

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

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT of the Association.

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

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

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

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

RELIGIOUS PRACTICES.

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



THE
SALESIAN
 BULLETIN

PUBLISHED AT THE "ORATORIO SALESIANO,"—VALDOCCO, TURIN, ITALY.

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

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

(St. FRANCIS de Sales.)

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

(LEO XIII.)

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TO OUR READERS

We wish to call the attention of the Readers of the *Salesian Bulletin* to the Association of Salesian Co-operators and ask them to make the same widely known amongst their friends and acquaintances.

It is a most practical, efficacious and advantageous way of carrying out the wishes and exhortations of His Holiness Leo XIII, and notably those contained in the Encyclical *Graves de communi* on Christian democracy.

This Association was, from its very beginning, warmly recommended by Pius IX who claimed to be inscribed as first Co-operator, and enriched it with the spiritual favours of the most privileged tertiaries.

His Holiness Leo XIII, on his elevation to the pontifical throne, claimed, like his Predecessor, to head the list of the Sale-

sian Co-operators. He moreover said to Don Bosco: *Each time you address the Co-operators tell them that I bless them from my heart; the scope of the Society is to prevent the loss and ruin of youth, and they must form but one heart and one soul in order to help to attain this end.*

Every good christian above sixteen years of age can become a Co-operator, enjoy the numerous spiritual favours, and share in the merit of the good works accomplished by the Salesian Congregation, the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, and the Association of Co-operators throughout the whole world.

The membership does not entail any obligation of conscience whatsoever, hence not only all members of a family, but inmates, of any institution or college, members of religious communities, confraternities etc. can join it by means of their Superiors.

Each and all may become active Co-operators by promoting with their good example and according to their means and capacity the practice of Religion and works of charity in their respective places.

Each and all may co-operate in the numerous and manifold works of charity and public beneficence carried on in other parts by the following means.

PRAYER — by praying for the object and intentions of the Association.

ALMSGIVING — by contributing according to their means to the support and development of the many institutions of the Society for the education of destitute youth; also to the support and extension of the Missions among pagans, and on behalf of the lepers.

PROPAGANDA— by making the Association of Salesian Co-operators more widely known and increasing the number of its members; by bringing the works of the Society to the knowledge of well-disposed and charitable persons, by enlisting the sympathy of them and of all who have at heart the rescuing and christian education of youth and the good of civil society.

Any person desirous of being enrolled may apply either *To the Very Rev. Michael Rua Superior General, Salesian Oratory, Valdocco, Turin (Italy)*; or *To the Very Rev. C. B. Macey, Salesian Schools, Surrey Lane, Battersea, London S. W.*; or to the Superior of any of the Salesian Houses.

THE "SALESIAN BULLETIN"

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

It is edited monthly in six languages namely: English, Italian, French, Spanish, German 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.*



Don Rua's Representative

IN AMERICA

(Extracts from his Secretary's Correspondence.)

(Continued)



AFTER the Congress Father Albera paid a visit to the Houses of Rosario and St. Nicolas de los Arroyos.

The province of Santa Fè, of which Rosario is the capital, abounds in colonies mostly of Piedmontese farmers. For years it was but a poor forlorn village, but now it is a town of considerable importance, chiefly from a commercial point of view: and this is mainly due to the rivalries that seem never to die out. In fact when Urquiza planned to isolate Buenos Ayres from the rest of the confederated provinces, he favoured and developed this town as a new commercial centre on the bank of the Parana, as being very favourable for exportation. Its name, they say, is derived from the fact that the first stone was laid on Rosary Sunday,

The town is cheerful and elegant, regularly divided by long and rather narrow streets, and very much frequented by merchants of every nation: in a word it is the second commercial centre of the federation, the emporium of the products that come from Bolivia and other northern countries to be exported to the various seaports of the old world.

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The importance of this growing town could not escape our confrères; and the necessity of providing for the christian education chiefly of the children of immigrants was imperative. For a population of about a hundred thousand, there were but two parishes. There was also a community of nuns who, although most zealous, were altogether insufficient to cope with the needs, and to counteract the effect of non-religious training. Overtures were made in 1884 but proved unsuccessful. Later on modest premises were hired and the rent for some time paid by the local government. There is now a flourishing boarding school, and attached to it also schools

for arts and trades; where tailors, shoemakers, blacksmiths, carpenters, printers, book-binders etc. are thoroughly instructed.

Those good confrères related to us some details of their hard beginnings. There was nothing—no beds, no chairs, not even the most indispensable kitchen utensils. An old black-board across two desks did duty for a table for some time. Some kind person lent them a few camp beds.

The new house was opened on the 19th of Feb., the first day of the month dedicated to St. Joseph, and their having found a picture of St. Joseph in the new house, was to them the best omen of success. In fact as soon as their utter destitution was known, charitable persons vied with one another in helping them to the best of their means. Soon they received the most indispensable articles of furniture, and some alms to buy tools for the first workshops. The schools inspector, Dr. Alcacer gave them some sixty desks and other necessaries for classes. The confrères of the nearest house, that of St. Nicolas, did their very best to aid them. The charitable country folk gave gladly of their produce, several persons promised to pay monthly contributions, and the good nuns provided an altar and sacred vestments.

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In return for such benevolence and so many tokens of christian charity the Salesians devoted themselves heart and soul to the various works of their mission — schools, catechism classes, schools of arts and trades, festive oratories and other works of the sacred ministry not only in the town and neighbourhood but in many of the colonies. For the benefit chiefly of the colonists they started the weekly paper *Cristoforo Colombo*, which to many of them, who through distance are unable to attend church, is to convey, along with the principal news and other useful information, instructions in the duties of a good

christian and these colonists fully appreciate and profit by it.

* * *

On December 8th we left Rosario, and after an hour's journey, arrived at St. Nicolas de los Arroyos where Don Rua's representative was expected for the feast. We had already spent a day at that house in company with Mgr. Cagliero, Fr. Vespignani and Fr. Tomatis. It is just now twenty five years since the Salesians went there at the invitation of Mgr. Ceccarelli, then parish priest, and of the good *Quinteros* as are called the Genoese colonists that had settled in those parts. They were now to move to a much more commodious college, and thus also put an end to a state of things which for some time had become rather unsatisfactory. The good *Quinteros* not only helped them to build the new college, but also to erect a new church, which is a veritable gem.

It was but right that, on the day of the solemn opening, the *Quinteros* should come to take part in the festivities, and see with their own eyes the fruit of their generosity: and they did so, to their evident satisfaction. They are families truly patriarchal in their spirit of faith, simplicity of life, and even in their external appearance.

The old pupils were also represented in goodly numbers. Many of them now occupy prominent positions in society, both as magistrates and in the army. What grateful memories they all cherish of their former Superiors, chiefly Fr. Fagnano, and Fr. Tomatis! At a meeting Dr. E. Garcia Reynoso, a distinguished magistrate, recalled events of old days, and feelingly added that if he in his life had nothing to reproach himself with, he owed it to his Superiors and educators who, along with science, instilled in him the holy fear of God.

* * *

The concourse of people at the various religious functions was all that could be desired, and I watched with surprise and delight the long line of vehicles which came from the country, conveying whole families, and the arrival of farmers on horseback in their gayest attire. Soon the large square in front of the church was filled with carts and *volante* (a sort of light carriage) and horses. Still they kept coming. Some had travelled leagues and leagues in order to be present at Mass. Fr. Albera was not a little delighted to hear many speaking Genoese; he seemed

to be back once more at San Pier d'Arena. A passing illusion—we are five thousand miles away.

* * *

Fr. Albera wished at any cost to pay a visit to the *Quinteros*, the first and great benefactors of Don Bosco's Institution in America. We went to their own *Quinta* (as their settlement is called); a truly earthly paradise. In the centre rises an unpretentious but commodious building, surrounded by luxuriant vineyards, orchards, and crops. "On our coming here," they said, "this country was wild pasture land, not a tree was to be seen."—They are indeed a living example of persevering and successful toil.

Fr. Albera was accorded a most hearty welcome. How many remembrances do they preserve of their dear Liguria, and of the Madonna della Guardia! Several of them had personally known Don Bosco, and it was the very first thing they spoke about. Among them Mr. John Montaldo, some of whose children are now members of the Congregation, is the happy and envied possessor of a letter that Don Bosco wrote on July 25th. 1886 to the *Quinteros*, when they had collected and sent 12,000 pesos as their contribution towards the Church of the Sacred Heart in Rome.

I took a copy of it, which runs thus.

To my dear and charitable Co-operators and to all their relatives and friends who live in the town of St. Nicolas and neighbouring villages in America.

Your religion and your charity, my good Co-operators, is well known both in America and in Europe, especially the unfailing assistance which you lend to those of my children who are there in your midst. They gladly quitted their country, in order to exercise their ministry for the glory of God, for the spiritual good of your souls and particularly of youth. All this has been warmly recommended to them before their departure by him who loved them and still loves them dearly in Our Lord Jesus Christ. I am aware that you assist them, and that what they have, they owe it all to your charity. Continue in your good work, and I will continue to pray to Our Lord for you, so that his graces may increase and prosper your affairs and your families. Your good works have been recounted to our Holy Father Leo XIII, and he was greatly consoled on hearing it.—"You," he said to me, "make known to them the special benevolence that I have for them, and tell them that I bless them from my heart, and grant them a

special indulgence, a plenary one, to be gained by all the Co-operators, and their families, applicable also to their departed relatives who may stand in need of suffrages."—

You know how these my dear Salesians do not possess earthly goods. Their patrimony is your piety and charity. Mgr. Aneyros, your venerated Archbishop, Mgr. Ceccarelli parish priest at St. Nicolas are those who induced us to come in your midst, and our confidence rests entirely on them and on you. If God gives me life I hope to write to you another letter, but that is uncertain because I have grown very old, I write with difficulty, and it would be more difficult for you to understand it. I place however great trust in your prayers, and in the good news that I hope to receive from you whom I love in Jesus Christ, and whom I remember every day in a special manner at Our Lord's altar.

May God bless you, and the Holy Virgin Help of Christians guide you all safely on the path to heaven.

Turin, July 25th 1886.

Your affectionate friend
Sac. GIO. BOSCO.

* *

We should have liked very much to prolong our stay at St. Nicolas, but Fr. Albera was expected at the opening of the new house at Palermo in the neighbourhood of Buenos Aires.

His Lordship the Archbishop, Mgr. Espinosa, came himself for the blessing. On alighting from his carriage he handed a parcel to Fr. Albera saying; "Take this, I wish Our Lady to take possession of this house from the very beginning." It was Our Lady of Lujan which along with a statue of St. Joseph was placed side by side with the statue of the Sacred Heart to which this house is dedicated as a memorial of the general consecration of our Society to the same loving Heart.

I was sent to the new house early in the morning, and found there next to nothing, not even a decent chair for the Archbishop. At nine o'clock when his Lordship arrived to bless the altar, the chapel presented quite another aspect. I cannot find words to praise the zeal of the good ladies of Buenos Aires. Nearly every member of the committee was there present: one brought the altar linen, another sacred vestments, others flowers, candlesticks etc. They themselves got everything ready and put all in order in good

time. Madame E. Allais de Vivot president of the committee, moreover, announced that the two thousand pesos still required to make up the twenty five thousand needed to pay off the debt on the house had been found. They themselves had applied to the President of the Republic, who generously made up the sum.—All this is the first fruit of the Congress of the Co-operators.

As I write two Jesuit Fathers are giving a mission in the new chapel. Although it is holiday time some 150 boys, and 120 girls frequent their respective classes of religious instruction.



As we go to press we learn with the deepest regret of the death of Mgr. Doutreloux, Bishop of Liege and one of our most zealous Co-operators. In our next issue we shall give a short account of his life. We ask the prayers of our Co-operators for the happy repose of his soul.

We recommend also the following deceased to the charitable prayers of our Co-operators:—

The Very Rev. Archdeacon Coghlan, P. P. Blackrock, Cork (Ireland).

The Very Rev. P. Starkey, P. P., V. F., Cus-hendall (Ireland).

We have received from the *Art and Book Company* an interesting sketch of the life of Blessed Sebastian Newdigate by Dom Bede Camm, O. S. B. It is a very interesting little volume and we wish it a wide circulation.





EQUADOR.

Return from Exile.

(Continued)

An alarming rumour — Letters and telegrams — A resolution — Departure from Riobamba — Journey to Quito.

On a Sunday, 8 days after my arrival at Riobamba, certain persons came to warn my host Mr. Ricciuli that a rumour was afloat in the city to the effect that a priest in disguise, recently arrived from Chiii as a spy, was in hiding in his house. If this news were true, the affair was becoming serious. In such cases the authorities, on slight pretexts, without troubling to investigate the matter, throw the accused into chains and after afflicting him in every possible manner send him into exile or inflict other punishments. I at once sent for advice to the Director who was of opinion that I should hide myself elsewhere in order to elude pursuit. Such a determination appeared to me altogether unsuitable, for who can not see that by hiding in another house I should have given weight to the rumours. I determined instead to take up my residence in our House, in spite of opposition, and at 8.30 p.m. I presented myself there to stay. The Director, although greatly alarmed gave permission to do so, after deciding to interview the Governor of Riobamba next day, telling him everything in confidence and asking his opinion on the matter.

The following day I had to remain hidden in the pantry of the house until the Director had spoken to the Governor. Although this latter was sick and could not receive him, nevertheless he sent word, through his wife,

that there was not such great danger as he imagined on my arrival at Riobamba. On hearing this in the pantry, I took off my secular clothes and put on those of a priest. But I had to borrow everything from the confrères of that house because I had not brought any clericals with me. In my new attire I showed myself to the boys of the House as one newly arrived from Cuenca and as such they welcomed me. I then proceeded at once to celebrate Mass in our little chapel.

My greatest desire was to go to Quito as soon as possible; for this purpose there passed between Pankieri and myself letters and telegrams which, whether from the distance or from the defective service, or from the assumed name to which I was bound to adhere, rather made matters worse and increased my trouble and anxiety. I wished to know at least whether my journey to Quito was possible, although it should not be made at once, but I could not even deduce this much from the telegrams which came in reply to mine. Naturally at Riobamba although the Superiors and confrères overwhelmed me with their kind attentions I could not remain at ease, because not belonging permanently to that house I was given no office to fulfil but had to content myself with helping the confrères as well as I was able; I was therefore firmly resolved to undertake the journey to Italy if I could not go to Quito. In the midst of these doubts I resolved to take a decisive step. I wrote a letter to Mr. Emmanuel Fison Larrea, an excellent Co-operator of ours at Quito in whose house Pankieri was staying, and confided to him my plan of going there, begging him to tell me at the same time whether it was advisable or not. You may imagine the comfort I felt when I received in reply, a letter from the above-named gentleman, worded in the most kind manner, full of affection, telling me that not only there was no peril in my going to Quito but that it would be most opportune, offering me at the same time the hospitality of his house. Our Director at Riobamba received at the same

time through safe hands a letter from Panieri confirming all that Mr. Larrea had written.

On hearing these good tidings I decided to go to Quito, in spite of the opposition I still had to meet with on the part of the Director. If I had not promised to preach during the novena of the Immaculate Conception to the boys of the House, I should not perhaps have delayed a single day; but to assist my Confreres on such a solemn feastday, I delayed my journey till Dec. 11th on which date we should have been a month in the capital of the province of Chimborazo. To this determination the difficulty of obtaining a pass-port presented itself. But for Our Lord there are no obstacles. As a matter of fact on the 4th December I sent my companion to the Governor's residence to get the required document with my name, surname and quality, who easily obtained it. With the certainty that there was no difficulty in the way of our journey to the capital, we began to get everything ready, securing by telegram a place in the stage-coach which goes from Ambato to Quito. The longed-for day the 11th of December arrived at last. Having said Mass and our customary prayers in the Chapel of the hospital, at 7.30 a.m. we bade adieu to our confreres, and having recommended ourselves to God and to Mary Help of Christians, we recommenced our journey in company with the Rev. Mother Superior of the Hospital and a novice, who were also on their way to Quito. We dined at Mocha and arrived at Ambato at about 5.30 p.m. We were the guests of the Dominican Fathers, who treated us with all possible affection, embarrassing us almost by their kindness. We wish through the columns of this paper to render our sincerest thanks to those devoted sons of St. Dominic, and to the most worthy Prior, the Very Rev. Father Antony Galindo.

On the 12th we took our places on the stage-coach which goes to Quito. Our Lord, whilst protecting us in a most visible manner, seemed on the other hand to be pleased to see us fighting with difficulties of every kind. I was greatly alarmed when on taking my place in the stage-coach I found out that we were surrounded by the staunchest supporters of the Radical party, the relatives and friends of those actually in power, who at once showed their disgust on finding themselves in company with a priest. I for my part was rather afraid that they should know I was a Salesian. That this was the case we

ascertained when, on the following day, having met President Alfaro at a place called Tiopullo, he inquired who I was, and they told him that I was a Salesian priest, and introduced me to him as such.

At Latacunga we received hospitality in a Convent of Dominican Fathers, where we were able to say Mass early and avoid the company of those travellers. And here I cannot pass over in silence an incident of a serio-comic character which befell us in the same convent.

Having been very well received there, and beds having been prepared for us in the parlour, we decided that on the following day we should get up very early to say Mass before resuming our journey. Fearing that the hour would pass and that the stage-coach would leave us at Latacunga, I could not sleep in peace and at 3.30 a. m. we got up. But in the convent not the slightest sound was heard, and there was no sign of the Brother whom we needed in order to get into the church. Time was meanwhile getting shorter; it was 4 o'clock and my anxiety increased. I at length decided to try and find the sacristy without waiting for the Brother. We were going out of the parlour door when suddenly a huge black dog rushed upon us, which from its very colour we could scarcely distinguish amid the darkness of the cloister. Much frightened we at once cried out. But even this was providential for the good religious had forgotten the Mass and was sleeping quietly until awakened by the barking of the dog and our not less noisy cries. Perhaps without this incident we should not have been able to perform our devotions, whilst I was thus able to celebrate Holy Mass. We partook of some refreshment and, in due time, took our places in the stage-coach.

It was the 13th of December, the day appointed by the decrees of God for my return to Quito after the hardships of exile. As I went forward, my heart beat fast, whilst at the same time both pleasant and sad remembrances occupied my mind. I imagined I saw the *Protectorado*, our Co-operators, our acquaintances and above all our former pupils. We dined at a place called Machachi and at once continued our journey. Towards 4.30 p.m. our stage-coach was already on the slope called Guamani from which might be distinguished the picturesque hill of Panecillo, the sentinel of Quito.

(To be continued.)

PATAGONIA.

In the valley of Neuquen.

Bahia Blanca, 3 June 1900.

VERY REV. DON RUA,



WHETHER travelling through the parched deserts, or among the fertile plains strewn with flowers, whether in the immense valleys of majestic rivers, and among the pleasant hills of these far away Patagonian lands, I always remember you who have been to me a most loving father and I never fail to remember you in my prayers. And now that Providence has willed that I should accompany Mgr. Cagliari on one of his missionary excursions, I have great pleasure in giving some news on the subject.

In good health.—At Pringles.—A night in a shop.—At Conesa.—Fest and Mission.

I must tell you first of all that his lordship enjoys excellent health; he is always cheerful and content and as an experienced captain he overcomes every difficulty, and wards off every danger from us.

At the beginning of last May he visited the Salesian Missions of Pringles and Conesa, settlements situated on either side of the Rio Negro. In the evening of the 30th. of April he left Viedma and crossing to the other side of the river, spent the night in our House of Carmen di Patagones. Our good lay-brother Bacis had also made the horses swim across, and had brought our cart over on a boat in order to take the North road since the South is impracticable owing to former inundations. On the following morning Mgr. Cagliari having said Mass, set out for Pringles, a distance of 100 kilometers. He stayed there three days preaching morning and evening. Our confrères prepared the boys, and the Nuns of Mary Help of Christians the girls, for Confirmation. It was very consoling to see how many approached the Sacraments. They have now reorganised the Confraternity of St. Aloysius for boys, the Children of Mary for the girls, and that of the Sacred Heart of Jesus for christian mothers. The local authorities visited Mgr. Cagliari and a guard of honour placed at his disposal by the governor escorted him wherever he went

But he was anxiously awaited at Conesa, about 20 leagues further on: he arrived there about midday on the 4th May, after having slept on the banks of the river in a kind of barn, among sacks of flower, brooms, barrels, and such like. The authorities of the place were awaiting us on the other side of the river. The streets were adorned with banners, salutes were fired, the bells rang out as on feast days, and the people assembled in the church from which the procession set forth in beautiful order. First came the Sisters with bands of girls and Children of Mary, then followed the Confraternity of the



Mgr. Cagliari, First Salesian Bishop.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, the altar boys and the canopy, carried by the authorities and the principal men of the country. It was a very imposing sight, especially when the beloved Pastor alighted from his poor cart and was surrounded by his children. The church was decorated as on the greatest solemnities, and the altar was tastefully adorned with flowers and candles. His Lordship saluted and thanked the authorities and the good people, and although tired from his long and troublesome journey he wished nevertheless to give Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. On leaving the church, the people with indescribable joy accompanied him to the missionary residence where he took some re

freshments, which he shared with the boys.

What shall I say of the great good done by His Lordship at Conesa? On the 3rd Sunday after Easter, the feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph, he had the consolation of administering Holy Communion to the numerous faithful and to the boys and girls of the Parish, not a few of whom were then receiving Our Lord for the first time. The evening was set aside for administering Confirmation and preaching, the sacred functions being brought to a close by benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

On Monday from the earliest hours of the morning the Confessional was, so to speak, besieged by the children of Mary who also wished to receive Communion from the hands of their Bishop. Later on in the day he again administered Confirmation. Poor Monsignor, how much he has to work!... They do not allow him a moment's repose. On the same day he also assisted at a well arranged academy. The children of Mary took the chief part in it, and in verse, in prose, and in music, honoured him who visited them in the Name of the Lord.

On the next day his work doubled... All the mothers, following the example of their daughters, went to Confession and approached the Holy Table. I thought that in the evening His Lordship would have been able to rest a little, but it was not so. People arrived as if by magic from the country to get their children confirmed. They were all solemnly confirmed, and afterwards his lordship gave a conference to the confraternity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; it is to be hoped it will make great progress in promoting the greater glory of God and the good of souls. It is only proper to add that such an abundant harvest among the girls and their mothers, is due to the zeal of the Sisters of Mary Help of Christians.

At our friend's estancia.—Incidents of the journey.—Overtaken by night.—Negro muerto.—How we got our supper.—A long night.

The day of our departure had arrived, and on the 9th of May, after having said Mass and distributed souvenirs to the people, His Lordship left Conesa en route for Choel-Choel the temporary capital of the Rio Negro Territory and about 40 leagues distant. I felt much afflicted on leaving Conesa, the centre of my labours and of my affections, but I resigned myself and said my *fiat*. Having

re-crossed the river we found our confrère Bacis with horses and cart ready to take us along the first six leagues, to the family of a kind benefactor of the Mission. Thanks to the prudence and experience of Mgr. Cagliero we were able by night-fall, to reach the house of Mr. V. Larregui a good Co-operator, who owns some 50 square kilometers of pasture land, and his entire stock of sheep, cattle and horses is little inferior to that of the ancient patriarchs Esau and Jacob.

Next morning having said Mass, thanked our host and blessed him and his family, we again set out. A guide on horse-back showed us the new way, the old one having been destroyed by the floods. That day we arrived at the foot of the *traversia* (an elevated and level desert without vegetation or water) called *Negro Muerto*, since at that spot a negro had been found dead. Here our confrère Bacis, who for many years has been the clever conductor of our missionary expeditions through the Patagonian deserts, told his lordship that we should have to pass the night in a house which he had providentially discovered. The horses were at once pulled up, we got down from the cart and our good confrère approached the humble dwelling. A curious dialogue ensued between him and the owner.

— Good evening, my friend, here we are, almost dead tired, after travelling since early this morning. The bishop of Patagonia is here and has great need of refreshment and repose.

— I am sorry to tell you, replied the owner, that though this is a store-house, and is generally well supplied, at the present moment I have absolutely nothing.

— Surely you have at least a little tea?

— No, sir.

— A little coffee then?

— Much less.

— You have really nothing then.

— I have nothing here, neither tea, nor coffee, nor sugar, not even a piece of bread.

— And have you not at least some hay or corn for our horses? They have hardly eaten anything for the last two days, and in this state they will be unable to stand the fatigue of the journey.

— I have already told you that I have nothing.

— Excuse me sir, you must at least have a room for us to sleep in?

— Truly, every sort of convenience is wanting, but we shall try to accommodate you some how or other.

He then led us to the only available place and this was the kitchen; it was made of the trunks and branches of trees covered over with mud. At that moment His Lordship arrived on the scene and with his customary good humour won the man's heart and said to him:

— Have you not got a piece of meat to roast on the fire?

— Yes sir, and some potatoes, and a piece of vegetable marrow into the bargain.

— Oh very good, my friend, get all these things cooked and we shall be most grateful to you.

No sooner said than done; the supper was very quickly prepared, and in so critical a circumstance it appeared to us most savoury. Meanwhile a pedlar had come to swell our number, and regaled us each with a piece of dry bread and a glass of red stuff which he persisted in calling wine. Then having said evening prayers, we thought of settling down for the night, the more so as black clouds obscured the sky and from the heavy atmosphere we expected a storm. In the midst of cooking utensils, wood, old boxes and pans we prepared, as best we could, a miserable bed for the Bishop. Soon the storm began and the rain threatened to come through the roof of our habitation. The owner, greatly troubled on account of our sorry plight warned us that in his hut we should get rain just as though we were outside, and as the roof was made of mud we should be soaked from head to foot. His Lordship, little caring for his person, thought only of protecting his baggage. He asked for a large box and deposited his clothes in it, covering it over with a water proof cloth, which was generally used as a table cloth: we expected every moment to be wet through like young chickens. Heaven however had compassion on us, and the storm took another direction, thus preserving us from a forced and dangerous bath. That dark night seemed to us like an eternity and as soon as dawn appeared we took some *mate* (Paraguayan tea) and then *in nomine Domini* we again set out on our journey. Divine Providence had also found the necessary food for the horses, on the strength of which they got over the

journey of a hundred kilometers and upwards which lay between us and Choele-Choel.

Across the *traversia*.—An enchanting view.—A very bad road.—The *fogata* of the Indians.—On the brink of a precipice.—Saved by miracle.

Our journey across the *traversia* was a most romantic one. From the summit of its immense plateau (60 square kilometres in extent) a magnificent and picturesque panorama of



Fr. Giaccardi with two young Jivaros.

the valley of Rio Negro lay before us, as well as far stretching meadows and here and there most fertile spots green with pasturage and plants of every description. By 1 p.m. we had crossed the arid plateau, and we stopped to take some repose.

But trying events were awaiting us. At 2 p.m. we again set out and our way greatly resembled that of Calvary. The storm of the previous night had burst forth at this spot and the roads were like canals. The legs of the horses and the wheels of the cart sank deep into the mud. We kept advancing but with great difficulty, and the horses tired

out, at last refused to obey: they stopped every moment and we had to use the whip. But what was to be done? To sleep in the midst of the water was a most dangerous thing to do, the more so, as the sky was obscured by dark clouds and the heaviness of the atmosphere seemed to announce more rain. On the other hand, we were only three or four leagues from Choel-Choel, where we might have taken some rest before continuing our journey to Roca, Bahia-Blanca and the Central Pampas.

But alas! the shades of night were falling fast and the prospect of arriving at our destination became less and less. The road was becoming worse and worse. It was a series of ponds, canals, mud, and sand, and on every side thorny jungles barred our way. It was indeed a wild and rough place....

After going through a great deal of trouble we saw a blaze in the distance and we rejoiced at the thought of being near Choel-Choel; but we were mistaken. It was not the light from a dwelling but a fire kindled by wandering Indians come from the Cordilleras, they had lighted it in order to warm themselves and dry their clothes. We approached them. Poor people! Seated on the damp ground, stiff with the cold and drenched like chickens, they were roasting a piece of meat by the fire to appease their ravenous hunger. His Lordship greeted them cordially and asked them if the road was good and if it was very far to Choel-Choel. They answered: *Camino no bueno..... Choel-Choel legua y más..... paso malo* which means: The road is bad, it is more than a league to Choel-Choel; you will come across a dangerous pass on your way. Seeing that things were going from bad to worse, His Lordship made me begin the Rosary. Soon after, the horses came to another stand-still, and refused to stir another step, and although the impatient driver whipped them right and left it was all of no avail. We got down and tried to move or extricate the wheels which had sunk into the mud; all our efforts were useless. Indeed it required nothing short of a special help from Heaven. We again got up into the cart and with lively faith recited a Pater, Ave, and Gloria to St. Anthony of Padua. They were hardly recited when the horses began to move and continue their journey.

Great was our satisfaction, but His Lordship, having a presentiment of some further mishap, said to me: "Let us recite a *De Profundis* for the Holy Souls in Purgatory

that they may deliver us from all danger." Night was becoming darker every moment and the powers of hell seemed to be wreaking their vengeance on us for the souls that would be saved in this mission. But the sons of Don Bosco, putting their trust in Her who is the most tender Mother and powerful Help of Christians, followed in safety that road so full of danger. At one time the moon suddenly sent forth a ray of light, and at a few yards distance (it appears to me still like a dream,) we saw in the middle of the road a large black spot; it was nothing less than a deep and dreadful precipice formed by the rain of the previous night. At this sight I felt my blood freeze in my veins and I uttered a cry of alarm. His Lordship got up at once and saw the danger. The driver who was unaware of the pending catastrophe whipped the horses and wanted to go forward. "Stay, for God's sake," exclaimed His Lordship, "I am going no further. It would be culpable temerity to do so. Stay, I must get down." Three steps more and we should have been hurled into that deep abyss and been buried in the water and the mud. To get across was out of the question. We looked about the wood for another path and found one a long distance away, but it seemed to lose itself in the wood. What was to be done? His Lordship had the horses unharnessed and made to pass one by one along the narrow part of the road which still remained good. We were quite surrounded; on our left there was the precipice and on our right the high and thorny jungle. The great difficulty was to get the cart across, but the Bishop did not lose courage on this account. With Baccis in front and His Lordship and myself behind we were able to lift it. But as I was tired out I was unable to give much help and His Lordship had to make an extraordinary effort, which greatly exhausted him.

And now, dear Father, you can form an idea of how much our beloved Mgr. Cagliero has to undergo in these regions! May heaven bless his labours and not allow evil-minded men to destroy this newly formed christianity.

(To be continued)



Salesian



FOR some time past the Italian, French, and Spanish Bulletins, chiefly, had to add to their columns in order to chronicle the news of particular interest to their readers. This is due to the constant increasing of foundations, and to the vigorous development of the existing ones. This fact bears witness to the active, energetic zeal of those Co-operators, who in all instances take the initiative of the works, and become their mainstay and promoters. All good work, no matter where or by whom accomplished, must prove a source of consolation to any one who has a spark of zeal for God's glory and the good of souls, and it should be hailed by him with joy. It must therefore be particularly gratifying and encouraging to all Co-operators to see that in the midst of so much evil, so much good is being done in many places, and that Almighty God deigns to bless their united efforts in so visible a manner.



It was twenty-five years in May last since the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians opened their first house in Turin—a festive oratory hard by the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales. Since then how many hundreds, nay thousands, of girls of that poor quarter, and from the neighbouring factories have found there their haven of salvation!

This event was duly celebrated, and it was preceded by a triduum largely and devoutly attended. The Very Rev. Don Rua, who twenty five years before had been charged by Don Bosco to call at Mornese to escort the sisters destined for the new foundation, now graced the feast with his presence. A swarm of girls filled the place, and many of them were accompanied by their mothers who had themselves formerly attended the oratory. After the thanksgiving service a commemorative

entertainment was given. One item of it, not included in the programme, deserves mention. A former pupil, now the mother of a family, asked to address a few words. In felicitous terms dictated by love and gratitude, she expressed how much she owed to that place, how the souvenirs of the festive oratory had proved her protection in the trying circumstances of her life. She had never parted with the badge of the confraternity received there and with it, she said, she hoped to live and die.

The fruits of God's blessing on their labours will no doubt prove an additional encouragement to the nuns, and to the kind persons who have assisted them in their undertakings.



THE *Nouvelliste de Verviers* of June 3rd. gives an account of the feast of Mary Help of Christians kept there for the first time, since it is just a year that the Salesians have undertaken the direction of the *Société des Jeunes ouvriers*. The religious functions were solemn and devout. The Very Rev. Fr. Hahn S. J. preached the sermon of the occasion, illustrating admirably how the hand of Providence, and the protection of Our Lady are manifest in the works of Don Bosco whose object is to form practical christians, skilful artisans, and good citizens.

At 11.30 a. m. a general assembly was held of friends and benefactors of the institution. M. Alfred Simonis first vice-president of the Senate presided. There were present Fr. Scaloni, Superior of the Institute of Liege, Fr. Tomasetti, Superior of the Novitiate House at Hechtel, Mr. Pierre Limbourg president of the Society *des Jeunes Ouvriers*, Mr. Armand Simonis, Mr. Borboux, member of the House of Representatives etc. Mr. Limbourg

showed the important results achieved in one year, due, he said, to the great love the sons of Don Bosco have for youth, chiefly for the working classes. That is their talisman. The inhabitants of Verviers reciprocate the affection and sympathy that is shown towards them. He showed moreover how all the works of the *Société des Jeunes Ouvriers* derived new life from, were strengthened and developed by the action of the Salesians, and in this fact he saw a pledge for a brilliant future. He pointed out the importance of a thorough moral and christian formation, and of intellectual and professional instruction. He denounced tobacco and alcohol as two enemies to the working lad. He wound up by exhorting those present to remain faithful to their religion—to faith that is to save them, to hope that is to sustain them, and to the love of God which is to be their consolation during this earthly life so often tried by sorrow.

Fr. Cosson, Director of the Institute responded, ascribing the progress that had been made to the protection of Mary Help of Christians, and Don Bosco, and dilated on the nature of the *Patronage* according to Don Bosco's idea, which is not only a work of preservation, but of positive christian education.



"THE friends of the Salesians," says the *Lectura Dominical* of Madrid, "will learn with pleasure that the Institute of Don Bosco in this town has now moved to better adapted and permanent premises; and it will therefore now extend its influence on the education of poor children. Our readers know them well, since more than once we have spoken of their work in this *Seccion obrera*. We deem it unnecessary to dwell on the importance of this admirable institution, and how it behoves all the good catholics of Madrid to come to its assistance so that the little tree that is planted to-day may take root, grow and bear abundant fruit."



A new church attached to the Institute of the nuns of Mary Help of Christians was opened at Ali Marina in Sicily in May last. This new church is due to the munificence of the Marchioness di Cassibile who thus fulfilled a vow of hers to Our Lady, and gave another splendid proof of her benevolence towards Don Bosco's Institution. It was blessed by the Very Rev. J. Marengo, D. D. Procurator of the Salesian Congregation who

had been specially delegated for this purpose and he afterwards also offered Holy Mass for the first time there. A musical and literary *séance* was given by the pupils of the nuns on the afternoon of the opening day, at which all the civil authorities of the place assisted. His Lordship the Archbishop of Messina, unable to be present, expressed by telegram his regret and warmest congratulations. A similar message was received from the Successor of Don Bosco. The Very Rev. F. Fisichella professor of the Royal University of Messina, opened the entertainment with an address on Don Bosco's mission in behalf of youth.

The festivities lasted from the 15th to the 24th of the month, and the faithful attended in large numbers from the neighbouring places. His Lordship the Archbishop came on the closing day to enhance the splendour of the sacred functions; and in his sermon to the people showed his great love and devotion to Our Lady and the kindly interest he takes in the works of Don Bosco.

The children and the community assembling day after day in that church will not fail to raise to God most fervent prayers for the munificent marchioness and all their benefactors.



AT Alvito in the Apennines the Municipal College has been confided to the Salesians. Alvito, formerly a ducal city, is a pretty little town situated about 100 metres above the level of the sea. It commands a view of the valley of Comin which is surrounded on all sides by the Apennines some of whose summits are 2,200 metres high.

A beautiful Church is attached to the College and near it a well which tradition attributes to St. Francis of Assisi.



From *The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard* of July 12th we take the following:—On Friday, July 5th, the Church of St. Joseph's received a pastoral visit from the Right Rev Dr. Bourne, Bishop of Southwark. Great preparations had been made to mark the occasion of his Lordship's visit to Burwash, and the results were highly satisfactory; indeed, the little church has never seen a grander or more impressive service. His Lordship arrived at the Presbytery the preceding evening, and was met by the entire community of St. Joseph's with great enthusiasm and rejoicings, and during the rem-

ainder of his visit was their guest till Saturday, when he left for Battle. This prolonged stay was more than a recompense for the flying visit Dr. Bourne paid this parish three years ago, when, to the disappointment of all, he was obliged to leave after a few hours. On Friday morning the Bishop celebrated Mass at which he gave Communion to several of the Congregation. The great service of the day, however, commenced at 10.30 and as the Rector (Rev. E. Tozzi) met the Bishop at the church door, the organ's full tones rolled out the prelude to the majestic *Sacerdos et Pontifex*, which was finely rendered by the choir. Solemn High Mass followed. At the Gospel a panegyric was delivered by his Lordship on the Saint of the day. He applied to the great servant of God the words of Paul, "I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept my faith." And then in plain and practical language applied it also to each man's duties in life. As usual, the Bishop's blessing was given to all the faithful present. Immediately after Mass the Bishop administered confirmation to those who were to receive it. The blessing of the dead followed, and a procession was formed to the pretty little Cemetery for that purpose. It would be unjust to pass by without a tribute of praise to the excellent choir. Those in charge of the church, novitiate and parish of St. Joseph's had added to the choir by securing the services of a number of their best singers from the Battersea College for the occasion and their efforts were a great success.

To this we may add that the many encouraging words and kindly deeds of His Lordship on that occasion, will long remain amongst the most cherished memories of the Salesians of Burwash.



It was announced in a previous number that the 14th of June had been fixed as the date of the laying of the foundation stone of the new church at Bologna, which was the monument agreed upon as a solemn homage to Our Blessed Redeemer at the beginning of the 20th century. The function was in every way a splendid success.

On one side of the ground which forms the site of the new church, a portable altar had been placed, on which were candles, a crucifix, and a statue of the Sacred Heart. On the other side a large tent covered the place to be occupied by those who had been specially invited.

The concourse of people was immense. Among them were the whole committee formed for the promotion of the work, the aristocracy of the town, and representatives of all the Catholic Associations in Bologna.

The ceremony commenced at 10 o'clock. His Eminence Card. Svampa officiated, and their Lordships Mgr. Zoccoli, Bishop of Sebaste, Mgr. Foschi, Bishop of Cervia, with the Very Rev. Don Rua, successor of Don Bosco also assisted.

A document commemorative of the ceremony, with coins and medals was placed in a cavity at the base of a column.

At the close of the ceremony the *Veni Creator Spiritus* was intoned and then continued by all the faithful. After which His Eminence gave the following address:—



WHENEVER anyone enters upon a difficult and arduous undertaking his heart wavers between hope and fear: hope, arising from the conviction and earnest desire of a successful issue; fear, springing from the thought of the difficulties in the way, and as to how to surmount them.—Gentlemen and dearest children, you will perhaps ask me if these are my dispositions on this solemn occasion, when I have blessed and laid the foundation stone of the new temple which shall arise here in honour of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. And I have the consolation of being able to reply that I have no such anxious agitation of mind, nor the restless strain of uncertainty; every sense of fear is absent. But instead there reigns in my soul a confidence, lively, serene, and I was going to say certain, that the grand work to which I have to-day put my hand will be happily terminated.



It is now a long time that I have entertained the idea of erecting a votive church in honour of the Sacred Heart, which would form a little Montmartre for my diocese. This thought took a much stronger hold of my mind when the idea of a universal homage to Our Blessed Redeemer first broke forth. What more fitting homage, I said to myself, could my diocese render to the Son of God, the King of all ages, than to dedicate to his Sacred Heart a new church as a lasting monument of reparation, of gratitude, of veneration and worship. Hence this idea took firmer possession of my mind, becoming more and more persistent. I have no doubt whatever that it was God himself who gave

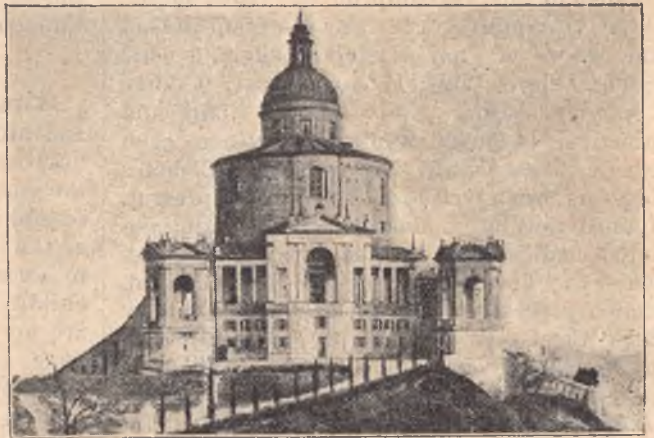
me the idea, and now that I am about to realise it, the persuasion of being the instrument and minister of the Divine Will fills me with courage, frees me from every anxiety, and fills my heart with the strongest and sweetest confidence. The Heart of Jesus which has in Bologna so many sincerely devout clients—the Heart of Jesus in whose honour so many associations have been formed—the Heart of Jesus which in the past century has diffused the luminous rays of its ineffable light from this city all over Italy—this Heart wishes also to be solemnly glorified amongst us. Just as in Paris, in London, in Lisbon, in New York, in Pernambuco, in Montevideo, in La Plata, in Tierra del Fuego, and in Rome, so it demands from us a temple as the expression of his charity towards all the Bolognese people, and which may form the centre in this diocese which will attract to Him, the affections, the prayers, the aspirations of all. This is my firm conviction, my dearest children, a conviction which I see reflected in each one of you who have come here in such numbers, not so much to animate me by your presence, as to join with your pastor in presenting today to the Sacred Heart of Jesus the homage of your piety, and the promise of co-operation with me in this holy enterprise.

Yes, you, gentlemen and dearest children, you will eagerly join your efforts and sacrifices with mine,—you, who never failed in assisting me in the works of the pastoral ministry, you will be my support; and by your assistance you will have the privilege of sanctifying the dawn of the 20th century consecrating it to the honour and glory of God made man.



While the fatal heritage of the century gone by agitates civil society, and the struggle between the different classes becomes everywhere more threatening and terrible, is it not proper to have recourse to that heart which alone is able to give us peace, to that heart which embraces all in the sweet union of the bond of brotherhood, and makes us all participators in the benefits of the Redemption? Well then my beloved children, against the furious passions which assail us, against the base selfishness which everywhere strives to prevail, against the eager thirst

for gain and pleasure which so far removes us from the path of justice and honour, let us unanimously oppose the Sacred Heart of Jesus;—that Heart so kind, so meek, so humble merciful and divine, and in the burning flames of that Heart let us seek to strengthen our spirit and to renew in our midst a sincerely christian life. This is the real meaning of the erection of this new church. The material edifice symbolises and promotes the spiritual edifice formed by the hearts which are cemented in charity on the one foundation out of which there is no salvation, Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Clergy and the people, the noble and the rich, the man of commerce, of



Church of the Holy Virgin of St. Luke.—Bologna.

industry, and of labour, the devout ladies, the pious women, even the children themselves let all rival each other in carrying their stone towards the completion of this sacred edifice.



The site that I have chosen for the erection of the new temple is such as demands our special care. In this district a great number of people are gathered together who have need, and a great desire of spiritual assistance. They live in the midst of the ceaseless movement of machines, and the active labour of workshops, whence modern society has received new life and various developments. Here we have a new Bologna, which in its numerous ingenious mechanical inventions, in the ready application of steam and electricity, wishes to continue the glorious traditions of the Alma Mater of studies, who was once

the mistress of science throughout Italy and the world.

Is it not just that above these crowds of people of the working classes, always on the increase, and exposed to so many dangers, and that above all this ceaseless movement of working life there should reign the spirit of Jesus Christ? Is it not just that here, in the midst of the grand buildings that we admire all round us, should tower majestically the House of God? That here should arise splendid and attractive the temple of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Our Redeemer?—That temple in the mysterious language of architectural art, when understood in the Christian sense will repeat the words of life which flow from the Heart of Christ: "Come to me all you that labour and are heavily burdened, and I will refresh you."



The Court of the great king of all ages is here already beside the palace which is going to be constructed in his honour: it is composed of the flourishing family of the children of the people who are here educated in virtue, in knowledge, and labour under the vigilant and loving care of the followers of the immortal Don Bosco. These dear children will incessantly offer to the Sacred Heart the grateful tribute of their simple affections, and, emulating the angels of heaven, they will offer up the sweet incense of sincere piety. The Sacred Heart will be delighted with their faith and innocence, and will ripen within them the germs of a new generation.

The Salesian Institute and the Church of the Sacred Heart realise in my opinion a great stride in the good path. They are, as it were, the sign of a new alliance between heaven and earth in the Diocese of Bologna. We consecrate to Jesus Christ our dearest first-fruits, namely, our children; and Our Lord offers to us in his Sacred Heart the surest pledge of his love.



Oh may that day speedily come when the walls will arise on high, the columns tower upwards, with the arches spanning between them, when the noble cupola will be raised towards heaven, according to the designs of the able christian architect prof. Collamarini, and which will crown the sacred edifice, the foundation stone of which we have to-day buried in the soil with holy benediction. May that day come when a concourse of

devout people will be here present as to-day, to thank God for bringing the work to a happy conclusion, and to raise to the Sacred Heart of Jesus the hymn of jubilation. I look forward to that day with pleasure. I contemplate it as a heavenly vision. I hope to see it, I hope that it will not be too far off. The holy Virgin of St. Luke, who smiles upon us from her sanctuary of *Monte della Guardia*, assures me of it, and blesses our work which is directed towards the glory of her Divine Son. From the Vatican our Supreme Pontiff, who is here in spirit amongst us, also assures me of it. It is only a few days ago that he sent me for the new church the generous offering of five thousand francs, and he accompanied his gift with a letter wherein he shows us the charity of the Supreme Father and Shepherd, who has recently consecrated the whole catholic world to the Sacred Heart. The reading of the document of the Holy Father is better than any discourse to animate us all with confidence, and to inflame us with active zeal for the completion of the work commenced.



After the brief received from the Holy Father was read out, Mgr. Carpanelli thanked his Eminence in the name of the Diocese, and also in the name of the Sons of Don Bosco who owe so much to his benevolence. The Cardinal then said Mass, during which selections of sacred music were rendered by the choir of the Salesian Institute.

A suitable close of the ceremony was the sending of a telegram to His Holiness expressing the filial homage of the whole assembly.

The Salesians at London most earnestly beg their kind Co-operators to help them to enlarge their present Institution. This enlargement is to accommodate over 100 boys and has become an imperative necessity, as day after day numerous applications for admission have to be refused through want of room.

Prayers are said twice every day for the intentions of all benefactors, and Holy Mass is offered up for them every Friday throughout the year.

*Offerings may be sent to the Superior:—*Very Rev. C. B. MACEY, 64 Orbel St., Battersea, London S. W.



GRACES AND FAVOURS OBTAINED

through the intercession of

MARY HELP of CHRISTIANS

Toulouse (France).—I wrote to you some time ago to ask you for a novena of prayers to Our Lady Help of Christians. She has graciously interceded for us. We had asked through her intercession the cure of a little niece of ours. Since then the child has enjoyed excellent health. I thank you for your good prayers and those you had said for my intention. I would ask you now to commence another novena for a person very dear to me. Not only do I ask you for a novena but I should like you to have prayers offered during the whole month of Mary. I enclose an offering in gratitude for the grace received.

May 1st. 1901.

L. de TH.

Marseilles (France).—I sent you some time ago my little offering to obtain a grace through the intercession of Mary Help of Christians. I wish to ask you now to allow me to express in the *Salesian Bulletin* how grateful I feel towards this good mother who has obtained the favour desired, and to ask you to have prayers offered in thanksgiving. Love and gratitude to Mary Help of Christians, protectress of Don Bosco and of his works, whose goodness I have so many times experienced.

June, 6th. 1901.

TH. A.

Trignano (Italy).—For more than a year I was deeply grieved on account of a scandal going on in my parish. On reading in the *Salesian Bulletin* the many extraordinary graces Our Lady obtains for her devout clients, I felt inspired with great confidence, and determined to have recourse to her. I promised accordingly that if I obtained the

object of my prayers, and consolation in this sad state of affairs I would have the grace published, and send an offering as a token of gratitude. Not many days had passed when I found out how justified I was in having recourse to her. The scandal ceased, and soon I also regained that state of mind, and felt that joy that every priest must feel at the welfare of the souls entrusted to him. In fulfilment of my promise, I send you an offering with feelings of filial love and gratitude to Mary Help of Christians.

April, 21st 1901.

LOUIS PERFETTI, P.P.

Verviers (Belgium).—Since the Salesians have been at Verviers, I have learned to know the goodness of Our Blessed Lady towards Don Bosco's works, and how she is pleased to obtain favours for those who invoke her as the Help of Christians.

As I was suffering for a long time from a painful malady, for which I found no relief in human means, I turned to her, and made a novena in her honour. This novena was to end on the very day that the feast of Mary Help of Christians was kept at the *Patronage* that the Salesian have in Verviers. Up till the last day I was still in suffering, but, before the end all pain had ceased, and since then I have felt no trace of the malady. I now fulfil my promise asking you to publish the favour in your *Bulletin*.

July, 2nd. 1901.

II. L.

To obtain favours needed, Don Bosco recommended the frequent use of the Sacraments and the practice of a novena consisting of three Paters, Aves, and Glorias to Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament, with a Salve Regina, making at the same time a formal promise of sending an alms according to one's means to the Sanctuary of Mary-Help of Christians.

Various Steamings



AREQUIPA (PERU).—*Distinguished visitors, and various news.* — From a correspondence we extract the following: In the month of September 1900 we had a visit from Mgr. Costamagna. Not only the Salesians but the whole town of Arequipa received him this time also with all marks of esteem and respect due to his dignity. Whilst he was staying with us, Mgr. Gasparri, Apostolic Delegate arrived here on his way to Bolivia. The authorities, our band, with a multitude of people amounting to 20,000 persons went forth to meet him. It is impossible to describe with what transports of joy and enthusiasm, these good people received the Pope's Representative. All the Institutes of the town held receptions in his honour, and gave him a becoming welcome.

The Sons of Don Bosco were not behindhand, and His Lordship graciously accepted our invitation. He came accompanied by Mgr. Costamagna and the authorities of the town. He showed us great benevolence and had words of praise and encouragement for our work.

The 25th anniversary of the Salesian Missions in America was also solemnised at Arequipa, and that day was chosen for the distribution of prizes to our boys, who number altogether about 200. The whole proceedings turned out to the general satisfaction of all. The College is gradually being enlarged. In the midst of it arises a church which is to be dedicated to Mary Help of Christians, and it is to constitute a lasting monument to Jesus Christ Our Redeemer: when finished it will be indeed a most beautiful and splendid proof of the faith of the inhabitants of Arequipa.

The agricultural colony is already in working order, and the rest of the works are progressing

rapidly. Recently the *Junta* of this Department has charged us to fit up at the Government's expense practical schools of science (chemistry, meteorology etc.) applied to agriculture, for the benefit of the young agriculturists. Our course of studies embraces the elementary, technical and commercial, professional and agronomical branches. The last named course is begun after the elementary, and extends over three years, during which the pupil, besides the scientific study, devotes himself to the cultivation of a plot of ground assigned to him. At the end of the three years, the pupil receives his certificate of instruction, either as gardener, horticulturist, or



Members of St. Aloysius' Sodality, Salesian College—Cuyabá.

in another of the various branches of agronomy, or stock rearing and the management of a farm. This training both theoretical and practical will make him useful to his country.

CUYABÁ (BRAZIL).—Also in the far-distant *Matto Grosso* the 25th anniversary of the Salesian Missions was celebrated. At the Institute of San Gonzalo, at Cuyabá, on that occasion the distribution of prizes also took place. The grounds were profusely decorated, and the novelty of the feast

attracted great crowds, especially at night when the whole was brilliantly illuminated. The *scholastic exhibition* held then was an object of surprise and wonder, and evoked unstinted praise from the visitors. It was made up of specimens of the different branches of the Schools of Arts and Trades. Drawings and charts of great accuracy, photos of groups, views of towns, and landscapes; above all the variety and workmanship of the many articles turned out by the workshops of the Institute attracted general admiration. The bands of the Naval College, and that of the eighth Infantry Battalion came to add splendour to the entertainments.

A fitting close of these commemorative festivities was the chanting of a solemn *Te Deum*, at which both His Lordship the Bishop, and the President of the State, and other distinguished personages were present.

GUALAQUIZA (ECUADOR).—*War amongst the Jivaros.*—The latest news forwarded to us from the centre of the forests of Azuay in Eastern Ecuador tells us that for some months in those parts they have been at peace with the Jivaros, and it has consequently been easier to do them some good. They come frequently to visit us, writes Fr. Giaccardi, and we often go to administer Baptism to them. But now it seems this calm is to come to an end. Last year many Jivaros were assassinated during the night by the Medeiros: for this reason the survivors of Captain Ramon's party were constrained to betake themselves elsewhere, to save themselves, abandoning their former stations. The Jivaros, vindictive as they are, resolved to have a terrible revenge and from their place of exile they went recruiting everywhere so as to collect a large force and now they seem to be strong enough for they sent us word to that effect by 3 Jivaros a week ago. Three days later others arrived from Mendez who confirmed the news. They stated that the enemies were very numerous: that their captain was called Chupi and had sworn in the first place to destroy the Mission, to kill the Christians and all the Jivaros of Gualaquiza, and that the warlike spirit of the these savage tribes was at its height. Such is in a few words the news that has thrown all Gualaquiza into consternation. Day and night our Jivaros come to the Mission for protection. The director being absent I gave suitable orders for the defence. The enemy will arrive towards the end of the month (the letter is dated 10th. November 1900) and we are meantime offering up our prayers to Mary Help of Christians, and I have firm confidence that she will not abandon us in such perilous circumstances. In December if I am still alive, I shall send you an account of the issue of events.

Writing in December Fr. Giaccardi says: "The danger has been warded off by the visible protection of Mary Help of Christians, to whom we had made a solemn novena. We had not finished it when some savages from Mendez came to tell

us how they had succeeded by threats in making Chupi's band retire, persuading the captain to desist from the war with Gualaquiza. In fact a few days later many of the enemies sent ambassadors to sue for peace and to ask leave to settle in Gualaquiza so as to live near the Mission. This was granted them. Mary will not fail to protect us from their snares.

THE STORY OF THE ORATORY

OR

DON BOSCO'S OPENING APOSTOLATE.

CHAPTER XL

(Continued.)

That same evening at night prayers, Don Bosco had an Our Father and Hail Mary recited for the recovery of a sick lady, enjoining that they should also be recited on the following days, till further orders. On the third day the Count returned to the Oratory, and in words of the deepest gratitude, he related that to the doctor's surprise his wife was out of danger and almost completely recovered. Full of gratitude to God for so unexpected a favour, he brought another offering. Divine Providence admirable in its works disposed that this alms should equal the first, so that within three days Don Bosco was able to pay the baker's bill.

These acts of benevolence inspired Don Bosco with still greater confidence in the goodness of God and encouraged him to continue his efforts to provide for the needs of his much beloved boys. The accounts I have heard of these times show him to have been like a poor but anxious mother, who, surrounded by a numerous family and fearing lest her little ones should suffer from want, gives herself no rest till they are provided for.

In order then not to put a strain on the generosity of his customary benefactors, Don Bosco made an appeal to public charity. A few paintings having been left over from the former drawing, Don Bosco planned a second one on a smaller scale, with tickets of 20 centimes each. "Two years ago" he said "we appealed to the faithful for money to erect our church and house; we now renew our appeal, but this time for bread." Acting on this plan he established at the beginning of 1854, a committee of charitable

ladies and gentlemen of Turin; he obtained the necessary faculties and circulated the tickets in every direction. He sent them to all the Bishops and parish priests of the kingdom; he distributed them to the town councillors, to the Senators, to the Deputies, to the King's Ministers; he sent them to all persons invested with any dignity whether ecclesiastical or civil, and he did not forget the more or less wealthy persons, thus placing them under the agreeable necessity of doing a good work for the relief of so many poor boys confided to him by God. The appearance of the cholera about this time obliged him to postpone the drawing till the following year.

With each lot of tickets was sent a letter which ran as follows.

Turin, 8th May 1855.

DEAR SIR,

The especial needs of the present time and the great number of children who have been left orphans during the fatal invasion of the cholera have put me under the necessity of considerably augmenting the number of boys in the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales, so that their actual number amounts to a hundred. Being therefore reduced to great straits, not knowing whom to apply to for bread, I sought advice from some pious and worthy gentlemen, and they suggested getting up a small lottery for some paintings. This proposal having been agreed to and the legal formalities fulfilled, it now remains to distribute the tickets. This I have entrusted to the care of such pious persons who, on former occasions have helped me when in need, I therefore make bold to have recourse to your known generosity by sending you these tickets, requesting you to distribute them among those whom you may think disposed for such works of charity. If you should be unable to distribute all of them, and are unable to retain them for yourself, allow me to ask you for one more favour, namely, to send them 8 days before the drawing to any of the members of the Commission. This may likewise be done with regard to the money realised from the sale of tickets that have been distributed or retained.

I should have wished to spare you this trouble; but in view of the great expenses to be met, and the large number of abandoned boys asking for bread, I had to fall back on this expedient. Believe me, by doing this, you will truly be feeding the hungry.

Whilst tendering you in advance my sincerest feelings of gratitude, I assure you that

I shall unite with my boys in praying God to pour down his blessings upon you and upon all those whose welfare both for the present and future life is nearest your heart.

With sentiments of esteem and thankfulness I have the honour of subscribing myself

yours most sincerely in J. C.

JOHN BOSCO.

Truly edifying was the help given to Don Bosco on this occasion. Nearly all retained the tickets received and sent their value, adding words of encouragement. The Mayor of Turin took a most prominent part in the work, and even Urban Rattazzi, then Home Secretary, did not refuse his assistance. The letters written on this occasion by these two distinguished men are worth reproducing here because they show the judgment they had formed of the oratory and Orphanage of St. Francis de Sales and in what esteem they held them.

Cav. Notta, Mayor of Turin, wrote on the 13th June 1854 as follows:—"Being anxious to show, although in a humble way, my great desire of concurring to the best of my power towards the usefulness of the Festive Oratories, begun and supported in such a praiseworthy manner by you, for the moral and material benefit of abandoned boys, I deem myself most fortunate in being able to respond to the invitation received by you by retaining the hundred lottery tickets you sent me for the benefit of the above-named Oratories. Whilst enclosing 20 francs, the price of said tickets, I hope and pray that your work may always find the support it deserves from those who are able to afford it. Allow me to subscribe myself

your most devoted servant

NOTTA.

Short but none the less courteous was the letter of Urban Rattazzi, who is looked upon as a most famous statesman. From his private office he wrote to Don Bosco on the 12th May of the same year as follows:—

"MOST ILLUSTRIOUS AND REV. SIR,

"I willingly accede to the request made by you concerning your pious work of helping to meet the great expenses which occur at the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales for boys at Valdocco. I enclose 40 francs whilst returning the 200 lottery tickets sent me. Thanking you for having made such a request, I have the honour of signing myself with feelings of marked esteem,

U. RATAZZI.

(To be continued).

fortunate young people who were under his guidance. Those latter seemed to him so cheerful and happy that he almost envied them. Therefore no sooner was he able to talk to his mother and his tutor than he begged them to allow him to go to Turin. But such were not their intentions, for they remembered the grave danger undergone by the boy on account of his extreme liveliness, and being fully aware of their responsibility in his behalf, they would not allow of his being withdrawn from their care.

At this refusal the ardent youth did not lose courage. He returned over and over again to the assault, but the Doctor remained as firm as a rock. Louis then had recourse to his beloved master, C. Berra, who having already more than once exhorted him to embrace a career of study, promised to second his efforts. Thus by means of this zealous teacher the ardent desires of Louis were fulfilled. This is how it came about.



View of the Salesian College at Lanzo.

Mr. Berra had planned to go to Turin towards the end of October under pretext of transacting business, but in reality to speak to Don Bosco about his dear pupil, on whom he had founded the greatest hopes. Louis succeeded in guessing the master's design, and when the latter was setting out at an early hour from his house, he offered to accompany him on the way. Prudent man as he was, Mr. Berra told him that the consent of his tutor was absolutely necessary. Then Louis, who, once he had got hold of an idea, wished to reduce it to practice at any cost, ran to Dr. Rinetti's house, called him from the yard, the door being still shut, and with feverish anxiety begged him to let him go with his master, assuring him he would never have to repent having granted such a favour. How could he resist such entreaties? The Doctor who was still in bed rose promptly, went down and greatly moved to see such constancy, embraced him, blessed him in his dead father's name and putting a gold coin in his hand said:—"Go, my child, may heaven direct you."



The Life of Monsignor Lasagna

CHAPTER IV.

Enters the Oratory—In Don Bosco's room—The need of patience—A sad farewell—Quite at home—A good Master—The hour of discouragement—Flight and pardon.

THE journey from Montemagno to Turin, through Asti, although in reality not very long, appeared excessively so to Louis, who was very anxious to see Don Bosco a gain, and to know by experience what college life was like. Mr Berra, on his arrival at the Oratory, took the new boy to the prefect (who at that time was Father V. Alasonatti of saintly memory) in order to have him formally admitted. Before leaving the Oratory he wished also to see Don Bosco, whom he had known and revered for some time past, that he might recommend his beloved pupil, in an especial manner, to his care.

Louis had not forgotten that Don Bosco when inviting him to come with him to Turin had said to him:—"Come, we shall be good friends". Accordingly he presented himself, not bashfully like a strange boy who sets his foot for the first time in a college, but with the frank and lively deportment of an old acquaintance.

Don Bosco, as on the former occasion at Montemagno, received the new pupil with his proverbial kindness; exhorted him to have recourse to him in all confidence whenever anything troubled him; and was much pleased when he heard how all the obstacles which seemed likely to prevent his entrance had been overcome. He also mildly recommended him to conduct himself in such a manner as to give entire satisfaction to his Superiors and to his excellent tutor. He wound up by charging the master to assure Dr. Rinetti of his pupil's success, and Mr. Berra took leave of the great educator fully convinced of having entrusted to him a pearl of the greatest value.

He was already on the balcony, when the prudent teacher, as though he had forgotten something presented himself again to Don Bosco and, taking him by the hand, said to him in a trembling voice:—"I know the great efficiency of the teachers trained in your school; I would nevertheless recommend them not to be alarmed at my pupil's excessive liveliness, but rather to arm themselves with unlimited patience. It is only in this manner, and by the solid piety

you instil in the hearts of the boys, that they will succeed in getting the better of Louis, character and in developing the excellent qualities of his mind." A sign from Don Bosco was enough to assure him that he understood, and the good master, with tears in his eyes, embraced his pupil once more and started back for Montemagno.

On his side Louis felt great grief on being separated from Mr. Berra and at parting burst into tears. After a few minutes, however, he became quite resigned and getting to know some of the boys, he soon began joyfully to run about.

No one who saw him wholly absorbed in the different games during recreation in the first days after his arrival would have thought that he was fresh from home. He chatted with his companions as though they were old friends, and in the little squabbles which will sometimes happen in the pursuit of boyish games, he asserted himself with such warmth as to give rise to the liveliest disputes had not the masters intervened in time to calm him. He wished to be the first in everything. When conversing familiarly with some companion he would ask him who were his Superiors, masters, and assistants: he also asked to visit, as soon as possible, the printing and book-binding offices and all the other workshops in the house; so that in a very short time he succeeded in knowing not only the different superiors and the whole house, but also almost all his numerous companions, especially those that excelled in the games. He was never at rest until he knew the why and the wherefore of everything that happened.

He took a special interest in the history of the Oratory, and was all attention when certain facts were related from the life of Don Bosco which seemed in some degree marvellous. Every time this good father appeared in the midst of his children Louis felt instinctively drawn towards him, thinking himself very lucky if he said a word to him or at least had a kind look from him.

To his sagacious eye, to his heart so good and sensible, the gifts, the virtues, and the graces of the venerable priest, who had gone to fetch him in his native land and had for him the affection of a father, could not long remain hidden.

This affection was fully reciprocated by the boy who with the most tender affection, discovered to him with unlimited confidence all his little afflictions. He later on confessed that Don Bosco's look, so full of goodness, had fascinated him. Meanwhile the masters and assistants of Louis were soon able to know the excellence of his character, in spite of his exterior restlessness and impetuosity.

As he was rather backward in the Italian Grammar (he had only just finished the second elementary class at Montemagno) he was put into a preparatory class for Latin, in order to devote more time to it. He was fortunate in having for a professor during that scholastic year, Father P. Racca, a simple and modest man, but very learned and of consummate virtue.

(To be continued.)

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