary was opened, but the celebration of Holy Mass had commenced at two o'clock, and went on till midday. Not less than a hundred masses were celebrated that day in the Sanctuary.

The Cardinal Archbishop celebrated at 7 o'clock and gave a short discourse to the pupils and community who assisted at this Mass. Mgr. Gamba sung the Pontifical Mass at 10 o'clock. The preacher of the monthly course of sermons gave a touching and affectionate discourse on the Glories of Mary, especially in the second half of the nineteenth century. But the crowning feature of these splendid manifestations was the procession after the Pontifical Vespers. More than forty sodalities with their banners, and great numbers of the clergy in their vest-

ments preceded the statue of Our Lady, on a magnificent throne, and crowned with the diadem placed on it last year by the Cardinal Archbishop. The procession passed along several principal streets which were hung with drapery and festoons, and the music, supported by several bands, was one continual triumphal song. At the return to the Sanctuary the Cardinal gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament once inside, and once outside to the masses that thronged the piazza.

In closing this record of the festivities we remind our Co-operators that, following the recommendations of Don Bosco, special prayers were at that time offered for them and their material and spiritual welfare. May Our Lady Help of Christians deign to hear our prayers and bless Our Holy Father the Pope, the Catholic Church, our benefactors and the whole human race.

The feast-day at the Salesian House in London.

A correspondent supplies us with the following interesting account of the celebrations in honour of Our Lady at the Sacred Heart Church, Battersea, London:—

The great feast of Our Lady Help of Christians was observed with all possible solemnity in this Church on Sunday May 9th. This day was also one of special interest and rejoicing, because of the fact that the celebrant at the High Mass was a newly-ordained priest-The Rev. Father Gicquel, S. C.—who had received sacred ordination on the previous day at St. George's Cathedral, from His Lordship the Bishop of Southwark. Father Gicquel enjoys the privilege of being the first priest ordained by Bishop Amigo. The new minister of God also officiated at the vespers, after which a very masterly exposition of the devotion to Our Lady under the title of Help of Christians, was given by the Rev. W. D. Brownrigg, S. C. Benediction of the most Blessed Sacrament brought the day's celebration to a close.

At Farnborough (Hants.)

Yet another contribution to the annals of the devotion of Mary Help of Christians. The Sa-

lesian Institute at Farnborough is not entirely unknown to our readers. We welcome its notice of the festivities, especially as it is but doing honour to its Patroness, being dedicated to Our Lady under that invocation: It is as follows:

The feast of Lady Help of Christians was kept with special solemnity in the Patronal Church of the Salesians at Farnborough. The beautiful little church, designed by a priest of the Congregation, never looked so attractive and devotional as it did on the feast of the Queen of Heaven to whom it is dedicated. The High Mass was sung by the Rev. L. Pelous, S. C. and

of God's special providence watching over it. The Salesians are erecting a new school as a continuation of the old building, and this means a heavy outlay. Workshops too are needed, in order that trades may be taught to the boys to enable them to earn their living when they go out into the world. They feel sure that the generous Co-operators of Don Bosco, will in honour of Mary Help Christians, aid them to continue and develop the good work so manifestly blessed by God.

The accounts of special value from distant



Old Pupils of the Collegio Pio IX at Almagro (Buenos Ayres).

the special music was exceptionally well rendered by the choir. In the evening there was a procession followed by Solemn Benediction of the most Holy Sacrament, The Children of Mary with their banners, the boys of the House and the Congregation, all assembled to do honour to Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament, and to Mary the Mother of God, presented a touching scene of Catholic faith and piety.

The Orphanage attached to the church, though having to contend with serious difficulties, is making slow but steady progress. The sign of the cross never absent in the works of God has been marked deeply upon it. It is a sign of future fecundity and an indication

lands will appear in future issues, either under this heading or in the columns devoted to the chronicles of the Devotion to Mary Help of Christians.

A welcome letter.

A few weeks back Our Superior General received a touching letter from the ecclesiastical seminary at Brescia (Italy). It was from some of the candidates for ordination, who, being already Salesian Co-operators, desired the special intercession of Our Lady on their approaching the Holy Altar for the first time. We are sure that Mary Help of Christians was most willing

to grant their pious request, and bestow her protection on these young ministers of God, who are about to commence their apostolate for the advancement of the kingdom of her divine Son. The letter is given here:—

Very Rev. Don Rua,

Arrived almost at the foot of the Altar to offer up the August Victim for the first time, we feel a great need of the special assistance of Mary Most Holy, Help of Christians, that she may aid us in that solemn moment, when her Divine Son will become incarnate in our hands. But more than on our own poor prayers, we rely upon the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass which we beg you to offer for us on the morning of the ordination, at the altar of Mary Help of Christians. Strong in this assurance we shall be less unworthy to appoach the Holy Altar, and more steadfast in the fulfilment of the duties of the priesthood, uniting our efforts with those of the Sons of Don Bosco whose missionary labours extend to every part of the globe. We thus hope to offer our mite towards the realisation of the earnest wishes of the sovereign Pontiff-to restore all things in Christ. We would ask you to recommend us to the pravers of our associates, the Salesian Co-operators.

Your devoted sons in J. C. N. N.

Buenos Ayres (South America).

The spiritual director of the association of past students of the College at Almagro, has received a letter fo the following effect from the Holy Father's Secretary of State. It is another proof, if one were wanted, of Pius the tenth's affection and regard for Don Bosco and his Institutes.

Very Rev. Sir,

The communication sent by the old pupils of Don Bosco in the Argentine Republic has reached the Holy Father. It was doubly welcome to him, both on account of the distance from which it was sent and the filial homage and good wishes it contained. The Holy Father learnt with particular pleasure of the solemn commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the

establishment of that Salesian Institute, which gave the old pupils, who had had the advantage of experiencing its beneficial influence the opportunity of presenting themselves in spirit at the feet of His Holiness, with the offering of their faith and love.

Wishing this excellent school every success in the continuance of its meritorious work, the Holy Father sends his blessing to all in the association of old pupils, their families, their director and provincial, Fr. G. Vespignani.

With sentiments of affection and esteem Card. MERRY DEL VAL

TO THE READER

When applying for a copy of this periodical, please state whether you already receive our "Bulletin" (Italian, French, Spanish, German, Portuguese, or Polish) and if you desire to have it suspended henceforth, or not.

Communications and offerings may be addressed to our Superior-General:

The Very Rev. MICHAEL RUA, Salesian Oratory, Turin, Italy.

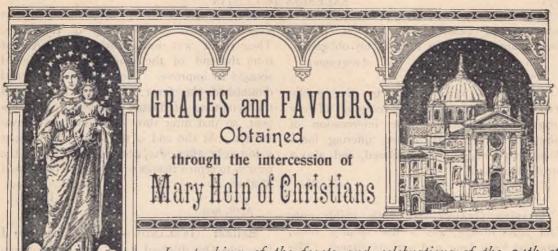
able at the P. O. Turin — Cheques on the National, or other Banks, Turin. — Raper Currency (Bank-notes, Dollars, etc.) can be cashed at Turin without loss or discount, — Letters containing money or objects of value should be registered.

The Salesian Bulletin

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Printed and Published at the Salesian Oratory, Turin, Italy.

This Magazine is sent to Catholics who manifest a desire to become Members of the Association of Salesian Co-operators, and concur in helping our Society in any way whatsoever.



In speaking of the feasts and celebrations of the 24th of May mention has been made of two extraordinary favours obtained by Our Lady for her devout clients. Others are

added here. The month of May could not but be specially fruitful in the blessings of heaven, and in favours from the Mother of God. But her power never grows less, and for those who are determined to do their part, she will invariably obtain temporal or spiritual blessings, or both.

Co. Wexford (IRELAND).—Having prayed for some time since to Our Lady Help of Christians for a special favour, I promised to have publication made were it received. The favour has been granted and I now request you to publish the same.

I attribute the reception of this grace to the intercession of Our Holy Mother Help of Christians, and am having a Mass offered in thanksgiving.

P. B. K.

May 28th, 1904.

London.-I had been subject for some time to most violent and uncontrollable impulses produced by overwrought nerves, so that I could not tell what inconveniences might occur when an attack should seize me. Many specialists had been consulted but their efforts brought no lasting good.

Last April a novena to Our Lady Help of Christians was begun by myself and others, and a promise of publication made. From that time I have not been troubled with the attacks, and have gained much in health and strength. I send a thank-offering and fulfil my promise of publication.

Ireland.—I hasten to offer with heartfelt gratitude my thank-offering to the shrine of Mary Help of Christians at Turin. Our novena to the Blessed Virgin invoked under the titles of Help of Christians, Our Lady of Pompeii, and Our Lady of Pellevoisin has been answered in a wonderfully speedy manner, by a most decided improvement in the health of our daughter. I now wish to fulfil my promise and to have it published in the Salesian Bulletin.

A Salesian Co-operator.

May 27th, 1904.

Our Lady's intercession has just obtained a remarkable cure in tayour of the sender, for which I beg to return thanks to God and Mary Help of Christians. This has given me confidence to ask your prayers for another particular favour, the recovery of a near relative from paralysis. I promise to have a Mass offered in thanksgiving and to send a donation it the favour is obtained.

June, 1904.

Belfast (IRELAND).—I had promised an offering to the Sanctuary of Mary Help of Christians, if we obtained a recovery from a

June 5th, 1904.

very serious illness. Our request having been granted, I hasten to fulfil my obligation.

Anonymous.

June, 1904.

A client of Mary wishes to give public expression of thanks for the reception of very urgent favours through the intercession of Mary Help of Christians. An offering for a Mass in thanksgiving is enclosed, and also a small donation.

N. N.

June, 1904.

Messina (ITALY).—My little child, only four years of age, was, a few months back, attacked by a long and serious illness. The medical attendant had treated it for some time in vain, and at last informed me that a consultation should he held.

On the morning that this was to take place, I visited the Church of Mary Help of Christians in this town, and besought her to obtain the restoration of the little one to her sorrowing parents. The consultation was a long one, and after an exposition of the case by the attending doctor, the medical men concluded that it was an advanced form of influenza with a tendency to develop into serious complications, which left little hope of a recovery.

But still, faith overcame our grief, and prayers

were redoubled to the Help of Christians. Their result was immediately seen. Almost from the end of the consultation the child seemed to improve. The pains in the head diminished, the fever gradually abated, and the symptoms of disease commenced to disappear, so that after three days she was convalescent. At the end of the same month, about a fortnight after, she accompanied us to the church to return thanks to God and His Blessed Mother.

G. De M.

April, 1904.

Belfast (IRELAND). — Some time ago I besought Our Blessed Lady and St. Anthony to obtain a certain favour for me, promising to have a Mass offered for the souls in Purgatory and also to give an alms to buy bread for the poor and have the favour published if granted. Thanks be to God, Our Blessed Lady and St. Anthony I have obtained what I asked for, and now I willing redeem my promise. I have had a Mass offered for the suffering souls and also gave a small alms to St. Anthony to buy bread for the poor; will you be so kind as to publish it in the Salesian Bulletin.

WM. L.

June 17th, 1904.





VARIOUS GLEANINGS

MALTA. - Inaugural ceremony.

It is with great pleasure that we lay before our readers this interesting and welcome account of the inauguration of the new Salesian Institute in Malta. It unfortunately arrived a few days too late to appear in a former issue, but will be found none the less gratifying on that account. We are indebted to a local paper, "The Malta Daily Chronicle," for the following details:

We discharge this day a consoling duty, when we give a brief account of an auspicious ceremony performed chiefly by the two most august personages in our island, in inauguration of an institute which, as we hope, will in the future have far-reaching and highly beneficial influences upon our island. We speak of the formal opening of the Salesian School at Sliema. And we must at once here state, that though the material structure of the Salesian Society which has now begun to be in active being here, is situated at Sliema for reasons which we will hasten to explain, the school is no more meant to meet the wants of, or further the interests of, Sliema, than to satisfy the requirements of any other portion of the island. The Salesian Fathers have been brought hither to

supply a want keenly felt in the island even at the present moment, and in the natural development and order of things, likely to be more acutely experienced in proportion as our relatively enormous population continues to swell to such a degree that a goodly portion of the entire sea-girt land will have practically become one immense town, with parts ill distinguished by local names and physical features.

The Salesian Institute occupies in part now, and will in the near future, we hope, fully occupy its site at Sliema because, Mr. Alfonso Galea, assisted by the late Miss Pullicino in his philanthropic efforts, his Christian purposes and his worthy and noble, patriotic desires for the reformation of youth, assigned, as a free grant to the Salesian Society, about 553 square yards of land, most valuable and most advantageously situated, precisely in that part of our island of which it will form so striking a feature. Nor did his generosity stop at that. But it is not for us to mark the measures, nor define the obligation under which the island is to the two persons whom we have named, or to others of whom Father O'Grady made mention, or to the Government, which has our common interests at heart, or to the many besides whose names are written in The Book in which all good is inscribed, and which partakes not of the frailness of the memory of man.

This Salesian Industrial School, then, of which we speak, was formally declared open by His Excellency the Governor on Monday afternoon, which will long be remembered not only by those who were privileged to be present at it—and the concourse of people was very great—but by all who in any way participated in the functions, even though they could not for one reason or another assist at them.

The Rev. Father Patrick O'Grady, the genial Director of the incipient institute, a man of culture who was associated with Don Bosco himself in life, a man with wide experience of the world and its ways in many climes, a man, we deem, with a heart for the young after the mind of the revered founder of the Salesians, supported by the other members of the new Institute, received his Excellency the Governor, who was attended by Colonel Biancardi, and Lady Mansfield Clarke and the Archbishop of Malta at the main entrance of the School.

Arriving precisely at the hour appointed, they were conducted along the wide and well lit corridor, to the room which will eventually be the

Dining Room of the Industrial School, and took their seats on a carpeted platform.

The Dining Room had been suitably prepared for such honoured and distinguished guests. A Union Jack, set off with ever-green garlands, stretched over the whole ceiling. On the wall to the back of his Excellency and the Archbishop stood out in large coloured letters the words "Empire Memorial," and the portraits of the King and Queen and of the Governors who have taken a special part in promoting the Industrial School, hung amid banners and garlands. The flag of the island, the cherished red and white, swept in profusion of graceful folds along the side walls and over the windows of the room. Eve. ything was gay. And the light from the windows was tempered by tissue paper decorations of a stained-glass character.

The Dining Room was crowded to its fullest capacity by those who had been invited to take part in the great functions of the day, and who were all anxious to hear and anxious to see all that was to be said and done.

It would be idle for us to attempt to give the names of all the guests. But we noticed and noted the following:

The Hon. A. Naudi, Crown Advocate-Colonel and Miss Hughes-Hallett-Colonel and Mrs. Biancardi-The Hon. L. Gatt, Superintendent of Public Works-The Hon. and Mrs. Magro-Judge and Mrs. Pullicino-Judge and Mrs. Debono-Sir John Blunt-Mr. and Mrs. Alfonso M. Galea-Rev. Dr. Wisely-The Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Vella-Mr. and Mrs. Asphar-Father Dobson, Rector St. Ignatius-The Noble Kohen von Hohenland-Mr. P. Sammut-Count Bernard-Chev. and Mrs. Vella-Professor and Mrs. Frendo-Colonel and Mrs. Gatt-Hon. R. Micallef-Captain and Mrs. Eady-Major Savona-Mr. Ruggiero Muscat-Mr. and Mrs. Rowley -Mrs. Owen-Mons. Debono—Captain and Mrs. Anderson—Prof. Fallon— Mrs. and the Misses Fallon-Mrs. C. A. Micallef-Magistrate Frendo Azzopardi- Mr. and Mrs. G. Sammut-Mr. and Mrs. E. Bonavia-Mr. P. Samut Dr. and Mrs. B. Bonnici-Mr. J. Reynolds, Assitant Rector of the University—the Misses Reynolds-Mrs Beasly-Magistrates Fiteni and Falzon-Mons. Bickerstaffe Drew-Mons. Buhagiar Mons. Attard-Dr. Frendo Azzopardi-Mrs. Moir and Miss Laurence-Mr. N. Buhagiar-Mr. C. Pace Bardon-Captain and Mrs. C. Vella-Can. E. Pullicino-Mr. and Mrs. F. Borg Cardona-Mr. Alexeander Vella-Major and Mrs. W. SavonaMr. and Mrs. C. Tagliaferro—Prof. P. Agiu — Count A. Caruana Gatto—Mr. and Mrs. Staines—Dr. Tabone—Mr. A. Casolani—Mr. and Mrs. Clapp—Major and Mrs. Muscat—Mr. P. P. and Mrs. Spiteri—Chev. Galizia.

When the noise which is ever unavoidably caused by a host of human beings seeking to find advantageous position in a room, or endeavouring to gain entrance into it, had somewhat subsided, The Rev. Father O'Grady read the following much appreciated address:

Your Excellency, Your Grace, Lady Clarke, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This is a day of rejoicing, not only for me who have the honour of addressing you, but I feel sure for all those who listen to me.

It is a day that has been eagerly looked forward to for some time back, a day which, it is to be hoped, may long be remembered by those who are about to witness the event that has brought us together. I mean the formal inauguration of this Structure, which is destined, when completed, to be the happy temporary home, we trust, of hundreds of poor boys, and one of the noblest edifices Malta can boast of. At present we can only behold a portion of what it is to be according to the proposed plan—a portion calculated to afford accommodation for 40 youths, including temporary workshops and schools for their instruction.

Hitherto this building has been generally known by the name of "Reformatory," the designation and use originally intended for it. As however a more suitable building for this purpose is to be constructed later, on these grounds, the present edifice is to be used as an Industrial School. Its employement for this object has been sanctioned by the Government, and will, I feel sure, meet the approval of the entire Community; for, in the opinion of all those with whom I have come in contact since my arrival in Malta, no greater or more pressing need is felt than that of providing a certain class of indigent youths with the necessary means of earning an honest and honourable livelihood, enabling them to avail of the lucrative employment which is now in abundance open to skilful labour, thus making of them industrious and useful members of the community, worthy of their renowned Island home.

This is in brief the object of this Institute, founded to commemorate the glorious reign of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and which we

are now about to request His Excellency the Governor to declare open. And I feel confident that no more beneficial undertaking, nor one which is likely to prove more fruitful in good work, has been patronized by him since his arrival in this Island.

Why? Because, I repeat, of the object of the Institution, which is the education of youth, and of a class of youth with which the State and Society at large are naturally and justly concerned.

These are two points to which I beg to direct your attention for a brief moment.

The work of education in general is not only interesting and important, it is vital to all classes of society from the highest to the lowest. It is a work that has engaged the noble t and most enlight ned minds and hearts of every age; the greatest benefactors that humanity could boast of in the past or can glory in at the present. Why? Because after the Light of divine faith and grace, Education in its full and proper sense is the greatest blessing that can fall to the lot of man.

Hence we hear on all sides the urgent appeal, the pressing cry for Education. It has been the cry of past ages in proportion to their enlightenment. It is the cry of the present, and will be that of every succeeding age according to the measure of civilisation and refinement it shall enjoy. The reason of this is obvious. Because education is by far the greatest of the formative influences brought to bear on the youthful mind and character Whatever influences surround them in youth, those influences will produce that correlation either for good or evil, for joy or sorrow, in the future of that society. Therefore it is that the question of education is one of the most important of questions. First of all,—because the future depends upon it. When the farmer prepares his land in spring for cultivation, the great thing that occupies his mind is the seed that he is to put into it; for, on this seed, good or bad, depends the harvest which in the course of a few months he is to reap. Authority more than human assures us:--

"Whatever a man shall sow the same shall he reap."

The question is most important, not only because the future depends upon it, but because an error committed in relation to this question can scarcely be remedied. If the farmer sows bad seed, and in the course of time by the scanty and unsatisfactory results perceives that his sowing has been a failure, it will be too late for him then, to rectify his error. He cannot prepare the ground

again; he cannot make that seed good once more; he cannot like him of old, order the sun to stand in the heavens, or bring back the genial time of spring once again.

So of Education. It is the sowing of seed in the young mind—in the spring time of life, in the days when the soil is made ready to receive that seed; when the heart is yet soft to receive impressions; whilst the mind is yet open to take in treasures of knowledge, human and divine. If the influences thrown into that young mind and heart be bad or poisonous, most certainly the future life



Mr. Alfonso M. Galea.

of that man will be a bad harvest of the seed which it received in spring. Again if there be any fault in the seed, if it is found to be of inferior character, it is too late to make this discovery when the child has developed into youth, or youth has matured into manhood, for then principles are well established, and opinions are deeply, perhaps indelibly fixed. The state of life is chosen, he has found the way he will go, and again wisdom more than than human tells us—it is too late to try to bend the tree when it has grown into goodly proportions. The bending must take place while it is yet a tender twig.

Hence the importance of a good early education for all.

I need hardly observe that by a good education

I do not mean a certain amount of book learning; the art of reading, writing and calculating to some extent; nor even a knowledge, however considerable of the arts and sciences. No, this in itself is not Education, the true sense of which, as well as its literal meaning from the Latin E and duco signifies the drawing forth, the development of the innate powers and faculties of man. It is to take into account not only the powers themselves but the end for which they have been given by the Almighty Creator, and to cultivate them with a view to the attainment of that end. For purposes of education in its higher conception you must take into account not only the body, but also the soul, not only the present, but also the eternal destiny, a sense of which gives to man his real dignity and to human life its real significance. No education that ignores this fact can claim to be complete, or can hope to reap anything but failure and ruin. No system of education that ignores God the Fountain head of all science and knowledge, the Origin of all good, can be productive of happiness to the human family. Any principles of education which are not based on the Knowledge of God, our duty towards Him and towards our fellow man, cannot be otherwise than pernicious, subversive of all right and justice, of all law and order. Any such system is but a perversion of the intellect and will of man the reverse of Education-tending only to swell the already crowded ranks of revolutionaries who find fault with their share of Fortune's Gifts and clamour threateningly for a new distribution.

Another reason of the importance and necessity of education we find in the fact that, man was created by Almighty God to live in Society, to live for his fellow men; to enter into their cares, to commune with them, to take his share of the public burden of Society. This being so, it follows that the question of education is most important; one that no man can close his mind against or fail to show concern for. Because every man amongst us is obliged to live in Society; and every man's happiness or misery depends in a large degree, upon the state of Society in which he lives. If the associations that surround us are good, if our children are obedient, if our servants are honest, if our friends are loyal and our neighbours are peaceable if the persons who supply us with the necessaries of life are reliable—how far all these things go to smoothe away the difficulties and annoyances and anxieties of life! And yet this depends mostly upon education. If on the other

hand, our children be rude, disobedient and wilful, if those around us be dishonest, so that we must be constantly on our guard against them, if our friends be false, so that we know not upon whose word to rely, if everything we use and take to clothe ourselves be bad, sophisticated or poisonous—how miserable all this makes life! And yet these issues mainly depend upon education. Therefore it is a question that comes home to every man, from which no one can excuse himself, or plead indifference or unconcern.

But if education in general, the education of children, be important, necessary and interesting, surely the education of the class of youths for whom this Institute has been created, is particularly so, being destined as it is, to a great extent at least, for the waifs and strays, the abandoned and homeless, or perhaps even the outcast of Society, who, born unto the sad heritage of poverty or vice, or both, are deprived of the means of obtaining that blessing of education which would secure to them comfort and enjoyment in this life and save them from the miseries and horrors of an existence of sin and degradation. They either are orphaned or have only poor, ignorant or unworthy parents or guardians, unable or unwilling to discharge a bounden duty towards them. Of these the Government rightly considers it a duty to take charge, to save them from possible social ruin, and to obviate the harsh and onorous necessity of maintaining them in prisons or places of punishment.

But are any such children to be found in Malta? Where are not such to be found in crowded populations, in cosmopolitan places? You have only to go into the streets and by-ways of town and village to behold them. You see their features pinched and wan, disfigured by want, bearing little resemblance to the happy looks natural to childhood; nay upon their childish faces you can see the marks of care that years alone should leave. The story of the hard struggle, of the squalid home, of the parents whom poverty has frozen into indifference, all is written there in the handwriting that poverty makes so terribly legible. Not prepossessing objects these according to the judgment of the world. But look again with the light of faith that is in you. The mystic seal of baptism is upon those souls, the lovely freshness of innocence makes them beautiful in the eyes of Heaven; and far away beyond the limits of this weary world the providence of the Eternal God has set for them a place.

But meantime the world is very wicked; meantime the temptations of poverty lie thick upon the life path; meantime the devil, the world and the flesh bid their highest for those immortal souls, and oh! how blessed is the hand that opens to these dawning intelligences the love and knowledge of

their Creator; that supplies an antidote to the world's poison, and defeats the attempt of Satan on souls purchased by the life blood of our Saviour. This is precisely the work to be done by Christian education. This the work to which the teaching staff of this Institute are to devote themselves with all their energies. Disciples however humble and unworthy of one the most distinguished educators that this or any other age has produced, the immortal D. Bosco, Founder of the Salesian Society, we have left home, family and friends, to consecrate ourselves completely, mind, heart and soul, to the amelioration of the condition of poor children. With this sole object in view we have come here to place our humble services at the disposition of the Government and the inhabitants of Malta generally. And we only ask of you in return that with the patriotic, charitable and generous spirit for which you are well noted, you will assist us in the beneficient yet trying work we have assumed. Many of you may not be aware that the Government has allowed us to take in on our own initiative a certain number of boys in addition to those it has entrusted to our charge, and that we have freely availed ourselves of the privilege. Now, these boys being of the poorest will have to depend, almost solely, for their maintenance on the meagre resources of their teachers and on the charity of the Public.

I feel it is only necessary to make this fact known to you in order to enlist your practical sympathy and support in favour of the good work, which, besides the moral and religious training so necessary to make worthy citizens, will include due attention to temporal wants.

In addition to a course of elementary instruction suited to their condition and requirements, the inmates of this House will receive careful training in some art or trade, according to their age and capacity. At present only a few of the ordinary trades can be taught, but we hope ere long you will see flourishing here those handicrafts cultivated in Institutes of the kind in other countries, so that the boys may have a better opportunity of selecting a profession to their taste, and the Community at large derive proportionate benefit thereby. I feel confident you desire with me that the Government may soon see its way to complete this wing of the Institute with the Chapel, and in addition, erect the proposed workshops. We should thus be able to accommodate about eighty more boys, and in this way the aspirations and wishes of two members of the Community who contributed so generously to the foundation would be realised. I refer to the late and much lamented Miss Pullicino, and Mr. Alf. M. Galea, whose presence here prevents me from saying all I should wish about him. I hope however his noted modesty will not suffer unduly by my making public reference to him. I believe I voice the sentiments of this Assembly by saying that we all highly appreciate his whole-souled liberality, and that we wish him long life to enjoy the lasting gratitude of his fellow citizens for his untiring energy and zeal in assisting with hand, heart and purse many local works of charity. To him and to the deceased Miss Pullicino in a special manner, to His Excellency the Governor and Lady Mansfield Clarke who have so kindly come to preside over this celebration, to His Grace the Archbishop our beloved Pastor, to the late lamented Governor Fremantle who laid the foundation stone, to Governor Grenfell who invariably manifested a deep practical interest in the erection of the Institute, to Mr. P. Sammut ex-member of the Legislature, to the Members of the previous Government who received so favourably the proposals for this Establishment, and to the present Members who are carrying into effect the resolutions adopted by their predecessors and Members, to Monsignor Farrugia and the distinguishhed Ladies and Gentlemen who have been pleased to grace this gathering and encourage us by their friendly presence, our best and warmest thanks!

I beg your Excellency to declare the Institute open.

When the applauses evoked by the earnest and weighty speech delivered by the Director of the Salesian Institute had died away, His Excellency spoke to the following effect:

Your Grace, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure to me to come here to-day to preside at the ceremony of the formal opening of this Institution.

After the eloquent address of the Rector-dealing not only with the objects of the Institution but with the subject of education generally—it would be a work of supererogation on my part to inflict another speech upon you. I beg therefore to declare this Government Industrial School to be open, and I hope and feel sure that under the able supervision of the Salesian Fathers it will in due time, and after it is found possible to provide for the remainder of the building, thoroughly fulfil the purposes for which it is intended.

His Excellency resumed his seat amid the universal manifestation of approval and satisfaction which greeted his closing expressions, uttered with that happy unstrained distinctness, which enables all ever to hear every syllable that falls from his lips.

The Archbishop was then requested by His Excellency the Governor to bless the Corner Stone of the Chapel and the House declared open. And a procession was forthwith formed and His Excellency and His Grace and Lady Clarke, and the

other ladies and gentlemen with them, were conducted along the bright-tiled corridor, which is designed eventually to run right round the building, across the yard to the Chapel which has begun to be constructed.

The corner stone was laid and blessed with the rltes and ceremonies prescribed by the Church for such occasions; and the Governor and his party watched with interest from their chairs on the chapel floor his Grace performing the consecrating functions.

When the religious rite had been duly discharged, the entire party which witnessed it returned to the main door of the corridor through which it had before passed, and occupying the seats provided all listened to an address in Italian read by Monsignor Luigi Farrugia D.D. Domestic Prelate to His Holiness the Pope and Director of the Salesian Co-operators of Malta.

The learned Divine's discourse was long, but we may briefly say, for the instruction of those who heard and forget and of those who did not hear, that he spoke of the inauguration that day held, and took occasion to point out the blessings of a religious and social order likely to flow from the establishment of the Salesian Fathers amongst us. He traced what social ruin prevails in the world to its true causes, and pointed out that our hope of the future must lie in the training of the young, who, left to evil influences, reject religion in practice and aim at the subversion of duly established social order in their mad desire to profit by the disruption of Society. He concluded by pointing to the good work which the Salesian Fathers carry on in the young lower strata of humanity.

His Excellency the Governor and Lady Clarke, after inspecting the Institute as it stands, were conducted to the door by Father O'Grady. They said farewell and drove off amid the cheers for which the Director of the New Institute called upon the bystanders to raise in acknowledgement of the Governor's kindness in opening the new Industrial School, and in taking such a real and practical interest in its success.

His Grace the Archbishop left later.

As a due close to so eventful a day, the Salesian Institute was brightly illuminated in the evening with Chinese lanterns. There was a setting up of balloons of wondrous make and size. There was music by the Band of the Royal Malta Artillery. All was life in the new institution: all was happiness. All spoke the promise of better things in the time to come

The lay brothers of the New Industrial School—skilled artisans all—moved amongst the guests and were not distinguishable from them.. In costumes like that of any other man, they go about

their work, devoted to God, fired with the desire to make the young as Don Bosco and their Maker would have them.

The boy members of the Institute, 25 in all, flitted about the corridors and moved in and out through the doors of the different halls, and seemed already in their serge costumes, made by the tailor brother on the premises, to be giving the assurance that they would be one day all that so much was expended to make them—so much in devotion of self on the part of their sup riors, so much in the liberal contributions of those who supported the establishment.

ECUADOR

(By Fr. Tallacchini, Salesian Missionary)
(Continued)

Still Onward.

The day passed without accident; but one of the mules was caught in a network of briars on the edge of a precipice, and would have rolled over with its rider, had not the guide seized hold of it just at the right time. It is true the rain began again with renewed violence, but in the forest, where the paths are narrow, the thick foliage renders an umbrella un necessary.

The infinite variety of the fauna and flora was a source of ever fresh delight and even the capricious weather prevented any feeling of monotomy.

From every fissure in the mountain side issued forth a stream of water, and from the pores of the rocks exuded the liquid element which, shaping its own course, formed ravines and gorges, sometimes as a noisy stream, then a waterfall with foam of rainbow-hues; sometimes the force of the current would carry the water over the traveller in the form of an arch, apparently frozen in mid-air.

After the gigantic and tropical vegetation the sight of a wood of smaller trees, though dense and tangled, revealed the presence of man, who, not long ago, had cut down the timber and cultivated the ground.

Towards evening we passed through one of these woods, where coffee was growing under the shade of lemon and citron trees, forming an enclosure over-shadowed by a Cross,—a sign that this was a cemetery.

Immediately after we reached an open and steep incline, opposite which was another no less steep and rocky, both planted with bananas, sugar-cane, palms, coffee, orange and lemon-trees.

The law of contrasts.

"Here we are on the banks of the Rosario," cried our mulateer, "and the village of that name consists

of the two huts before us. Opposite are the scattered cottages of the village named Aguacate. Behind the hill lies the district of St Joseph and a little further on, Cuchipamba. On this slope Fr. Francis wishes to build the Chapel of Mary Help of Christians, as it is a central spot where all the neighbouring inhabitants could hear Mass, approach the Sacraments and implore Our Lady's help in time of trouble."

This was followed by a stirring speech to the mules to the following effect.

"Here forget your vicious tricks and show your nobility."

Then turning to the riders he concluded:

"Now in five minutes we shall reach the other side." The mules did their best, descending the steep incline with great agility though it was full of deep and muddy holes, sometimes close together, sometimes so far apart that the beasts had scarcely foothold.

All at once the road became stony, then there was an abrupt descent cut in the rock. Below, the river Rosario thundered furiously, twisting itself like a monstrous serpent; then rising like a dragon to surmount the great masses of rock barring its passage, it hurled itself over, a torrent of foaming spray. Again confined in a narrow bed, it roared like a hundred lions, rushing through the gorge across which the bridge has been built. This terrifying spectacle recalls the still more alarming aspect of the river Litta which we crossed when exiled from Quito in 1896, but here the bridge was solid, where as the other crossing resembled a performance on the tight-rope. It would hape been impossible to make the descent on horseback. crossed the sombre abyss on foot under an arch of flowers, garlands of which adorned the bridge in honour of the Bishop. Thus it often happens that pleasant surroundings brighten the sadder hours

Descending the rocky cliffs, in a few minutes we had reached Aguacate. Here another bearded Missioner awaited us, Fr. Louis Giaccardi, who had come to meet us, accompanied by a lay-brother.

That evening, after supper, the Rosary recited to the accompaniment of the roaring torrent which bears its name (Rosario), seemed more touching and sublime than the music of Choristers and organ resounding through St. Peter's. In a little room, as welcome to us as a royal palace, our Bishop sought some rest. We did the same outside lying on the ground or suspended in a hammock.

(To be continued).

PERMISSU SUPERIORUM

Gerent, GlUSEPPE GAMBINO-Salesian Press, Turin, 1904

- (b) The devotions performed by the little boys of the Oratory in their own private Chapel, including also the Mass at which they daily assist;
- (c) All the Services, Novenas, Feasts and Solemnities whatsoever, that are celebrated in the aforesaid church;
- (d) The prayers and good works performed by the Salesians themselves and by their protégés in their Homes, Colleges, Hospices, Oratories, Missions, etc., in Italy, in France, in Spain, in England, in Austria, in Switzerland, in America, in Asia, in Africa,—in a word, wherever they are established or may be called by Divine Providence.
- 4. Participation in the holy Masses will commence on the day after the alms have come to hand; all the other spiritual advantages are enjoyed from the moment of inscription.
- 5. The contributor, we repeat, of one shilling given once for all, is entitled to put his intentions in all the six Masses and all the other pious works, for his own advantage or for that of his friends, living or dead, and to change the intention in every circumstance according to his particular wants or desires.
- 6. Inscriptions may also be made in favour of departed friends, of children, and of any class whatsoever of persons, even without their knowledge or consent.
- 7. Persons desiring to participate more abundantly in these spiritual advantages may do so by repeating the alms of one shilling, thereby multiplying the inscriptions as often as they please.
- 8. The offerings thus collected are destined for the maintenance of the boys of the Hospice or Oratory founded by Don Bosco on the grounds annexed to the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Salesians are in duty bound to fulfil all the obligations of the Charitable Association as above described.
- 9. The names of subscribers will be entered on the Registers of the Association and preserved in the Temple of the Sacred Heart, in Rome, for perpetual remembrance.
- 10. There are two centres for enrolment, one in Rome the other in Turin. Address: The Rev. Rector, Ospizio del Sacro Cuore di Gesù, Via Porta S. Lorenzo, 42, Rome; or, The V. Rev. Michael Rua, Salesian Oratory, Turin, Italy.

APPROBATION.

Pium Opus adprobamus, eidemque largissimam tidelium opem ominamur, Ex Aed. Vic., die 27 Junii 1888.

L. M. PAROCCHI, Card. Vic.

We approve the " Charitable Association" and we wish it the greatest concourse of the faithful. Given at Rome, etc.

THE PAPAL BLESSING.

The Holy Father has deigned to accord the blessing asked for the Charitable Association of the Sacred Heart.

1. Given from the Vatican, June 10th, 1888.

ANGELO RINALDI, Chaplain, Sec.

THE "SALESIAN BULLETIN"

is the Organ of the Salesian Congregation and of the Association of the Salesian Co-operators.

It is edited monthly in seven languages, namely: English, Italian, French, Spanish, German, Portuguese and Polish.

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