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THE SALESIAN BULLETIN



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Turin

Italy

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 SALESIAN BULLETIN

Organ of the Association of Salesian Co-operators.

“Oratorio Salesiano” TURIN, ITALY.

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The professional education in the Schools of Arts and Trades

THE age in which we live, pays equal respect to the homes of learning, as to the centres of industry; and it is as ready to open its arms to the successful man of toil and business, as it is to admire the leaders of the scientific or literary world. And in this, our age is to be congratulated, for it has accomplished a revolution of ideas, which long ages had sought in vain to realise.

A glance at the history of industrial development shows that the Church has always fostered these aspirations; from Apostolic times She had constituted herself the patron and protector of the

working classes, and in this is to be found one of the secrets of her glory and power. It would be equally absurd to deny the merit of christianity in this respect, as to deny the light of the sun. The great Leo XIII, while as yet only Cardinal Pecci, had written: “It was not alone the primitive arts, and those indispensable to agriculture which owed their life and development to the toil of the religious, inspired and directed by the Church. The mechanical and the fine arts had no safer asylum, nor better field for their development, than the churches, the episcopal residences, and the monasteries, in which the first

mentioned lost their coarseness, and the second gave forth sparks which later on changed to a dazzling brilliancy. If therefore labour is a source of riches, and if public wealth is a sign of civilization, it must be admitted that the Church has historically incontestable claims to the gratitude of all, and that a contest engaged in against Her, in the name and for the interests of civilization would be as foolish as unjust."

But among the great leaders of industry, Don Bosco must certainly appear in the first rank. If his name has now been carried far and wide, it is because he chiefly espoused the cause of the lowly. Called by the inspiration of God to succour poor and abandoned children, he went forward resolutely and constantly, undaunted by any sacrifice or difficulty. And what did he do? One might answer more readily, if the question were, what did he not do for the advantage and improvement of his foster-children? To restrict our selves to one thing, it is now almost exactly fifty years ago, that under his own humble roof he commenced the first School of Arts and Trades.

Enormous strides have been made since that time. This lowly workshop, and scanty set of tools have developed into those large and splendidly equipped departments, a sight of which is seldom missed by strangers making a visit to Turin. And yet that is but one of the innumerable schools on similar lines, and doing as excellent work, in nearly every quarter of the globe.

The sight of a poor priest opening and directing, with the consummate skill and tact of an experienced man-

ager, a school of arts and trades for needy and abandoned boys, aroused the admiration and sympathy of the neighbouring districts; but not only that, it was an impulse and an example for the development of industry and progress, which had far reaching effects. Even in America where the vast manufacturing centres had grown with prodigious rapidity, the sight of a priest directing such a work was a revelation. The benefit derived in the past from the instruction and education of the Church, is written in imperishable characters in the annals of every country. "And why" they said, "why not entrust the training of the mechanician to the priest." Hence it was, that the leaders of the Republics, both ecclesiastics and laymen applied to Don Bosco and to his Successor for institutions on the same plan.

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We have already spoken of the religious, moral and intellectual training given in these schools; the methods of professional training are touched upon here. The actual programmes in working will speak for themselves. A syllabus is made out for this department and adapted in different Institutions to suit special trades, according to the experience of experts in their section. The different things to be learnt in each grade of the apprenticeship are arranged in a series, allotted to the separate divisions of the course, which generally occupies about five years. Each year's syllabus is again divided with an allotment for the two half years.

At the completion of the half-yearly term, a thorough examination is held.

Anyone of the works laid down in the syllabus is chosen for each pupil; and being left quite to himself, undisturbed and unaided, the length of time taken to complete the work is noted. When finished, the article is examined by a specially appointed commission of experts. The requirements set by the examiner, the completeness and finish of the article, and the time, are all taken into consideration. The pupil is questioned on the rules which guide him in the process, or in adopting any particular methods, on the materials used and such other theoretical knowledge which he should have learnt. A deficiency in any one of the parts of the syllabus prevents the promotion of the pupil to the next higher course.

These methods though for years in practice in our professional schools, have only recently been drawn up in the form of a permanent syllabus or guide book.

Their results, when administered with a prudent exactness speak for themselves, in the annual exhibition of work by the different schools. A previous number mentioned the highly meritorious specimens displayed at the Peruvian Exhibition, to which the Institutes of Lima, Arequipa, La Paz and Sucre contributed, and in which, *in view of the excellence of the exhibits and the high degree of proficiency attained*, each of these Institutes was awarded a diploma of honour

by the Legation of His Majesty the King of Italy.

Our readers can hardly have forgotten the Exhibition held three years ago at Valsalice (Turin), where exhibits from Salesian Schools exclusively, were on view. Hardly one of the modern trade departments was without representation, and though but a first experiment, and naturally of a somewhat tentative cha-



Certificate of honour given by the Italian Minister to the professional schools of Lima.

racter, its results were such as to lead the committees to decide on holding one every three years. The next one is to be held this month in the Oratory at Turin. Its object is, to make this important section of Don Bosco's works better known to our Co-operators and benefactors; it will also prove an encouragement to all our Institutes, especially to those combining to make it a success; far from any attempt at vain display or parade, it is meant to give

an impulse to the trade section, to place before them a higher standard of excellence, and to gain information and suggestions for future improvements.

On former occasions the works of the Oratory at Turin had gained several distinctions at various exhibitions; for example, the First Diploma of Merit at the Italian Exhibition in London, a gold medal at the Vatican exhibition at Rome, and at the Universal exposition at Barcelona; a Diploma of honour at the International at Edinburgh, and several others.

But in the meantime it must be borne in mind, that these schools are not establishments for reaping profits, but solely for instructing the young. Hence they stand as much in need of material aid as the Missions and other works, especially since out of two or three hundred boys, very few pay the modest sum asked for them, and which barely provides them with food. Machinery is indispensable to every school, and very often great pecuniary sacrifices have to be made. The work of the pupils themselves may be regarded by some as a gain; it is really not worth considering; for if there are some, who in the latter years of their apprenticeship, gain something from their work, it goes either in the maintenance of the pupils, since at that age they are not paid for at all, or in paying for the material wasted by the young apprentices.

In connection with these schools, we would call the attention of our Co-operators and benefactors to the school for young apprentices attached to the Salesian House at London, which has

been opened for some years, and follows as closely as possible the lines of other Salesian Schools of Arts and Trades. It has had to contend with many drawbacks, but is rapidly developing, and it will, no doubt, before many years, rival our best Houses in point of numbers and equipment. Workshops are already opened for Printers, Bookbinders, Tailors, Bootmakers, Carpenters and Mechanics. Arrangements for receiving boys can be made with the Director, at the address of the Salesian Schools, a notice of which is given on another page.

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.

International Postal Orders to be made payable at the P. O. Turin — **Cheques** on the National, or other Banks, Turin. — **Paper 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

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.

Salesian Schools – London S. W.

New term begins on September 3rd.

Classical Course. — These schools, directed and taught by the Salesian Fathers, have as their principal object, to provide a classical education for those boys who may desire to study for the priesthood.

Commercial Course. — Boys who have no vocation to the ecclesiastical state, are prepared for any other career they may wish to follow.

The course is arranged to suit the requirements of the College of Preceptors, the Oxford Local, Civil Service and University Examinations.

The house is surrounded by a large garden and playground, and is situated in a most healthy locality, a few minutes walk from the park.

The Religious education is conducted with the utmost care. The last two reports of the diocesan Inspector speak for themselves.

July 1903. "The work throughout is painstaking and thorough, the results are admirable. Besides the very full knowledge shown, the excellent language in which the boys expressed their answers deserves a word of praise. The paper work was very satisfactory."

July 1904, "This school is taught thoroughly and with great care. The boys know their christian doctrine well; their explanation of it was very clearly given. It was a great pleasure to examine them, especially the upper classes."

For terms, prospectus and other particulars apply to the Rector, The Very Rev. C. B. Macey.

*Surrey House, Surrey Lane
Battersea, London. S. W.*

The Salesian Fathers have opened a school for boys at their House at Farnborough, Hants. A course similar to that at the above school is given. For particulars apply to:

*The Rev. E. Marsh
Salesian Institute
Queens Rd. Farnborough, Hants.*

A preparatory school for little boys has been opened by the Nuns of Mary Help of Christians, in a delightful situation at Chertsey on Thames. Communications to be addressed:

*The Rev. Mother
Eastworth House, Eastworth St.
Chertsey, Surrey.*

Don Rua's Representative in America

(Extracts from his Secretary's Correspondence)

(Continued)

The Chilian frontier.

Were it not for the mountain rains and upland breezes, the traveller would easily imagine himself within the tropics. The eye meets in every direction the signs of a most fertile soil. Immense pastures flanked by the darke green of overgrown woods, still untouched by the hand of man: hot springs and lakes in the mountain caverns into which the Indians plunge to be cured from rheumatic pains; flowers in bloom on every side. The forests seem to stretch far away to meet the ocean, and the waving of their giant trees seems only a prolongation of the motion of the waters; an enchanting countryside, where the vast unexplored and unknown abounds in legend. The central region cannot boast of such luxurious growth, though its climate rivals that of the Riviera. The produce of the vine is scarcely better anywhere, flowers are in bloom for ten months of the year, and but for the evenness of the plain the scene would be perfect.

Away to the northern limits of Chile lies the Atacama desert. Being partly within the tropics its soil is parched and barren, and not a tree is visible till its skirting hills are reached. It is however blessed by nature in other ways. Gold, silver and nitre have been discovered and constitute a great source of wealth. In this land however, without vegetation and without water one would think living impossible; but it must be remembered that this is a land of contrasts; the suffocating heat of noontide is followed by very cold nights, and while some districts lack water, the miners find in others mineral waters as sparkling and refreshing as champagne.

We had halted almost midway, between the

two extreme limits of the high borderland between the Argentine and Chile; and whilst we looked back over the former Republic with gratitude towards the land which has given a generous hospitality, to the Sons of Don Bosco for more than twenty-six years, we implored a blessing for the one we were about to enter. And indeed it was just them in great need of a blessing, for the political relations between the neighbours were very strained, and a rupture would bring about a cruel war disastrous both to conquered and victor.

Descending westwards.

We had been travelling at a good rate; Mgr. Costamagna showed us an immense stone bridge, a relic of the *Incas* tribes, which stretched in one solid piece across the roaring torrent of the Mendoza, which flows rapidly, on till it is lost in the depths of the Pacific. We had mounted our horses and were descending by precipitous paths to *Juncal*, where we intended to stay for the night. This halting place is nothing else than a traveller's rest, and has no houses beyond the inn-keeper's lodge. It was seven o'clock in the evening. His Lordship had a bad headache, Fr. Albera could hardly stand after his jolting, though we complimented him on his horsemanship; there was nothing else therefore to do, but to have supper and retire for the night. There was no suitable place in which to offer up the Holy Sacrifice, so we hastened on in the morning to the village called *Los Andes*. The parish priest there would feel deeply insulted were a Salesian to pass through *Los Andes* without calling upon him; and indeed his fifteen years of generous hospitality have made them regard it almost as a right. We arrived at his

house covered with dust, and it took a good cleaning to make us presentable; but from here we were to enjoy a train-ride so we lost no time in taking some much needed refreshment.

Santiago.

The destination we were rapidly approaching might take its place in the first rank of European cities; in point of population, which exceeds 300,000, handsome buildings, spacious roads, and its splendid avenue with ornamental pillars and works of art, it might look down upon many proud cities in the old world. This avenue is called *The Promenade of Pleasure*, and consists of a splendid road, flanked with thick rows of poplar trees, and rising to a hill in the centre which is covered with varied and luxurious vegetation; it is the pleasure resort of the Chilians, and a view that a stranger cannot well forget. From all around the pleasant hum of the busy world beneath is borne upwards to the listener, who is at the same time enjoying a most enchanting view whichever way he looks. It is one of those combinations of natural and artificial beauty which no words can adequately describe, and even the imagination but indifferently paint.

The welcome accorded to His Lordship and Fr. Albera was in keeping with the impressions of the town. Representations from different colleges awaited their arrival at the station, and at their head was the veteran missionary Fr. Tomatis who far back in 1875 went out as a young priest with the first handful of missionaries. We were driven off in a carriage to our House, which was built as a thanksgiving memorial to the Sacred Heart, for the victory granted to the Chilian arms in the Pacific war, and to provide a home for many that were made orphans during the strife. The founder, the Most Rev. Mgr. Jara, Bishop of Ancud, then but a simple priest, gathered together and supported three hundred and twenty nine children of the soldiers who fell in the war; and when these were settled, he went to Don Bosco to beg for some Salesians to carry on the work. But his own words give the best account of it. When he addressed the assembly in the presence of the bishops and the President of

the Republic at the inauguration ceremony, he said, "From July 16th 1880, the day when we first came to this place, we never ceased praying for the time when we should have here in our midst those valiant soldiers of the church, the Sons of Don Bosco, who have discovered the secret of harmonising the sound of the hymn of praise and devotion, with the continual hum of the workshop, the fragrant incense odours with the steam and smoke of the factory. Very slowly the four years wore on, which passed since the day, when, at the feet of Don Bosco in his room at the Oratory, from which no one departed without consolation, we had the happiness of presenting our urgent petition and hearing his quiet but comforting reply: *Patience yet a little while; this work will be accomplished.* And now gentlemen you see them here, with no other capital but confidence in God, prepared to carry on those works of beneficence in Santiago, which even surprise the visitors to the Salesian Houses at Turin, Marseilles, Barcelona, London, Montevideo and Buenos Aires, and which are growing up even now in the Republics of Colombia and Ecuador under the auspices of the governments. Give but your support to this work and I promise you that a few years will behold the transformation of this House, the building grown to twice its size, the busy rattling of machines and sound of hammer, and like swarms of bees that come and go, you will see hundreds of children joyously at work and play and gaining that knowledge and training which becomes the nucleus of civil society. There is nothing now that does not point to a rapid advance in the future. The Dictatorship had seized the building and quartered here five battalions of its troops with baggage and horses, who left nothing standing but the walls. All entreaties were in vain, and when all the utensils and furniture were destroyed, the church itself was profaned and despoiled of its sacred ornaments. In this state of poverty and misery the Salesians have arrived to establish a foundation."

The desires and hopes of Mgr. Jara have not fallen to the ground; on the contrary he had not dared to hope for such a speedy and gratifying fulfilment. Through the generosity of

the Chilians a few months sufficed to have the place in working order. One of the daily papers said: "A wonderful transformation has been accomplished at this house which a short time ago seemed a ruin. With the help of some associates from Talca and Concepcion the house has been set to rights, furniture of all description made, corridors and partitions raised up, gardens planted, and above all the church of the Sacred Heart re-opened and regular devotions established.

work than in Europe; the tailoring department has continual orders from outside; the mechanics have works of every description, from small utensils up to safes, and machinery; they are actually carrying out all the iron-work for the new quarter which the Government is adding to Santiago. Many orders in fact have to be declined. In the capital of Bolivia, I happened to be speaking to the head of the military-school; among other things he said, "You can find no better workshops in Santiago than at the Sa-



The Inmates of the Salesian Institute of Lima.

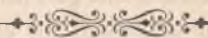
"The sons of Don Bosco, urged by that religious boldness which confidence in God inspires, very soon took in more than fifty children for whom they provided food, lodging, and clothing, instruction and education, besides an apprenticeship to some trade in the workshops, which were started immediately by the five priests and some lay-brothers."

The number of children has now increased to two hundred and ten; the workshops have been improved upon and added to, and their work is considered equal to the best that the town can produce. And each department can show a high degree of excellence; the carpenters have even better opportunities for variety of

lesian Institute; it is to those I apply when I want anything well made, and that quickly."

Santiago has another Salesian House quite of equal standing; it is called the *Patronage of St. Joseph*, and is attended by four hundred students, of whom a half are boarders. The many demands for admission have compelled the Superior to commence extensions, and a more befitting chapel is being erected for Him whose delight it is, to be with the children of men.

(To be continued).





MATTO GROSSO (Brazil)

Mission of the Coroados Borõros Indians.

Labour and toil of the Missionaries — Manners and customs of the Indians.

Assumption, Nov. 22nd 1903.

Reverend and dear Don Rua,

Here I am after my return from Cuyabà, where I went, as you know, at the request of Fr. Antony Malan, Superior of the houses of Matto Grosso, to accompany the second band of Missionaries to the Colony of the S. Heart of Jesus. I am now able to appreciate the labours and sufferings of these self-denying Salesians and will send you a detailed account of this important Mission which, I trust, will give you pleasure. I feel moved to do this because no one else besides Fr. Malan has visited this Mission and seen with his own eyes the charity and self-sacrifice of these generous sons of Don Bosco.

(1) *Editor's Note.* A short time after this account had reached Don Rua, he received another long letter from Fr. A. Malan, Superior of our Missions of Matto Grosso, in which he also relates the wonders wrought amongst the Coroados Borõros Indians. May the Lord be praised! Fr. Malan reached the Colony on the 17th May, the date of the Coronation of Mary Help of Christians. The little village presented a festive appearance, decorated by our confrères with palms, branches of flowers, triumphal arches and lights to do honour to their Superior. After some days Fr. Malan left, but our Missionaries were consoled by another visit... that of one hundred and forty Indians who settled there, laying the foundation of the new village of *Barreiro de Araguaya* or Colony of the S. Heart! We beg our good Co-operators to continue their prayers for the infant mission which so far gives the brightest hopes for the future.

Incidents of travel.—Hunger and thirst—The last night—Meeting Fr. Balzola and the Indians.

First of all I will recount some particulars of the journey, as from what happened to us you may guess what the first Missionaries, who penetrated into this wilderness, had to endure.

The Colony of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is about three hundred miles from Cuyabà, which is situated almost centrally between the two American coasts. The journey is made on horse or mule back, and mules are also employed to carry the baggage. Carts drawn by oxen cannot be used, as they would take months to accomplish half the distance; besides a large provision of food for men and beasts on the journey would then be necessary. On horseback, if no accidents occur, the journey may be made in fifteen days. There is yet another difficulty on account of the two seasons which succeed each other in these regions, a period of drought and the rainy season. In time of drought in certain places, not a drop of water or blade of grass can be found for the beasts; whilst in the rainy season the tracks are so bad as to make travelling dangerous. Of this we had an instance in the first caravan which made the journey in the rainy season. Our poor Missionaries were thirty-two days on the way and I regret that Fr. Balzola did not write a description of what they had to go through.

Our party, consisting of seven Missionaries and a few other persons, set out in the dry season, without any baggage except the portable altar and sufficient food for the journey. Travelling thus swiftly we took only twelve days, but our steeds suffered, for on our return they were but skin and bone from fatigue and hunger. No one would undertake this journey for pleasure and with the exception of some *fazendero* who is obliged to make this route, no one travels this way. We met a poor man, on his way to

Goyas, two hundred and forty miles beyond our colony, who being attacked by fever had turned his horse towards Cuyabà, but afterwards joined our caravan. We were filled with pity seeing him, from morning till night bent over his horse in a state of sad prostration.

We travelled, as I said, in the season of drought, so it was no wonder if we had to suffer from thirst. One day, after riding many hours in the burning sun, not a drop of water was to be found! What a disappointment! Meanwhile night was coming on, and we had to hasten our steps to reach the foot of a mountain, so as not to lose one another in the dark. We were bathed in perspiration and our thirst was insupportable. Nevertheless we did not lose heart and at dusk we reached the foot of the mountain. Casually looking round a bush I caught sight of a little water, probably left from the previous rainy Season. Our good Brother Gabé, guessing my intentions, made haste to warn me, but I could not restrain myself and I drank.... But I paid the penalty of my rashness. I do not know whether it was the water or the state of my body that was in fault; but no sooner had I drunk than I was obliged to throw myself on the ground racked with agonizing pains. I thought I was dying and my companions thought the same, being unable to do anything to alleviate my sufferings in such a deserted place. A confrère begged me to get on a mule so that he might conduct me to a ranch which he said was not far off, but I could give him no answer and felt as if I were dying. But God had pity on me, and after severe torments I was able to throw up the water and continue my journey. Never shall I forget that night!

On the following day in order to gain time and reach our halting place more quickly, we parted from those persons who had to travel more slowly being in charge of the beasts carrying food etc. But either they had not understood where we were to meet, or were of a different opinion and did not rejoin us. In the early morning we had taken some coffee, hoping to dine at mid-day at our halting place. We had ridden many hours in the burning rays of the sun just over our head; the suffocating heat was intolerable; the

mules trod in their own shadows, but could we halt in the burning sand without a single tree? At last towards half past four we found some cooling shade with a beautiful spring of water. We stopped to take breath and then entered a neighbouring wood to search for fruit, but without any result. We were in the dog days, when even the shrubs seemed to dry up. It was late in the evening before our companions rejoined us.

We left Cuyabà on the 28th September and, according to our calculations, hoped to reach the Colony on the 10th or 12th October. When we had arrived within fifteen miles, at a place called Sangrador, the station of Dr. Santos, an excellent friend and benefactor of the Salesians, we left behind whatever might hinder us and taking only the necessary provisions, we once more started in advance of our companions. Our undertaking would have succeeded but for a slight miscalculation which occasioned the loss of several hours. On the night which should have been the last before reaching the colony, we turned our animals loose and these wandered more than a league in search of better pasture; this made us very late in starting the next morning, so that at half past nine in the evening we were still some miles distant from the colony. The night was dark and frequent flashes of lightning accompanied with thunder portended a storm. We were afraid we might not be able to cross the river Barreiro, an unpleasant position, as we had consumed all our provisions. But Providence watched over us; by degrees the sky cleared and the moonlight helped us to keep an eye on our steeds so that they should not wander again. At half past three in the morning we were once more in the saddle. Having forded the river without any difficulty we ascended a hillock from which we hoped to see the ranches of the Colony. And so it happened, for on reaching the summit a magnificent prospect lay before us. A group of well-built huts was conspicuous in the midst of a verdant plain, covered with plants of strange form and varied colouring. In the distance dark masses of shrubs heightened the beauty of the picture. The first rays of the sun were

gilding this enchanting prospect. We did not waste much time in contemplating the scene, as we were anxious to share with our dear confrères the joy of meeting. Urging our mules to make a final effort, after riding a short distance down a slope we came to a wide road nearly a mile in length leading to the colony. An Indian had caught sight of us and raised a shout. The shouting was repeated from one to another and in a moment we saw running towards us a hundred Indians and in their midst our beloved confrères waving hats and handkerchiefs in sign of welcome. The shouting and the crowds increased. At last we met Fr. Balzola and the other Salesians. I cannot describe to you, dear Father, what were my feelings at that moment. You can imagine them when thinking of the life led by these true apostles in the midst of a desert amongst these wild tribes.

Life of the Missionaries—Labours and sufferings—

A memorial of Mgr Lasagna—Affection of the Indians—A Carpenter's workshop.

When the Salesians first reached this place, after a painful journey, it was a real desert and they were obliged to live in miserable tents for forty days. As I have told you, it was the rainy season which increased their difficulties and sufferings. If to these be added the scarcity and sometimes total privation of food you may, beloved Father, form some idea of their life of self-sacrifice. The account of Fr. Balzola, published in the *Bulletin* gives barely an idea of what they had to suffer during the first six months. But full of faith and confidence in God, they bore these trials with heroic patience. Listen to the following.

The store of provisions was rapidly decreasing, and those who had been sent for fresh supplies to *Registro* a hamlet ten leagues off, did not return. It was necessary, therefore, to decrease the rations and the weaker members fell ill. Fr. Balzola did not know what to do; if the arrival of the provisions was delayed, there would be a famine, and to keep alive their faith and confidence in God he repeated constantly: *In te Domine, speravi!*... Some were

tempted to say it was his fault in choosing the rainy season for the founding of the colony, but they were silenced by the arrival of the beasts, laden with provisions. God had come to their assistance! But one cannot deny that beginning in the rainy season was the cause of many difficulties which increased the sufferings of our beloved confrères. Brother Stephen Grosso has on his left ear the scar of a terrible ulcer: one of the Sisters has still the marks of a wound in the head, and all suffered from these ulcers which were cured one knows not how.

Nevertheless God, Who, as the Brazilians say, *writes straight in crooked lines*, drew good out of their mistakes: for, very soon after their arrival, in consequence of the abundant rains they were able to gather in a large harvest of rice, corn and nuts so that, when the first Indians arrived in the month of June they had some provisions in store to give them. But, I repeat, God only knows what these good sons of Don Bosco had to suffer, and they will forgive me for revealing some of the sacrifices so generously offered to God. Praise be to God who has blessed our Society with such heroic members.

Meanwhile they laboured unceasingly. A large portion of the ground was cleared and planted; the foundations of a new village were traced out, with well-planned houses, divided by wide streets. To guard against the inconveniences of the drought in the hot season, a long water course was dug leading down from a spring nearly half a mile away. This brings the water right into the heart of the settlement, where before being drawn off for irrigation it is made to turn a large thrashing machine.

Two large huts (ranchos) were built, but they were not quite completed when the Indians arrived, and took up the whole attention of the Missionaries. One of these huts is used as an Oratory, but it is hardly suitable for this purpose; for it is divided up and forms a regular *omnibus*, as it serves as dormitory, refectory, and school-room for the little Indians.

During the services a door is opened and the altar is seen. The interior of this chapel is poverty itself, but for our brethren it is a

treasure, as they have there the Sacramental Presence of Our Lord, the faithful Friend of the Missionary. One object attracted my attention and awakened the tenderest recollections. Over the altar was a small statue of the Sacred Heart, I recognised it at once; it was the one presented to our late lamented Mgr. Lasagna by a pious family at Montevideo. The good Bishop kept it in his study, and who knows how often he poured out before it the desires of his heart, so full of zeal for souls. In bidding farewell to the first missionaries of Matto Grosso, he could not bestow on them a more precious souvenir. This little statue seems to speak to us and remind us of our beloved Bishop, the Indians' friend and zealous Apostle of the Lord. It is but just that in this mission one should recall his name and that all should learn to pronounce it with gratitude.

The second edifice, separated by a wide road, is the house of the Sisters. At present the walls are of straw, but they will soon be replaced by rough masonry. It is a large room without divisions, so in order to make their Oratory, they themselves with the help of the Indians put up a partition with boughs of trees. To make this more tidy they covered it with coloured cloth, but very soon they had to take this off to make clothes for the little Indians. In coming down upon their altar Jesus will remember the stable of Bethlehem.

In the midst of their poverty, deprived of every comfort, the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians are of the greatest use in the Mission. Besides taking charge of the clothes and washing they devote themselves to the education of the Indian women, instructing them in reading writing and household work, such as is usual amongst Europeans. Besides they nurse and comfort these poor women who are always coming with some fresh request or complaint. And as if this were not enough they are now thinking of making soap, starch and flour. In return the Indians treat them most respectfully, and they can pass through the village without fear, so much so that when the Indians wish to visit them, they take care to clothe themselves properly.

The Missionaries also are leading a life of

great labour and self-sacrifice. Besides teaching the Indians to build their huts and cultivate the ground, they have to provide all that is necessary for domestic use and for their various works, as on account of the difficulties of transport nothing can be sent to them. The first time they had a table for their meals was on the second day after my arrival. If you could only see how they work! In a small hut they have set up a carpenter's shop, certainly poorer than that of St. Joseph. In this the confrères turn out some wonderful things, working all day with a kind of saw making tables out of trunks of trees harder than stone. Before beginning to make furniture, doors and window-frames, another difficulty had to be overcome. There is no blacksmith's shop and from the smallness of the staff there is as yet no hope of having one; so, as if it were the most natural thing in the world, one sees hinges, locks and all that is required for fastening doors all made of wood, in the most ingenious manner.

But enough; I must give you an idea of the village and of the customs of the Indians, for whom our associates make so many sacrifices.

(To be continued).

PATAGONIA

(TERRITORY OF NEUQUEN)

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

(Continued)

Journey to Alarcón—A Requiem Mass—Short Mission—At Confluencia—Arrival at Roca Conclusion.

Having expressed our gratitude to the officers and soldiers for their kind assistance we set out for Alarcón. The road, in general, is good, excepting certain sandy tracts in the high plateaus of Manzano. We followed the course of the Limay, resting now and then to take a draught from its limpid waters, which, from their medicinal properties, are very whole-

some. For this reason the Indians have given this river the name of Limay, signifying clear water, which does one good to drink.

In a small desert our guide lost his way and led us through a dangerous path towards a dreadful precipice. Changing our course we found the right road made by the soldiers who guard the Cordilleras.

Before reaching Alarcón we had to cross the former bed of the river *Picúnleufú*, now dried up, because during recent years the waters have made for themselves three new channels further on by which they reach the *Limay*. The banks of the *Picúnleufú* (about two hundred and twenty miles long) are inhabited by native tribes and a few Christian families. It is Government property, so they live unmolested and in peace, for there are no owners to despoil them, or drive them away. How much better it would be if the Government, taking the interests of these poor people to heart, would give them the ownership of this small portion of land rendered fruitful by the sweat of their brow!....

By sunset we had reached Alarcón, finding a lodging in the house of a certain Fernandez and Co. This fertile spot is situated half way between *Roca* and *Junin* of the Andes. It was a small fortress in 1879-80 during the Conquest of Patagonia; here the Indians killed Corporal Alarcón, whose name, it bears.

The short Mission was attended by the few European and native families scattered in the neighbourhood. Our faithful Conscripts of St. Martin also joined us; and Lieutenant Brunetta, mindful of his parents' faith and piety, like the pious and valiant Judas Machabeus, collected from his soldiers a small sum and had a Requiem Mass offered for the the soul of the youth drowned in Lake Honda. It was celebrated by His Lordship, the officers and soldiers being present. The Bishop took the opportunity to say a few words from the Gospel text *Estote parati*. The divine seed fell on fruitful soil, judging from the emotion manifested.

We should have been glad to make a longer stay at Alarcón, but we realized that the house we lodged in was a sort of hotel, too expensive

for our poverty. We travelled the whole day April 19th along the plains and hills of the *Limay*, through thickets of the Patagonian shrubs. We spent the night on the left bank of the river in a spot called by the Indians *archipelago* from the tortuous windings of the stream and the numerous sand-banks. The only dwelling, in this distant and uninhabited region, was a poor hut, which was quite a palace to us. In Indian fashion our supper consisted of a piece of meat toasted at the fire; after saying the Rosary according to our custom we endeavoured to compose ourselves to sleep. The Bishop found a corner out of the draught, and the others with their saddles for pillows said good night!...

Rising at the break of a ruddy dawn we prepared the portable altar. It was Sunday, the Feast of the Patronage of St. Soseph, and the four Missionaries said Mass. Immediately after we resumed our journey, travelling onwards over the undulating plain for nearly thirty miles.

On the 23rd our caravan reached Arroyito, where the Guerrero family invited us to dine. The mistress of the house was delighted to entertain the Bishop whom she had known at Patagones; she presented to him her sons, all former pupils of our College at Rio Negro (Patagonia). The Bishop was much pleased to hear that the maid servant, who had been brought up by the Sisters of Mary Help of Christians, taught the Catechism every Sunday to the Children of the house and of the neighbourhood.

An hour later we were able to continue our journey to Lake Toro on the shores of which we passed the night.

The pampas which stretch right on from here to *Roca*, a distance of nearly sixty miles are called the *Region of the Wind*, and truly, for Eolus seems to reign here as absolute monarch.

We suffered from it day and night, having to travel through clouds of dust so thick and black that sometimes the road was invisible. These many enemies succeeded, one day, in upsetting our cart in the bushes; but fortunately no one was injured.

Approaching the Rio Negro we met several good Christians who welcomed their beloved Pastor and asked his blessing.

At the spot where the two large rivers, the Limay and the Neuquen mingle their foaming waters, to give birth to the Rio Negro a pleasant surprise awaited us. Colonel Mallea, commanding the 7th regiment of Cavalry, stationed at Chos-Malal; Colonel Martino Gras, head of the national troops of the South; the Captain and officers of the 2nd regiment of Cavalry stationed at Las Lajas; Mr. Charles Ahlefeld, who owns one of the richest *estancias* of Col-loncu.á; many soldiers of various regiments, who were joined by the two hundred and fifty conscripts from St. Martin, all united on our arrival in presenting their respectful welcome to His Lordship. It was a touching scene, a living picture which appealed to the heart, a providential meeting of all the Bishop's friends; a true *confluence* of the military chiefs and forces of the Argentine frontier who came to return on the Rio Negro the visit His Lordship had paid them at Neuquen.

Here ended our fatiguing journey of one hundred and eighty two days, riding and driving along the extensive and majestic chain of the Cordilleras. I say that our journey by cart and on horse-back was ended, because progress and civilisation are making great strides in Patagonia.... and we, at this place, called Confluencia, can make use of the new and important railway line which, starting from Bahia-Blanca, will soon be extended to Lake Nahuel and finally to Chile.

Bidding farewell to so many dear friends we took our seats in the train accompanied by Col. Giulio Mallea. The bridge over the river Neuquén, one thousand yards in length is a wonderful sight, the *chef-d'œuvre* of Engineer Grac, by which he has earned imperishable fame. By this iron and steel bridge the English Company of the Southern Railway of the Argentine Republic propose to connect the Territory of Rio Negro, of Neuquén and that of Chubut in order to secure to themselves the trade with the neighbouring Republic of Chile.

After one hour's delightful journey we reached

the College of our Mission of San Michael at Roca.

The Bishop well deserved a few days' rest, but when the good of souls is in question he does not think of fatigue. He arranged therefore that the Spiritual Exercises should begin at once, first for the pupils both boarders and externs of our College, then for the girls in the Sisters' Boarding School, and finally at the Parish Church for the whole population.

The following is a brief statement of the results of this important Pastoral Visitation, and of the laborious apostolic journey of Mgr. Cagliero in the Territory of Neuquen:

He traversed the whole Territory and its delta on its three longest sides, that is, from Roca to the extreme North of Trican-Malal, ascending the course and hills of the River Neuquén, making three hundred and ninety miles.

From Malbarco to the extreme South of St. Martin of the Andes, along the chain of the Cordilleras, crossing lofty plateaus and mountains and fording innumerable rivers and streams, over four hundred miles: and another four hundred descending through the valleys and prairies of the River Limay as far as Roca.

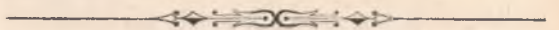
Thus was accomplished an apostolic journey of six months, traversing nearly 1300 miles without any serious accident, thanks to the good Providence of God and the Maternal protection of Mary, Help of Christians.

The spiritual fruit of this Pastoral Visit and of the previous missions given in the Territory of Neuquen may be summed up as follows: 9,825 Baptisms, 8,161 Confirmations, 2,014 Marriages, 54,756 Communions.

Soli Deo honor et gloria! and heart felt thanks to all our good Salesian Co-operators, who by their charitable and generous offerings promote and maintain the Missions of Patagonia,

Your affectionate son in Christ

Fr. JOHN BERARDI.





A letter from The Very Rev. Don Rua.

A month ago our Superior General issued a circular to all the Directors and promoters of the association of Salesian Co-operators. It contained a special blessing from His Holiness Pius X. which had been granted through Fr. Trione, a frequent and familiar visitor at the palace of the Patriarch of Venice during the last Pontificate. It is couched in the following terms: Having been specially commissioned by the writer, our confrère Fr. Stephen Trione, Secretary to the Pious Association of Salesian Co-operators, made a journey to Rome, where to his own great satisfaction, he was immediately granted a private audience by the Holy Father. He presented to His Holiness the Acts of the Third International Congress of Co-operators, which was held last year at Turin, and gave the Pope a detailed account of the actual state and undertakings of the Association. The Sovereign Pontiff was much comforted at the report of the good accomplished among his children; and, through Fr. Trione he charged me to convey to all the Directors, Promoters and members of the Association of Salesian Co-operators his Apostolic Benediction and hearty approval. Pius X. then treated of the prospects and proposals for the future, and in dismissing Fr. Trione, he assured him of his confidence and good-will towards the Sons of Don Bosco, and his hopes in the benefits they and their Co-operators will confer on society in the future.

Royal Visitors.

On April 16th the Dowager Queen of Saxony,

while staying at Turin, went to visit the tomb of our holy Founder, D. Bosco, at the missionary Seminary at Valsalice. Her Majesty arrived there in time for the afternoon Benediction, after which she stayed to visit the memorial Church of St. Francis de Sales. On coming out of the chapel she watched for some minutes the young clerics at recreation and then drove back to Turin. On the following day Her Majesty was received by Our Superior General, and visited with great pleasure and admiration the Sanctuary of Our Lady, and the Oratory where Don Bosco commenced the realisation of his mission on behalf of youth.

The *Story of the Oratory* had more than one occasion to mention the good-will, which the then reigning Sovereign, King Charles Albert manifested towards Don Bosco and his work; it also recorded several acts of benevolence towards us on the part of the king, in giving material aid, and protecting him from the malice of enemies. But members of the royalty are by no means unknown at the Oratory of the present day. Her Royal Highness, Princess Laetitia of Savoy has often been to the Sanctuary of Our Lady at Valdocco, and it was she who acted as President of the Ladies Committee during the Congress of last year. The list of distinguished Co-operators has now been honoured by the addition of the name of Her Majesty, the Dowager Queen of Italy, who in a letter to Our Superior General assured him of her esteem and admiration for Don Bosco, and her unflinching support towards the good works, undertaken by his Sons.

In former numbers of the *Bulletin* our readers have become acquainted with the now famous *Mt. Tibidabo*, an eminence on the outskirts of Barcellona (Spain). The Salesians have been entrusted with the work of erecting a memorial church, dedicated to the Sacred Heart, on the summit of this eminence, which is rapidly becoming the rendezvous of the urban population, and visitors from the town. A month or two back, His Majesty, king Alfonso III. made the ascent of the hill, and after inspecting the building, was presented with the plans by the Rev. Fr. Hermida, the Provincial of the district. The young sovereign declared himself highly satisfied with the good work in progress.

From the pampas of Patagonia.

Two years ago, Our Superior General obtained the canonical recognition of the novitiate founded in Patagonia, for the training of the children of the Pampas, who after embracing the faith and civilization through the missionaries wished to become Salesians themselves, to join with those who are labouring for the conversion of their own countrymen. On the occasion of the feast of St. John of that year, the pupils of the Mother House at Turin subscribed and presented the amount necessary to clothe the first six Patagonian novices with the religious habit. A few months back Don Rua's earnest desire was accomplished and the generous and thoughtful offering of the boys was utilized. His Lordship Mgr. Cagliari, who has laboured for so many years among the tribes of Patagonia, had the happiness of giving the clerical habit to ten young novices who will form the nucleus of a zealous band of missionaries destined to win their own nation to the faith and fold of Christ.

While congratulating these favoured ten, we express the hope that many will follow the example of generosity given by the young pupils of the Oratory, and obtain for themselves a share in the merit of the conversion of these tribes of the south, who are only now commencing to partake in the blessing of Christianity.

Don Rua's Feast-day.

The return of the feast day of St. John the Baptist, the patron of our beloved Founder,

brings a return of that manifestation of family love and filial devotion, which always signalises this anniversary; it has long been kept as the feast-day of our Superior General in memory of our departed and saintly father. That day invariably witnesses a spontaneous and eager offering of the tribute of gratitude and fidelity, which, Don Bosco's children, in many generations, present to him who continues in their regard his mission of charity in word and work.

The yearly expansion and manifold development of the work of the Sons of Don Bosco, naturally makes itself evident in the celebration of this feast-day. How many precious memories are recalled, picturing to the mind the scenes both dangerous and difficult, as well as triumphant, which have marked the career of our Institute. Referring on this occasion in the most effective terms to our Founder and his Successor, the lawyer Mr. Scala applied to them the lines of Dante when he speaks of the two Saints, Dominic and Francis d'Assisi, saying that what was said of the one may be equally taken as a description of the other, for they were one in word and deed.

And Don Rua is indeed for the Oratory, the Salesians, and the Co-operators the faithful pattern of Don Bosco, in whom the predecessor still speaks and acts, and in their honour the two sister-arts, Music and Poetry were aptly blended, when the hymn for the occasion was read by the composer Fr. Lemoyne, and sung to the music set by another confrère, both long-standing fellow-workers of Don Bosco.

The Director of the Festive Oratory, Fr. Pavia, who has lately been decorated by His Holiness with the cross *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* then came forward to add the congratulations and thanks of the children of the Oratories, whose welfare Don Rua so often recommends to the generosity of the Co-operators.

Representatives of many Houses then approached to "swell the mighty torrent" as one poem described it. But all this was but the eve of the feast-day. The early morn told by the music of the bells in the air that high celebrations were being kept, and soon after nine o'clock the strains of an approaching band announced new arrivals. It was the deputation of the Old Pupils of the Oratory, who never let this occasion go by without laying their homage and gratitude at the feet of Don Bosco's Successor. Many were bald and even grown

gray, recalling days of long ago which memories and associations will never allow to be forgotten. Their speaker this year was a certain Mr. Borgogno, and through him they presented two rich candelabra for the votive candles, which are continually burning at the altar of Mary Help of Christians.

The visitors for the occasion included not only many of the most distinguished laity of Turin, among whom were Baron Manno and Count Olivieri, but also His Lordship the Bishop of Meliapor (India) who, before returning to the scene of his Apostolate, wished to thank our Superior General who had promised to help him in his far-off missions. While the bishop was yet speaking a telegram was received from the Holy Father, in which he said he wished to participate in mind and heart, and gave to all his blessing. The names of Don Bosco, Don Rua and Pius X. were finally united in one hearty chorus of cheers.

Buenos Aires. The new Archbishop of Sebaste.

Had His Grace Mgr. Cagliari been in Europe, when the notice of his promotion to the Archiepiscopal See of Sebaste was made known, it would have been an occasion of unwonted celebrations. But our associates at Buenos Aires have commemorated it in a befitting manner.

For that event the College Pius IX. at Almagro was a brilliant festive scene. There sat down with His Grace the Most Rev. Mgr. the Internuntio, His Grace Archbishop Espinosa, the Right Rev. Mgr. Romero, the Ex-president of the Argentine Republic and other distinguished visitors, both ecclesiastical and laymen, many of the past students and Co-operators, and representatives of the other Salesian Institutes in that Capital. In all a thousand persons sat down to the banquet in the grand saloon.

After the repast, which was varied by musical selections, and the proposal of the new dignitary's health, the assembly repaired to the College theatre, where the complimentary

meeting was held. The Most Rev. Mgr. Sabatucci opened the proceedings. He said: "After having notified by letter this act of benevolence from the Holy Father, I now do so officially by reading the telegram received a short time back.



Mgr. J. Cagliari Archbishop of Sebaste.

Rome. April 18th 1904.

To Mgr. Sabatucci, Internuntio at Buenos Aires.

The Holy Father has deigned to raise Mgr. Cagliari to the Archiepiscopal See of Sebaste. You will duly notify this proof of good will on the part of the Sovereign Pontiff.

Card. MERRY DEL VAL.

He then continued: "Among the soldiers of the army of the Church of God, Your Grace is already a veteran; you have come valiantly through the arduous labours and trials of your apostolate in bringing souls to Christ; Divine Providence has been with you, and now the Vicar of Christ on earth wishes to reward your labours by this distinction.

Continue then, illustrious captain, to gain conquests for the church; defend her in the fight now so unremittingly waged against her. But beyond this, the Sovereign Pontiff in conferring this dignity on Your Grace, wished to give another proof of his esteem and affection for the Sons of Don Bosco, the Salesian Society, to which your name adds honour and lustre. May Almighty God continue to bless and protect you, and with this desire, I give to you all, in the name of the Sovereign Pontiff, the Apostolic blessing."

Mgr. Cagliero in a few happy expressions spoke of the goodness of the Holy Father, so well manifested in the kindly words of his Representative, and laid at the feet of Don Bosco and the Salesian Society the new honours conferred upon himself. The interesting programme was then commenced, and proved highly successful and entertaining.

Some days afterwards the Archbishop was received by the President of the Republic and the Minister of the Interior, who while congratulating the ecclesiastic, thanked the intrepid missionary, for the eminent part he has played in the civilization of the far southern regions of the Argentine States.

His Eminence Card. Vanutelli at the Oratory (Turin).

In a previous issue mention was made of the solemn centenary celebrations held at the famous Sanctuary of Our Lady of Consolation at Turin. The piety and confidence of the constant stream of clients to be seen in this memorable sanctuary, are continually gaining extraordinary favours through Our Lady invoked under this title. The festivities were carried out in the most imposing style, and in the centre of the Cardinals and bishops present, was the figure of the Pope's Representative, His Eminence Card. Vincent Vanutelli. The Cardinal could not lose this opportunity of seeing the Oratory at Valdocco, the creation of the servant of God whom he greatly revered

and admired. He was received in due form and solemnity, and one of the priests read an address, while the pupils had a representative, and offered the illustrious prelate a souvenir of his visit. His Eminence speaking in reply with great benevolence and enthusiasm for Don Bosco and his work, said among other things:—It is gratifying to me to see that although a stranger, I am not unwelcome in Don Bosco's house, and I thank you for your reception. To come to Turin, and not to remember that great name, illustrious and dear to everyone who nourishes some sentiments of christian charity, is quite impossible. And that beloved name is the name of Don Bosco. This is why you see me here to visit the House of His Sons and children. When I return to Rome I am certain that one of the first things the Holy Father will say is: And did you go to see the Oratory of Don Bosco? And if I had not been, he would be much displeased at my omission. In a few other words of encouragement His Eminence made us cherish all the more the name of our beloved founder and father, and more thankful for the favour of being amongst his children.

Cape Town.

The Salesian Institute made a point of having special celebrations for the feast of our heavenly Patroness. A grand procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament around the grounds of the Institute, which had been carefully adorned, was the crowning feature of the day's solemnities. The boy's band, which has now reached a remarkable pitch of perfection, accompanied the singing of the procession. This far off part of the world is not without its share in the great impulse given to the devotion towards Mary Help of Christians, which the present times are witnessing, and whose powerful intercession has been the mainstay of the works of Don Bosco which are now flourishing in that capital.

Not long back the Institute was glad to welcome a distinguished visitor, Justice Buchanan. He was greatly interested in the works of the different trades' departments and congratulated the young musicians who had turned out in their smart uniforms in honour of their guest. He afterwards addressed the assembled lads expressing his deep interest in their welfare and progress, and encouraged them to make

the utmost of this opportunity to provide themselves with the necessary instruction and training which would stand them in such good stead in their after life. His kindly words and thoughtful interest were highly appreciated by all, and with some closing selections of music his visit ended.

We gather from the *South African News* the following interesting item: A large gathering of friends of the Rev. Fr. Giltinan of the Salesian Order assembled at the Institute, Cape Town on Friday evening, June 10th to bid him "bon voyage", to present him with an illuminated address and a still more useful token of appreciation and esteem, a purse of sovereigns on the occasion of his departure to England and to Ireland. Many of the friends of the House both clergy and laity were present and the chair was taken by Mr. J. B. Callanan.

The chairman having briefly dwelt on the affection and esteem in which Fr. Giltinan was held, the address was read and the presentation made. Several of the guests, and the Superior of the Institute spoke in high terms of the character and worth of Father Giltinan who replied with much feeling and eloquence. He thanked his friends for their generosity, but deprecated their language of exaggeration. He exhorted them, whether he returned or not to add to the debt of gratitude he owed them, by doing what they could to promote the welfare of the Salesian Institute, which was doing noble work in the face of difficulties.

An interesting programme closed the farewell meeting.

The Archbishop of Westminster at Wandsworth
(London).

The name of Wandsworth is almost a stranger in the columns of the *Salesian Bulletin*, but it is no stranger to the Salesian Fathers, who have been for some time in charge of a parish in that part of London. Not the least among the many labours of the priest in charge is the spiritual care, and at times the temporal welfare also, of the unfortunate Catholic prisoners who are confined in the prison some distance off. This work however is not new to the Salesians, for they remember that their beloved Founder, in the early years of his ministry, attended the prisons of Turin, and learnt there some of the terrible causes of the careers of crime, which de-

termined him in a great measure to give his life to the education of youth. Hence no work that was so acceptable to the Father, could be amiss to his sons, and although their efforts may not be so entirely successful as those of that eminent servant of God, no pains are spared to work the conversion and improve the after life of the unfortunate men.

The Catholic chaplain the Rev. A. Hawarden S. C. had for some years past been considerably handicapped in his work, by the absence of any special catholic chapel for the men's devotions, so that the prison chapel had to be used for both Catholics and Protestants. His own repeated efforts and the earnest representations of His Grace the Archbishop of Westminster, and the influence of other well-wishers have at last prevailed upon the Government to build a separate chapel for the exclusive use of the Catholic men. This new church was blessed and dedicated on Friday July 15th by the Archbishop himself. His Grace arrived punctually at 3 o'clock, and was met by the Governor of the Prison, and introduced to several of the visiting Justices. The Very Rev. Canon St. John, the Very Rev. C. B. Macey S. C. the Rev. Fr. Rabagliati S. C. the Rev. Fr. Jackman and Rev. Fr. Daly assisted the Archbishop at the ceremony of the blessing and dedication. The music was entrusted to some of the members of the Salesian Choir at Battersea, whose reputation is too long standing, to leave any chance of their not giving every satisfaction. Archbishop Bournes's address followed. He expressed his gratitude both to the prison authorities and to the Government for carrying out this important step, which would be such a help in the work among the men. He was pleased to be there in a new chapel opened for such a purpose; then addressing the men more especially, he spoke of the goodness and providence of God, and of the hope in Him that should be the guiding star of our life. He encouraged them to look forward to the future, to take no heed of the past, but keep straight on in the path of uprightness in word and deed.

The chapel is of a goodly size, about sixty feet by thirty, and leans towards the romanesque in style. It was built almost entirely by prison labour, and is calculated to hold about two hundred and fifty. We re-echo the wish, that it may witness the conversion of all the unfortunate men who may enter it, and form their starting point on a new and more christian life.



The celebration of the octave of the feast of Our Lady was entirely in keeping with solemnities described in the last issue. Visitors and pilgrims were frequent, among them many of the first families of Turin and suburbs.

On the day following the feast, the prayers and Communions of the boys were offered up for the repose of the souls of the deceased members of the Archconfraternity of Mary Help of Christians. The Right Rev. Mgr. Gamba celebrated the Community Mass, and addressed some appropriate words to the boys present at it. Among other things he said: "Some years ago I myself was sitting there in your benches: I used to repeat the self-same words, before the very same image. You can see then how sincerely I speak to you of this devotion... I would leave you a word or two as a memorial of this occasion, and they are those that Don Bosco used to say to us every day: Be devout to Our Lady." Brought up in the shadow of the Sanctuary of the Help of Christians, it was little wonder that he should be so deeply attached to it, and that he should advocate it so strongly.

Accounts of the great day are coming in, and will be given to our readers, if possible with a photograph of the chapels. To show in a more striking manner the extent of the rapid growth of the devotion to the Help of Christians, a kind of census is being taken of the Churches and Chapels dedicated under this title. Starting from the districts farthest from home, the far south of America and

Patagonia show a list of five churches, four of them being parish churches, eight chapels, with three altars and six statues in other places.

The great south American capital, Buenos Aires, naturally gave a pattern to its sister towns in the festal solemnities. On the evening before, one of the chief Provincials gave a most interesting and successful conference to the Co-operators. His Grace the Archbishop pontificated on the following day, and in the evening, a procession was formed composed of clergy and townsfolk in which the statue blessed by Don Bosco, and brought from our House in Paris was carried amid triumphal hymns. Coming as it did, so soon after the Congress of Sacred Music, the suitability and excellence of the singing was a natural sequence. The memories of those days cannot but lead to a revival of faith and love, both to Our Lady, the Immaculate Mother of God, and through her to Our divine Lord *who has done great things to her.*

GRACES and FAVOURS

Belfast (IRELAND).—An anonymous person wishes to return thanks to Our Lady Help of Christians, for many favours received through her powerful intercession, and now begs through her aid the speedy recovery of a child.

June 1904.

Turin (ITALY).—On the anniversary of the Coronation.—In the early part of last October I entirely lost my voice, so that I could not speak above a whisper. Without

making much of the loss I passed two months; but being advised to see a throat specialist, I did so. He prescribed bathings and garglings with different lotions, but little benefit seemed to result; indeed by the month of December the voice had become much feebler. I went

The doctor gave it up in astonishment, and advised a return to native air. I went there for some time, and on my reappearance in Turin electricity was again applied. But the lost voice would not be brought back, and I began to feel hopeless. It was a serious loss to me, for it seemed to do away with my aspirations to enter the sacred ministry, as a priest with no voice would be of little use. I then thought of the One who had been my refuge in previous cases of difficulty, and hope in Our Lady seemed to bring me quite a revival of spirits! I promised to make a novena for this end and to have the grace published in the *Bulletin*. It was now six months since I first lost my voice, and the month of May was rapidly bringing on the anniversary of the coronation. In fact the 17th of May had come. In the Sanctuary of the Church stood Mgr. Bertagna with Don Rua and the other Superiors, who were unveiling the tablet commemorating the event. The Director of the Oratory at that moment intoned a well-known hymn to Our Lady, in which all joined while I prayed fervently. But suddenly as though moved by some inspiration I opened my mouth to join in the hymn, and there came forth a clear and ringing note which went to swell the hymn of praise. The cure was obtained. The doctor himself examined me that same day and pronounced the voice perfect. What favours will not the Help of Christians obtain for those who put their trust in her!

June 1904.

G. SISMONDO.

Anonymous (ENGLAND).—I would ask you to publish in the *Salesian Bulletin* the following favour obtained. A person was very dangerously ill. A novena to the Sacred Heart and Our Lady Help of Christians was commenced, and a thank-offering promised if the petition was granted. The requested cure was miraculously given and I now fulfil the promise made.

July 1904.

ANON.

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Acknowledgments have been received in large numbers from other countries by the Director at the Oratory, Turin.

To ensure safe and correct insertions English accounts may be sent to the House of London, from which they are sent on with the other matter.



Altar of Our Lady Help of Christians on Her feast day.

to Turin to consult another specialist, and his opinion was that the vocal chords were in a state of paralysis. Electricity was applied both internally and externally for a whole month, but the cure seemed as far off as ever.



VARIOUS GLEANINGS



ROME. — The sanctuary of the Sacred Heart at the Castro Pretorio, was the scene of celebrations marked by extraordinary magnificence on the occasion of the late festival of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

His Holiness Pius X., following the precedent of his two illustrious predecessors had granted special spiritual favours to this memorial church, and among them a plenary indulgence to all who should approach the Sacraments and visit the church from the vespers of the eve to sunset on the feast-day. Three Cardinals and three distinguished members of the episcopate pontificated at the different solemnities arranged during the novena and on the event itself.

The Very Rev. Canon Spada addressed an immense gathering who crowded the spacious church, and all during the morning great numbers approached the holy table. The music selected for the different solemnities was in perfect harmony with all the late decrees and the Vespers in Gregorian Chant, rendered by four hundred boarders were all that any critic or lover of music could desire. The Mass for the solemnity itself was Palestrina's *Missa brevis* and the different phrases of this composition were given with remarkable accuracy and a high degree of musical finish.

Her Majesty the Queen Dowager had sent to the sanctuary a valuable gift consisting of a rich and magnificently ornamented cloth with delicately entwining roses worked upon it. The gift itself was naturally most gratifying to the Salesians and was at the same time a mark of the generous piety of Her Majesty.

The convent of Mary Help of Christians.

In April last a hundred young lady students made their Easter retreat at the House of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. At the close an audience was obtained for them from the Holy Father and this was fixed for the last day of May.

His Holiness received them in the consistorial hall and as they passed to kiss his hand he gave them all an opportunity of saying a few words to him. He afterwards distributed blessed medals and addressed to them in his homely way some fatherly words well worth recording: "My good children" he said, "Your first thoughts should be those of praise and thanks to Almighty God who has raised up in your midst a home to which you can always turn for comfort and advice. It needs no words from me to convince you that virtue is assailed on every side; very often the air itself seems to be poisoned and the venomous serpent is frequently hid beneath the flower. Then often seize the opportunity of visiting the peaceful convent and

the good sisters, and thank God, I repeat, for providing such a harbour for you. Almost all of you have asked a blessing for your homes. I most willingly bless them from my heart, but remember that if you wish to see your homes bright and happy, and to procure a pleasant future for yourself, keep faithful to the virtue and piety of your youth; for only by virtue and religion can peace and serenity be maintained in your own soul and in your families. Some have recommended to me their examinations; well, courage! At a distance they appear formidable; but when they are near, and you have made good use of the Lord's talent entrusted to you, you will go in with confidence and not be disappointed." Then on bended knee the group received the blessing of the Vicar of Christ, whose fatherly goodness and gentle words left pleasant memories which will influence their whole life.

The Holy Land (Nazareth).

Writing from Palestine a month or two back a confrere says: Our Orphanage at Nazareth, which is dedicated to *Jesus in His youth*, was honoured by a visit from many of the pilgrims from Italy and elsewhere. We were in readiness for them as they had arranged the visit with our Provincial Fr. Louis Nai, who was present himself to welcome them in the name of the Salesians in Palestine. Headed by two bishops, zealous Co-operators, they arrived amid the strains of the band, and were entertained at a brief reception. They were not content with applauding the addresses read by the boys, or with admiring the progress being made in the Institute, but on the initiative of a Roman lady a subscription made there and then realised one hundred and thirty eight francs.

Nor was this all. That day our Superior had to accept two children who were in danger of being placed in the hands of the Turks and losing their faith. When this was made known, a few Turin ladies agreed to pay fifteen francs a month for five years, towards the support of one of the boys. They will now, among other pleasant recollections of the Holy Land, have the consoling thought of having rescued one of the little ones of Christ from the hands of infidels.

The pilgrims also visited the House at Bethlehem where they were entertained in different groups, the gentlemen with the Salesians, while the ladies shared the hospitality of the nuns of Mary Help of Christians. It was quite like a homely gathering for them to be among the children of Don Bosco, and to see the carrying on of the same good works which they had been used to witnessing in their native land. Here also their generosity

could not allow them to depart without doing something for the material welfare and urgent needs of that Institute, which is doing in His very birthplace the work of Our Divine Saviour, who came to seek and to save.

MILAN. Our Superior General when passing northwards through Mogliano Veneto, Vienna, Budapest etc. stayed at the Salesian House at Milan where an important meeting of Co-operators and friends had been arranged, in which the Cardinal Archbishop was to take part.

The *Osservatore Gattolico* speaks thus of the occasion:—As was to be expected the arrival of the saintly successor of Don Bosco, was the signal for splendid manifestations of joy and gladness at the Institute of St. Ambrose. The House wore a festive garb with many decorated designs blending the names of Don Rua, Don Bosco and the Cardinal, and the three hundred and fifty pupils lent their willing voices to swell the cheers of welcome.

The Co-operators had assembled in great numbers to meet the leaders of their association. The Very Rev. Don Rua, in his calm inspiring words, referred to the success of the efforts of the Milanese benefactors, and spoke of the yet urgent needs which demanded activity among the Co-operators, to place an effective barrier against the tide of evil influences which are everywhere spreading. Hence he recommended the Association to spare no efforts, and to strive to make their support proportionate to the new calls for charity.

His Eminence the Cardinal confirmed the urgent request of the Very Rev. Don Rua, encouraging the members of the Association to second heartily his own efforts in promoting these good works among the people.

When the Cardinal had left amid the cheers of the large audience and the boys, the visitors took the opportunity of seeing the new church of St. Augustine, which is now nearing completion, revealing its vast proportions and elegant arches. The sight of the workshops was not to be overlooked, and the specimens in the ceramic (plastic) department, evoked unstinted praise, for the Milan Institute makes a speciality of this work which figured largely in the last Salesian Exhibition.

Punta Arenas (Southern Patagonia).

While cruising in the Southern waters of the Pacific, His Royal Highness the Duke of Abruzzi, put into Punta Arenas, a port on the lonely Magellan strait. The nuns of Ma.y Help of Christians have an Institute at this place, where they are providing for the orphan native children of Southern Patagonia, and spreading civilization and christianity in those wild districts. The Duke paid a visit to their house, and his kindly words and encouragement were quite a gleam of sunshine to the good sisters who are toiling away there, almost at the end of the earth; but his appreciation was shown in a more palpable manner by a gift of two

hundred francs and in sending over his own medical attendant to see a poor orphan girl. The officers of the ship also made a courteous visit to the convent and, imitating their chief, left a substantial offering as a remembrance of their call. The beneficence of His Royal Highness and his officers will not go unrewarded or forgotten.

This house is in great need of extension, and the nuns, relying on Divine Providence and their Co-operators, held a bazaar a little while back to open a fund for the costs. Their self-sacrifice and zeal will certainly draw down the generous dispensations of Providence who is ever near, and clothes both the birds of the air and the flowers of the field.

ECUADOR

(By Fr. Tallacchini, Salesian Missionary)

(Continued)

The Promised Land.

The following morning, having performed our religious duties, and satisfied the pious desire of thirty Christians who came for Confession and Communion, we continued our journey. It was the last day, July 23rd. Towards midday, the light showing through the trees told us we were near another valley. Soon we perceived beyond the wood some plantations in the distance. Our hearts were filled with joy like the Israelites when they beheld the Promised Land, or like the Crusaders at the sight of Jerusalem.

We were now at the head of the valley of Gualaquiza, which forms an angle with the one we had hitherto followed.

From the North-East to the South West where the view fades in the azure-tinted western chain, behold, dear reader, another sea of verdure, here undulating in gentle slopes, there spread out in a level plain, then again broken up by a group of hills which then glide away into a number of lesser valleys. On one side you see a long river slowly taking its serpentine course, on the other a few wooden houses thatched with straw and surrounded by fields. This is Gualaquiza.

The Church, which is both lofty and pretty, is situated on one of the lower hills with the house and School of the Missionaries on one side, and the one destined for the Sisters on the other, all the buildings being coloured yellow and white. Two huts and a house not far off contain the greater part of the inhabitants.

The other houses of the white residents and of the Indians must be sought amongst the bananias, the sugar canes and the palms where they lie hidden. It is easy to reckon up the civilised inhabitants, whose numbers do not reach two hundred.

If besides you feel drawn towards your half-naked brethren of the red skin, who with their spears and poisoned arrows traverse the forests

like the wild deer, or, like fish, brave the rapid streams; if, in a word, you love the Jivaros you must seek them under the thick foliage, where you will find one or two, or at the most, three or four houses grouped together, but at a sufficient distance to be invisible to one another. Thus traversing the sombre forest for half a day, by paths used equally by savages, bears, tigers and serpents, you may seek other dwellings along the banks of the limpid Bomboiza, on those of the placid Zamora and the majestic Santiago; then crossing the waters, visit them in the valley of the Indanza by the foaming waters of the Pante, along all the tributaries of the magnificent Morona in the North, where the rays of the sun cannot penetrate, but where the natives track an enemy's footsteps, where they carry out their projects of revenge, where their fury frightens the wild beasts and their war-cry *ihuita, ihuita* is heard above the roar of the torrent.

Finally, embarking on the above-named rivers, descend to the oceanic waters of the *Canusa* (the largest of rivers); attain if you are able, the mouth of the Santiago, traversing the dismal gorge named *Pongo di Manserriche*, approach your brethren and speak to them. They will tell you that they are the strongest and most unconquerable people of the earth; that they know not whether their parents came from the Mountains of *Kassei*, where the sun sleeps, or from the great *Kamussa*, or from the deep sea where the sun awakes; but that they were all as strong as the great forest trees, furious and invincible like the torrent of the Pongo, terrible as the hurricanes which uproot the giants of the forest. They will tell you: our fathers at the sound of the *tunduy* (an instrument of hollow wood) collected all the tribes from above the Caquetà, to below the Amazon, filling the woods with indomitable warriors, like ants issuing from their nests, and all had in abundance *yuca* (manioc) bananas and chicha (a drink made from the *yuca* cooked and fermented.).

Then, shaking their long and well combed locks, they would swear that never, in times past, had one of them bent beneath the yoke of the stranger; that the ancient *Sciri*, lords of Quito, had not conquered them, although they also called themselves *Scinora*, possibly to recall a common origin; that the *Incas*, lords of the west, had been obliged to retire before them. Then, their eyes inflamed with anger, striking the earth with their feet, and brandishing their terrible spears, they would show you the spot where once existed the ancient cities of Sogrono, Sevilla and Mendoza, rendered by them hecatombs of the Spaniards, three hundred years ago, and now buried under the third generation of forest trees. We fear no one, they would say in conclusion, because the vengeance of the Jivaro is fearful and certain, and our forests are an impenetrable fortress.

And you, dear reader, discovering on these open countenances, in these flashing eyes, in these passionate breasts some tokens of nobility and greatness, and seeking vainly for any traces of their dominion ask sadly; "Where are these nu-

merous and fierce tribes? What has been the cause of their gradual decay? Who will stretch forth a hand to raise them up?..."

In the meanwhile we have drawn near to the Missionaries, abode, where for eight years they have laboured and toiled and mixed with the fierce Jivaro in order to save him—Already the Missionary has watered with his own perspiration half of the territory I have described.

Let us proceed! Monsignor though greatly fatigued outstrips us all in his anxiety to embrace his sons, to study the plan of campaign, to facilitate the work of the missionary for the salvation of the poor savages.

Across the valley can be heard the joyous ringing of the Church bells; waving their arms about the school-children hasten to meet us, accompanied by their teachers and the civilized inhabitants.

Amongst these may be seen a good number of the children of the forest; they are the first-fruits, and those who have profited most by the instruction of the missionary. Around their waist they wear brightly coloured bands, their face, breast and arms are painted with a red colouring, their shining locks hanging down from a ribbon which encircles the head, and which holds the brightest feathers of the brilliant plumage of the native birds.

They approach quite boldly and all smiles. They kiss the hand of the Bishop, so long expected, then fixing their bright eyes on him they ask "How are you, Father? For many moons and palms (months and years) we have awaited you. At last you have come. You are welcome....."

In reply the good pastor, almost weeping for joy, embraces each. Then father and sons, civilized and savages, all approach and kneel before the altar close to Him who made us all brethren.

(The end.)



St. Nicholas de los Arroyos (ARGENTINE REPUBLIC). — We recommend to the prayers of our readers the soul of the late John Byrne of Pergamino (*Argentine Republic*), who departed this life on May 6th fortified by the rites of the Holy Catholic Church. He was fervent Catholic and true Salesian co-operator.

May God grant him eternal rest.

To his bereaved wife and family we tender our sincerest sympathies.

R. I. P.

PERMISSU SUPERIORUM

Gerent, GIUSEPPE GAMBINO—Salesian Press, Turin, 1904

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.

It contains the communications of the Superior General, the successor of Don Bosco, to the Co-operators, friends and benefactors of the Salesian Institutions.

It gives a report of the progress of the works of the Society, of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, of the Salesian Co-operators; also interesting accounts from the Missions and various matters of edification and encouragement connected with the objects of the Association.

It is sent to all the Co-operators, friends and benefactors who desire to receive it.

All communications concerning change of address, or when the sending of it is to be discontinued through any cause whatsoever, should be addressed *To the Editor of the Salesian Bulletin, Salesian Oratory, Valdocco, Turin, Italy*; or, when received from other Houses, to the Superior of the House from which it is sent.

There is no fixed charge or subscription for the Magazine, but the amount which anyone may wish to devote towards defraying the expenses in connection with its production and distribution should be addressed as above.

To our friends and Co-operators, who would like to make Don Bosco's works more widely known, we strongly recommend the circulation of a pamphlet entitled: *Don Bosco's Apostolate and other Sketches*. As many copies as are requested will be forwarded in return for any offering. Apply to the *Editor of the Salesian Bulletin, Salesian Oratory, Turin, Italy*; or to the *Very Rev. C. B. Macey, Salesian Schools, Surrey Lane, Battersea, London, S. W.*

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(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 fidelium 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 30th, 1888.

ANGELO RINALDI, Chaplain, Sec.