



Salesian Bulletin

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♣ Vol. IV. ♣

*Beatus qui intelligit super egenum et pauperem:
in die mala liberabit eum Dominus. [Ps. XL.]*

L. M. G. O. X. III. =

✦ DA MIHI



ANIMAS CAETERA TOLLE

ST. JOSEPH'S CHARITIES


IN AID

OF THE SALESIAN WORKS OF DON BOSCO

IN SOUTH AFRICA

« Blessed is the man who considereth the needy and the poor; in the evil day our Lord will deliver him. He will preserve him and give him life and make him blessed upon earth and deliver him not unto the will of his enemies. The Lord will help him on the bed of sorrow ».

Ps. XL. 2-4.

HE subscribers to *St Joseph's Charities*, from the date their names, addresses and donations reach us, will participate in all:

1) The Indulgences and Privileges of Salesian Co-operators.
2) The Spiritual Advantages of the Archconfraternity of Mary Help of Christians.

3) The Masses and meritorious works offered for the Benefactors of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Rome.

4) The Holy Mass offered every wednesday for the Benefactors in the Institute Chapel in Cape Town; and the Communions, prayers and meritorious works of the inmates offered that day through St Joseph for the Benefactors to obtain the grace that they pray for, or may stand in greater need of.

Six Masses are said daily in perpetuity for the members of the Association, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Rome. Two Masses are offered at the Altar of the Sacred Heart, two at that of Mary Help of Christians, two at St Joseph's. 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.

2620 Masses are said every year for the Benefactors, both living and dead, of the Salesian works of Don Bosco in South Africa.

These Benefactors will participate in the prayers and good works performed by the Salesians themselves and by their protégés in their Homes, Colleges, Oratories, Missions, etc..., all over the world, wherever they are established. A full account of the spiritual Privileges of the Members will be given in the annual Number entitled "*St Joseph's Charities*."

A donation of half a crown will be sufficient to inscribe any one either living or dead to participate in perpetuity in the Masses as well as in the prayers and good works offered for the Benefactors.

A yearly subscriber of at least three shillings will be entitled to active membership: for one year, of the Salesian Co-operators, and of the Association of Mary Help of Christians; to the spiritual privileges; to the monthly Salesian Bulletin and our Annual "*St Joseph's Charities*."

Our Benefactors will with their donations help us to save innumerable children in sore need of assistance and education in this southern part of the dark Continent. They will enjoy the consolation of those words of our Blessed Lord: "As long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me." MATTH. XXV. 40.

ADDRESS: Rev. E. M. TOZZI, S.C., SALESIAN INSTITUTE, CAPE TOWN, S. A.
P.S. This is the headquarters of "*St Joseph's Charities*".

THE SALESIAN BULLETIN

Organ of the Association of Salesian Co-operators.
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Our Readers' attention is again called to the special notices contained in this month's issue - one concerning the Salesian Schools, whose first term has already commenced, the other laying before them some urgent necessities, on behalf of which all Co-operators and friends are invited to come to the aid of the Salesians in London.

Special prayers are offered daily in the Houses of the Congregation all over the world for the intentions of benefactors and for the repose of their souls when they are called away.

October, the Rosary Month.

The Blessed Virgin herself taught the devotion of the Rosary to St. Dominic and proposed it as an efficacious means to combat error, to nourish the Faith and to draw down the blessings of Heaven on Christian peoples. The wonderful favours obtained through it are innumerable. By it heresies have been conquered, pestilences destroyed and wars averted; hence the rapid spread of its practice throughout Christendom.

DON BOSCO

ANNIVERSARIES.

THE 4th and the 9th of last month were memorable dates, marking two anniversaries,—the former the exaltation of Our Holy Father Pius X. to the pontifical throne, the latter his coronation in that office; to all his subjects and especially to us they were the signal for the end of the world-wide grief at the death of the illustrious Leo XIII., and the opening of the joyful scenes which accompanied the inauguration of his successor's reign. We can take part in spirit in the pilgrimages that are being made to the eternal city and render our homage and profession of unflinching devotion to the Head of the Church. For who is he that is called Our Holy Father the Pope?

The Gospel tells us that Jesus Christ chose twelve apostles and entrusted them with the same mission which he had received from His Heavenly Father. "As the Father hath sent me, I also send you" (John xx. 21.). "Going therefore teach ye all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost" (Matt. xxviii. 19). But at the head of the Apostles Jesus Christ placed St. Peter and gave him a primacy not only of honour but of jurisdiction, by which St. Peter was constituted the teacher of teachers, the shepherd of shepherds; and this was not to be a personal privilege only, but to be transmitted to his successors in the See of Rome, the Roman Pontiffs. The Roman Church has therefore been in all times celebrated by the Fathers as the Star of Faith, the Mother and Mistress of the churches.

The Pope, or the common Father of all the faithful, is the Successor of

St. Peter, the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth; his dignity has no parallel; he governs the Church *visibly*, as St. Peter governed it during his life time, as Our Lord governs it invisibly from heaven. Jesus Christ, "as a propitiatory victim immolated for the glory of God and the salvation of men, as the food of our supernatural life, resides in the Eucharist; as the Head of the Church He resides in the Papacy." "The Papacy completes the presence of Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Jesus Christ in the Sacred Host neither speaks nor governs; He nourishes souls, but He does not direct them. We have indeed on the Altar reproduced or represented the principal parts of Our Lord's life. We have there the Infant of the Crib, His divine birth, His silence and annihilation in his hidden life and incredible obedience. We have the Crucified of Calvary, the body separated from the blood as on the cross, and, if we penetrate beyond these appearances of death, in the soul of our Divine Saviour present under the species broken and separated, there we find the same immolation, the same offering to God for us. Even the tomb has a resemblance in the tabernacle. All these scenes of His life are there at the altar; they are now our joy and sorrow as they were the joy and sorrow of Mary and the Apostles. The love of Our Saviour has triumphed over time and distance."

And yet there is something wanting—that part which He fulfilled during His public life, the three years of His ministry, when He used to pass through the towns and hamlets of Palestine. We do not see there Him who used

to teach openly and with authority; who used to tear the mask from false teachers, the Pharisees and hypocrites, and prevent helpless souls from falling victims to their insidious maxims; nor do we see Him there who chose the Apostles and charged them to go and teach all nations. Yet this ministry and office is of paramount importance at all times in order to preserve the integrity of His doctrine, the unity of His Church, to prevent His followers from being led astray by disseminators of error and discord. And this ministry and office is vested in the successors of St. Peter, since these privileges follow not the person but the dignity and the public office." Those words of Our Lord: "Behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world" (Matt. xxviii. 20.) are continually fulfilled; and they are fulfilled by the Real Presence and by the uninterrupted succession of the Popes.

Just as He has not placed in the Blessed Sacrament the word of His doctrine, neither has He placed there His divine authority and government.

Since all authority has been given to Him in Heaven and on Earth, no one can exercise any on souls or on the Church except those to whom He has said: "As the Father hath sent me I also send you." This divine commission, once given in Galilee, is constantly repeated in the Church; her life depends upon it. He repeats it each time a soul is called to continue the ministry of the Apostles; but again, He repeats it not from the Eucharist, but by means of his Representative on earth. In the Holy Eucharist indeed He kindles in them the zeal and the longing after holiness, but the Pope, His vicar alone makes them priests or bishops.

Let the return of these two anniversaries be a reminder to us of our duty towards the Holy See, our duty of obedience and loyalty; especially in days when either through ignorance or malice, the press is but too often the vehicle of attacks on the sacred person of the Pope and his prerogatives, or of calumnious misrepresentations of the action and influence of the Papacy in the world.

The Counsels of the Holy Father

(Continued).

IN the second part of the Encyclical the Holy Father dwells on some of the remedies and safeguards to be used in what he laments as *a time of sore stress and difficulty, in which the mysterious counsel of Divine Providence has raised up our littleness to bear the office of Chief Shepherd over the whole flock of Christ.* After speaking at some length on the requirements of the Coun-

cil of Trent and the office of catechising, he continues: "The same, we think, is to be said of those priests who compose elaborate books to illustrate the truths of religion; for this they are worthy of great commendation. But how many read these volumes and derive fruit in proportion to the toil and the wishes of those who wrote them? Whereas the teaching of the Catechism, when properly done, never fails to be of profit

to those who listen to it. For—we must repeat this truth in order to inflame the zeal of God's ministers—there are to-day vast numbers, and they are constantly increasing, who are utterly ignorant of the truths of religion, or who have at most so little knowledge of God and of the Christian faith that they can live as idolators in the very midst of the light of Christianity. How many there are, not only among the young, but among adults, and even among those tottering with age, who know nothing of the principal mysteries of faith, and who on hearing the name of Christ can only ask: "Who is he.... that I may believe in Him" (1).

And, in consequence of this ignorance they think it no crime to excite and cherish hatred against their neighbour, to enter into most unjust contracts, to give themselves up to dishonest speculations, to possess themselves of the property of others by enormous usury, and to commit similar iniquities. Hence being ignorant of the law of Christ, which not only forbids base deeds but condemns deliberate immoral thoughts and desires, even when they are restrained by some motive or other from abandoning themselves to sensual pleasures, they feed without any kind of scruple on evil thoughts, multiplying sins beyond the hairs of their heads. Nor, let it be repeated, are such to be found only among the poorer classes of the people or in country places, but in the highest walks of life, and among those who, inflated with knowledge, rely upon a vain erudition, and think themselves at liberty to turn religion into ridicule, and to "blaspheme that which they know not" (2).

Now, if it is vain to expect a harvest where no seed has been sown, how can we hope to have better living generations if they be not instructed in time in the doctrine of Jesus Christ? It follows, too, that if faith languishes in our days, if it has almost vanished throughout a large proportion of the people, the reason is that the duty of catechetical teaching is either fulfilled very superficially or is altogether neglected. Nor will it do to say, in excuse, that faith is a free gift bestowed on each one at baptism. Yes, all who are baptised in Christ have had infused into them the habit of faith; but this most divine germ does not develop, or put forth great branches (1) when left to itself, and as if by its own virtue. Man at his birth has within him the faculty of understanding, but he has need also of the mother's word to awaken it, as it were, and to bring it into action. So too the Christian, born again of water and the Holy Ghost, has faith within him, but he requires the teaching of the Church that it may be nourished and may grow and bring forth fruit. Hence the Apostle wrote: "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (2), and to show the necessity of teaching he adds: "How shall they hear without a preacher?" (3).

Now if all that has been said serves to show

The supreme importance of religious teaching,

supreme also must be our solicitude in maintaining always in vigour, and in re-establishing where it may happen to have become neglected, the teaching of

(1) John. ix. 36.

(2) Jude, 10.

(1) Mark, iv, 32.

(2) Romans, x, 17.

(3) Ibid.

the catechism, than which, as Benedict XIV. said, nothing more useful has been established for the glory of God and the salvation of Souls (1). Being desirous therefore, Venerable Brethren, of fulfilling this most important duty of our Supreme Apostolate, and of introducing uniformity every where in this most weighty matter, we do, by our Supreme authority, enact and strictly ordain that in all dioceses the following precepts be observed:

I. All parish priests and, in general, all those who have the care of souls, on every Sunday and feast day throughout the year, without exception, shall give boys and girls an hour's instruction from the catechism on those things which every one must believe and do in order to be saved.

II. They shall, at stated times during the year, prepare boys and girls by continued instruction lasting several days, to receive the sacraments of Penance and Confirmation.

III. They shall likewise, and with special care, on all the week days of Lent, and if necessary on other days after the feast of Easter, by suitable instruction and exhortations, prepare boys and girls to make their first Communion in a holy manner.

IV. In each and every parish the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine shall be canonically erected. Through this the parish priests, especially in places where there is a scarcity of priests, will have lay helpers for the Catechetical instruction in pious lay persons who will devote themselves to this office of teaching, moved by zeal for the glory of God and by the desire of gaining the numerous indulgences

granted by the Sovereign Pontiffs.

V. In large towns, and especially in those which contain universities, colleges, and grammar schools, religious classes shall be founded, to teach the truths of faith and of the practice of Christian life to the young people who frequent those public schools wherein no mention is made of religion.

VI. Considering, too, that especially in these days adults not less than the young stand in need of religious instruction, all parish priests and others having the care of souls, shall, in addition to the usual homily on the Gospel delivered at the parochial Mass on all days of obligation, explain the Catechism for the faithful in an easy style, suited to the intelligence of their hearers, at such time of the day as they may deem most convenient for the people, but not during the hour in which the children are taught. In this instruction they shall make use of the Catechism of the Council of Trent; and they shall so order it that the whole matter of the Creed, the Sacraments, the Decalogue, the Lord's Prayer and the Precepts of the Church shall be treated in the space of four or five years.

This, Venerable Brethren, do we prescribe and command by our Apostolic Authority. It now rests with you to put it into prompt and complete execution in your dioceses, by all the force at your command, and to see to it, that these prescriptions of ours be not neglected, or what comes to the same thing, carried out carelessly and fitfully.

And that this may be avoided, you must not cease to recommend and to require that your parish priests shall not impart this instruction without preparation, but that they shall diligently

(1) Cons. *Etsi minima*, 13.

prepare themselves for it. Let them not speak words of human wisdom, but "in simplicity of heart and sincerity of God" (1), imitating the example of Jesus Christ who though "He revealed mysteries hidden from the beginning of the world" (2) yet spoke always "to the multitude in parables, and without parables did not speak to them" (3). The same thing, we know, was also done by the Apostles taught by Our Lord, as Gregory the Great said of them: "They took supreme care to preach to the ignorant things easy and intelligible, not sublime and arduous" (4). But in our times a great part of mankind must be considered as ignorant in matters of religion.

We do not wish, however, that this desire of simplicity should lead anyone to think that this kind of preaching does not need labour and meditation; on the contrary it requires more than any other whatever. It is much easier to find a preacher capable of delivering an eloquent and brilliant discourse than a catechist able to impart instruction in a manner entirely worthy of praise. It must, therefore, be carefully borne in mind that whatever readiness in thinking and speaking a man may have from nature, he will never be able to teach the Catechism to the children and to the people without preparing himself thoughtfully for the task. It is a mistake for a man to suppose that, owing to the rudeness and ignorance of the people, he may perform this office in a careless manner. On the contrary the more uncultured the hearers, the greater is the necessity for study

and diligence, in order to adapt to the dull sense of the unlearned those most sublime truths, so far from the natural understanding of the multitude, which must, however, be known by all the learned and the unlettered alike, in order that they may attain eternal salvation.

And now, Venerable Brethren, as we close this letter let us address to you these words of Moses: "If any man be on the Lord's side, let him join with me" (1). We pray and beseech you to think on the ruin of souls which is wrought by this one cause: ignorance of divine things. Doubtless you have established many useful and praiseworthy undertakings in your respective dioceses for the benefit of the flock entrusted to you, but before all else, and with all the diligence, all the zeal, all the assiduity that is possible for you, see to it that the knowledge of christian doctrine shall thoroughly penetrate and pervade the minds of all. To use the words of the Apostle St. Peter: "As every man hath received grace ministering the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (2).

Through the intercession of the most blessed Immaculate Virgin, may your diligence and your energy be rendered fruitful by the Apostolic Blessing which, in token of Our affection and as an earnest of divine favours, we most lovingly impart to you and to the clergy and the people committed to your care.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's on the fifteenth day of April, 1905, in the second year of our Pontificate.

PIUS X, Pope.

(1) 2. Cor. 1. 2.

(2) Matth. XIII. 35.

(3) Ibid. 34.

(4) Moral. II XVIII. Chap. 26.

(1) Ex. xxxii. 26.

(2) I Peter IV. 10.

SCHOOL - RE-OPENING.

The New Term at the SALESIAN SCHOOLS

(Commences on Sept. 2nd)

Though having as its principal object to provide a classical education for those boys who may desire to study for the priesthood, the **SCHOOL CURRICULUM** includes the syllabuses of the College of Preceptors, Oxford Junior and Senior Locals, Civil service and London Examinations.

A view of the School is given here, and is to be found, as a rule, on the last page of the *Bulletin*; a large garden and playground are attached.



Salesian School, Battersea, London, S. W.

The religious education receives the most careful attention. The diocesan Inspection is held every year, and the School has been reported on as follows:

June, 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.

F. G. WILDERSPIN
Diocesan Inspector.

June, 1905. *It was a pleasure to examine the boys of this school. They are taught so thoroughly, and evidently very much appreciate their religious instructions.*

F. G. WILDERSPIN
Diocesan Inspector.

The successes of the public examinations will be given later on when the official lists are published, Last year the percentage of passes was over ninety.

For terms, prospectus and other particulars apply at once to:

*The Very Rev. C. B. Macey,
Salesian School,
Surrey Lane,
Battersea, London, S. W.*

A school for boys, with a course similar to that given at the above, is attached to the Salesian Institute at Farnboro. Additions and alterations have lately been completed, and the school can now provide more ample accommodation.

Apply to :

*Rev. E. Marsh,
Salesian Institute,
Queens Road,
Farnboro, Hants.*

A preparatory school for little boys has been opened by the Nuns of Mary Help of Christians at Chertsey on Thames. The situation is rural and the delightful river-view at Chertsey is too well known to need comment. It has the advantage also of being within easy reach of London and the boys may be afterwards transferred if so desired to the Salesian School at Battersea.

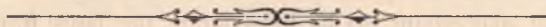
Communications to be addressed:—

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

Arrangements can also be made through the Very Rev. C. B. Macey, as above.

To All Co-operators and Readers.

Sacred Heart Schools, Battersea, London, S. W.



The above are the parish schools attached to the mission directed by the Salesians at Battersea, London—quite distinct from the Salesian Schools with which readers are familiar. In common with other Non-Provided Schools, they have been found to be seriously defective in the survey ordered by the London County Council, on its taking over the Schools. This authority has accordingly given formal notice, that within a certain time, specified alterations and improvements must be carried out, if the schools are to be considered suitable for the purpose of elementary education.

At the cost of great outlay, the managers had, only during the present year, been compelled to enlarge the boys' and infants' departments; but a much larger outlay will be entailed in the carrying out of the alterations and repairs required by the Education Authority, an outlay estimated roughly at £1200. These requirements are officially stated as follows:—

Boys' department.

- I. To increase the size of the skylights in the small classroom, to fix the electric fittings in a more permanent manner, or to provide gas pendants fitted with incandescent burners.
- II. To renovate the old lobby, to form a new window in same and to fit up three tiers of rails and pegs on the walls.
- III. To provide a range of two basins for the lavatory accommodation.
- IV. To fence off the playground and to form separate entrances for boys and girls and infants.
- V. To provide in the playground a drinking tap with slate back, zinc cups and basin, and to lay on water from the main service-pipe.
- VI. To put a vent space at the back of the offices.
- VII. To carry the vent from the drain up the gable walls sufficiently high to prevent any possibility of drain air entering the windows.
- VIII. To put an automatic-flush to the urinal.

Girls' department.

- IX. To provide additional two arm gas pendants, and to fit all with incandescent burners.
- X. To remove the lavatory and cupboard to mezzanine floor (at present occupied by the water-closets), and to provide a range of three lavatory basins.
- XI. To take down and to clean the two lavatory basins in the cloakroom, to provide new fittings and waste for same and to re-use for boys.

XII. To restrict the use of the small room off the landing (at present used as a cloakroom and lavatory) to cloak accommodation only.

XIII. To remove the door from the mezzanine room (opening on to the half landing) and leave opening only.

XIV. To provide an emergency staircase at the north-east end of the schoolroom and to form a passage-way where the infants' offices are to be removed.

XV. To fence off the playground so as to separate the boys from the girls and infants; to provide in the playground a drinking tap with slate back, zinc cups and basin, and to lay on water from the main service pipe.

XVI. To remove the bookstall from the corner of the playground.

XVII. To build new offices in the playground.

Infants' department.

XVIII. To increase the size of the windows, to fix electric light fittings in a more permanent manner or to provide gas pendants fitted with incandescent burners.

XIX. To utilise space under the girls' stair for cloak accommodation.

XX. To fit a range of three basins at the side of the girls' stairs for the lavatory accommodation.

XXI. To renovate the teachers' room, and to put same into proper order.

XXII. To build new offices in the playground.

All departments.

XXIII. To provide 12 in. by 12 in. tobis fresh air inlets.

XXIV. To form stone or concrete hearths, to build separate brick flues, and to provide approved pattern open fire stoves.

XXV. To make all external doors and classroom doors to open outwards.

XXVI. To divide each long room—boys', into two classrooms for 48 and 40 respectively; girls', into three classrooms for 40 each; infants', into three classrooms for 45, 35 and 45 respectively.

XXVII. To make good the walls and stonework.

XXVIII. To relay the defective flooring with new.

XXIX. To paint and to distemper and to execute the minor repairs.

XXX. To put the drains into a sound condition.

It will be evident to any reader that a great deal has to be done, and that the expense will be great in proportion. The Co-operators, who take upon themselves to give what aid they can in support of the works of the Salesian Society, cannot do better at present than help the Salesians at Battersea out of this difficulty.

In order to raise part of the sum required a bazaar will be arranged in the course of some months. Those who cannot send offerings of money, may be able to give articles of clothing or fancy work, or other things suitable for purchase. Any subscriptions or offering will be most welcome.

All communications concerning the above to be addressed to the

Very Rev. C. B. Macey,

Surrey House, Surrey Lane,

Battersea, London, S. W.

Don Rua's Representative in America

(Extracts from his Secretary's Correspondence)

(Continued)

The English steamer which was conveying us to Colombia was also named *Colombia*; there was some consolation even in the name, not only because they reminded us of that great Italian, the celebrated discoverer of America, but because they seemed to repair past neglect, this grateful recognition being due to Christopher Columbus. This country was not always named Colombia, having been known successively as New Granada—State of Granada—United States of Colombia.; finally in 1886 it took the single name of Colombia. It bears not only the name of the immortal Genoese, but has also adopted his religious principles; the government is both officially and practically Catholic; the President of the Republic with his Ministers makes the Spiritual Exercises every year. This explains that party hatred or rather that warfare of evil with good in this poor Republic of which we shall have to speak.

The territory of Colombia is of irregular form and with the exception of the sea on the North and West, has no natural boundaries. In point of size it is the third of the American Republics, Brazil and the Argentine Republic alone being larger: its extent is nearly 350,000 square miles, but the population is little more than four millions; so that, though its extent is fifty times greater than that of Belgium, its population does not equal two-thirds.

Arrival at Panama.

We are still travelling towards the unknown; six months ago we wrote to Colombia and no reply has yet reached us. We had heard of the carnage resulting from the cruel civil war waged during the last three years; but we were in

absolute ignorance of the fate of our brethren. Fr. Albera was therefore in a state of grave uneasiness. Prudence would have dissuaded him from blindly incurring the risk of a journey to Bogotá, but his fatherly love urged him. We prayed, and we hoped to hear some news from the Bishop of Panama, an illustrious member of the Society of Jesus, always full of kindness to the Sons of Don Bosco. After four days on sea we reached the city of Panama and prepared to disembark. The Consul General for Chili, stationed at Panama, travelling with us, had urged us to land there, promising to show us what had already been done, and what remained of the famous Panama Canal, but we were warned that yellow fever was rife and that if we landed we could not return on board without undergoing quarantine. Having already experienced the unpleasantness of quarantines we abandoned the project and taking up my pen I at once made our excuses to the Bishop, begging him at the same time to forward letters, if there were any for us, to Colon. Then taking our places in the train, which was waiting, in two hours and a half we reached Colon, a small town where the population is rapidly increasing. Though not possessing all the advantages of Panama it enjoys a far better climate.

Two hours in the train passed quickly, in spite of the unbearable heat, as we remained at the window, observing through field glasses the engineering works for the Canal, interrupted so many years ago. We saw machinery and tools scattered here and there. A few days later we had the company of the United States agent sent to conclude a definitive treaty with Colombia to resume the abandoned works of the

French Company, so that we were able to get the most accurate information. After the gigantic undertaking of the cutting of the Suez Canal and the tunnels of Frejus and St Gothard, there is no question that this is the grandest engineering feat attempted during the last century, and in certain aspects it surpasses the first-named.

Advantages and vicissitudes of the cutting of the Canal.

Any one looking at a Map of the World sees at once the impassable barrier formed by the American Continent between Europe and the Far East, which impedes direct communication, except by the passage round Cape Horn. In many cases it would be more convenient to pass to the North of America, by the Polar regions, across seas of ice, than to sail round Tierra del Fuego. This undertaking, therefore, though bristling with difficulties, is indispensable, and when this thread is broken, the Atlantic will be in communication with the Pacific, and a vessel from Europe wishing to visit the tropical regions of the Pacific Ocean, will have the voyage shortened by about 14,000 miles. Looking at the expense of one day's navigation on a great steamer, sometimes laden with ten thousand or more tons of merchandise, consuming fuel which costs thousands of francs per day, manned by a large crew, carrying frequently hundreds and thousands of passengers, it is easy to understand what a great advantage the shortening of the journey by twenty or forty days will be, besides the decrease of so many days' perils of the sea, of the cost of insurance, of wages and of food. May that day soon come on which the waters of these two Oceans shall mingle together! Whether the cutting be through Panama or Nicaragua matters little. Certainly that of Panama offers the greater facilities; the length of the cutting would be about forty-five miles; the greatest width would be 350 yards, with a sufficient depth to allow of the passage of the largest vessels.

Whilst I am writing, it seems that the negotiations between Colombia and the United States have come to a satisfactory conclusion; the French Company which began the work, and as every one knows became bankrupt, will cede its rights for a large subsidy. If the undertaking passes into the hands of North America it will, undoubtedly, be brought to a satis-

factory conclusion, for neither audacity nor money will be wanting.

At Cartagena—To Barranquilla— Poor Colombia!

At Colon we had barely time to take a little carriage and drive to the harbour; the Steamer *Versailles* of the French Transatlantic Company had already given its warning whistle and we had to take the tickets for Cartagena on board.

Cartagena, with its spacious harbour, full of smart little boats, may still be called *Queen of the Antilles*, and though its commerce has declined, probably for ever, still European steamers visit it from time to time. But it is no more the Cartagena of old. Beholding the great walls that surround the city, one is reminded of the numerous assaults it has successfully resisted. At our entrance, the sun's rays throwing into relief the towers, convents and buildings, formed a semicircle shining on the sea. At that moment the land, the little islands scattered over the bay, and the rosy-tinted hills all united in forming an enchanting spectacle.

Entering the bay we beheld with admiration the two fortresses which keep perpetual guard; the ancient walls which owing to the improvements in naval and military science no longer afford protection as in the past.

The journey from Cartagena to *Calamar*, a post on the river Maddalena is only a few hours by rail, of which we hoped to take advantage saving time and money; but the Archbishop, a Salesian benefactor from Lombardy, fortunately dissuaded us. During the preceding week, the train had on two occasions been stopped and pillaged by the revolutionaries who left behind them several victims. So, having said Mass and taken a cup of coffee, we returned on board, making our way to Barranquilla in order to reach Calamar by another route. The conversations on board were all on one subject, as we had with us several Colombian Generals, amongst whom was General Tanco; his secretary being one of the President's sons. Poor Colombia! for three years it has been suffering from a Revolution, the more terrible from the fierce hatreds of which it is the outcome. Here it is not simply a war of parties, but of principles. In no other Republic is the division between *Liberals* and *Conservatives* so marked; the liberals here are dogmatic and seek to wrest from their opponents

the treasure of their faith. Having failed in their attempt to seize upon the Government, they agreed to keep the country in a state of agitation, to destroy all that had been done, so as to weaken the public administration and thus by a violent effort aided by foreign sectaries to seize the reins of Government. What a sad spectacle would this country present, were they unhappily to succeed in their attempts.

Sad results of the civil war.

These revolutionaries do not usually form an army, but are divided into small bands varying in numbers and led by the boldest and most cruel. They have no fixed centre or watchword; but they scour the country, living for the most part in the forests, attacking the more defenceless inhabitants, committing all kinds of atrocities. They enter houses, demolishing fences and doors, break into chests and drawers; seize all money and valuable objects; exchange their own rags for the best clothing they can find; and finally usually set fire to everything if the inhabitants have had time to escape. The heart is saddened when travelling for days together through districts thus laid waste. Often did our guide point out to us the places where others had been robbed of all they possessed and even of life itself, many of these victims being foreigners seeking safety by returning to their own country. How many in Bogotá during the last three years have not ventured to take a long journey! Our own Fr. Rabagliati, Superior of the Salesian Houses in Colombia and the indefatigable apostle of the lepers has been unable to make his accustomed visits to his invalids, much less to carry out his magnificent plans for the Lazarettos, on account of the revolution.

The sad consequences of this fratricidal war cannot be estimated; in the department of Santander in one simple engagement more than 8000 dead were left on the battle-field. A gentleman said to me; "From the commencement of the revolution until now thirty-seven members of my family have perished on the field of battle! How can I remain contented?" The greatest distress reigns everywhere; it seems to surpass all that one reads in past history. When we arrived at Bogotá on the 28th August 1902, to obtain 100 crowns in gold it was necessary to give 24,000 in paper money; for supper we paid 245 pesos and during our journey on the river Maddalena amongst twenty

or more passengers there was only one tumbler and the bread was eaten by those who were the most cunning in snatching it. We had no cabin, or bed; so I bought for Fr. Albera a hammock consisting only of two pieces of wood along the sides of which a piece of canvas was nailed, and yet for this I had to give 700 pesos and having made some complaint, 800 were demanded of me. It had gone so far that the Government would not print notes of less than ten pesos, for to put them in circulation would not have repaid the cost of printing; and as if the exchange of 24,000 to obtain 100 pesos in coin were not heavy enough, a discount of 14 additional pesos was required (1) I should never finish were I to give a true picture of the miserable condition to which the Revolution has reduced a nation amply provided by nature with all the elements of prosperity, mineral wealth in abundance hidden under the soil, and a climate with variations of temperature to suit all kinds of vegetation, so that they have nothing to enjoy in the other American Republics.

At *Barranquilla* we found the first four Salesians of Colombia, who have charge of the parish of St Roch, teach the School and are trying to establish a Festive Oratory. During a time of revolution but little can be done, for all are soldiers, even the boys. I have seen lads of twelve years old carrying a rifle taller than themselves. In Colombia there is no regular military service, but in time of war, instead of the usual call to arms, bands of Government soldiers scour the country, pressing all who seem capable to take the oath to serve, and but little is required. So that one, who has some education and boldness, may in a short time become Captain, or even attain a higher grade, without the delays of our old European methods. I have read somewhere that a military genius is born not made and this would seem a case in point, for in each battle dozens of generals are killed, and how otherwise would they be replaced?

Barranquilla is both well planned and well situated; if trade were free to develop, it would increase speedily. The population is well-disposed towards us and hopes to see before long the pretty Church completed, the building of which has been stopped for some years.

(1) From all this it is easy to see what will be the reduction on Fr. Rabagliati's collections of hundreds and thousands of pesos, when even they reached millions, they would have to be divided by 24,000!

On the River Maddalena.—Plague of mosquitos.

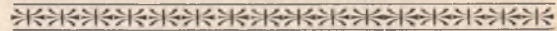
The excessive heat of Barranquilla increased Fr. Albera's illness, but nevertheless he decided to profit by the Steamer *Lopez Penha* starting for Honda for we knew not when we could hope for another opportunity. So here we are on the River Maddalena, the largest and most important in Colombia; on its way to the sea it receives 500 affluents, and is navigable for over five hundred miles.

If any one had time to think of the welfare of the Republic much might be done for commerce by improving the conditions of navigation. We passed eighteen days on the river and I cannot say they were very pleasant. One does not suffer from sea-sickness on the rivers; so that the journey ought to be restful and under other conditions it might be so. But the fuel of these little steamers being wood, every two a three hours they stop to buy and take on board this wood and then the oppressive heat becomes unbearable. Mosquitos give us most occupation, having to keep up a perpetual warfare against them and I must acknowledge that they die like heroes, allowing themselves to be crushed rather than relinquish their purpose of sucking our blood, and though the final victory is ours, still they are able to inflict terrible wounds demonstrated by swollen faces and hands.

At night the steamer stops, owing to the shallowness of the river, and the mosquitos renew their attack; there are mosquito curtains it is true, but they are of little use. From the neighbouring morass and from the trees the mosquitos pour down upon us in hundreds; their buzzing is so irritating to the nerves that it is impossible to sleep; in biting they can pierce the clothes and even the canvas of Fr. Albera's hammock; the irritation caused by the bites is insufferable. When it rains they seem to become more vicious; the mosquitos from which we had suffered during our twenty-three days of river journey to Matto Grosso seemed but flies in comparison to these. When it rained one gained some relief in keeping arms and legs under the flow of water. I was quite swollen up and on my leg was a wound that did not heal for a month, in spite of the kind services of the Infirmarian at our house in Bogotà. My blood seemed to have been poisoned by these insects which may have been the cause of

the pain suffered for three months in my ears, and boils which had to be lanced several times. A missionary affirmed that it was preferable to be devoured by lions than by mosquitos. I would prefer to escape both these evils; to many things one may get accustomed, but not the irritation of mosquito-bites; the eighteen days on the Maddalena were a terrible martyrdom. We were entertained with the stupidity of the crocodiles of which hundreds could be seen lying on the sandy shores with open jaws, enjoying the sunshine and digesting their prey. Several of the passengers amused themselves by shooting at these creatures; but the balls glanced off their scaly hide and only served as a warning to them to disappear under the water.

(To be continued.)



Indulgences for the Month of October.

The following indulgences may be gained by all the Co-operators, who, having confessed and communicated, shall make a visit to a Church or public chapel, or in the case of communities, a private chapel, and pray for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff:

1. Rosary Sunday, Oct. 1st.
2. The Maternity of Our Blessed Lady, Oct. 8th.
3. The Purity of Our Blessed Lady, Oct. 26th.
4. On any one particular day chosen by the individual.
5. On the day the monthly exercise for a good death is made.
6. Whenever the Co-operators shall say five times the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Glory be to the Father* for the welfare of Christendom, and once the same prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father, they may gain the indulgences of the Stations in Rome, of the Portiuncula, of Jerusalem and of St. James of Compostella; these indulgences moreover are all applicable to the Holy Souls in Purgatory, and can be gained by the Co-operators as often as the prayers are said, as long as they are in the grace of God.

The complete list of indulgences and privileges may be found in the issue of January 1905 or in the Co-operator's Manual.



PERU

A new foundation at Cuzco,
the ancient Capital of the Incas.

Religious Monuments.

A famous poet, C. L. Calero, in some verses in honour of Cuzco exclaims, "Hail, O Cuzco, thou art, as history tells us, the new Rome of our beloved America; in your growth you manifested the same power, the same glory. Like another Romulus, Capac foresaw the future of his empire; and if the former ruled in one hemisphere, the latter exercised a similar power in the other."

As in Rome the attention of the traveller is arrested not only by the remains of pagan times, but also by the marvels of the ages of faith and Christian piety; so we cannot speak of Cuzco without mentioning, together with the Monuments of the time of the Incas, the majestic sacred edifices erected in these countries during their first years of Christianity. In conquering for the Church and for civilization the nations of America, Catholic Spain has left an imperishable record in monumental buildings.

Thus, the churches of Quito are truly remarkable both for their architecture and rich decoration; such as those of the Society of Jesus, of St. Francis and others; and many in Cuzco such as the Cathedral. This edifice, one of the largest in the New World, in its architecture resembles the Cathedral of Arequipa considered one of the finest in South America, and for richness may be compared with the Cathedral of Sucre in Bolivia.

The Cathedral of Cuzco is a magnificent temple in the style of the Renaissance; it is two

hundred and fifty feet long, by ninety in width and the interior height is seventy feet.

Fra Diego di Mendoza, in his Historical Notes of the province of Choxas, says that it is constructed entirely of *siglieria* stone, well chiselled; it has three naves; the central nave is supported by eighteen columns of colossal size and admirable proportions. It was erected on the site of the palace of the Juca Wiracocha, eighth King of Peru; the building took 117 years to complete and it was opened for Divine Worship in 1654.

The other Churches, especially those of the Society of Jesus, St. Peter, St. Francis, Our Lady of Mercy, St. Dominic, Bethlehem, etc. are all remarkable for the grandeur of their architecture and are constructed of solid stone. The handsome façades, almost all in the same style, are especially worthy of admiration.

The façade of the Cathedral is adorned with three rows of slender columns, with beautifully carved capitals, the work of an unknown sculptor, which, gracefully intertwining, reach to the cornice and terminate in a cross. At the sides are statues of St. Peter and St. Paul, and two strong towers.

Passing into the interior of the temple, the eye is at once attracted by the spacious choir of fine cedar, artistically carved, with two rows of statues between the columns. The pulpit, which is also of cedar, is wonderful. Many Churches have remarkable pulpits, but in Cuzco that of St. Blaise is, in my opinion, the gem. It is said that it was made from a simple trunk of cedar. The design is worthy of the artistic execution. Underneath, as if bearing the whole weight of the structure, are carved the hierarchs of various epochs, with faces showing the struggle to support it, and around the ambone, in beautiful niches, are the Evangelists surrounding the Most Pure Virgin. On the back is carved the image of St. Blaise, patron of the Church; and the canopy is supported by several small pillars on which stand the Doctors of the Church, surrounded by a beautiful Statue of St. Francis

Xavier with the crucifix in his hand. The value of this pulpit, from its artistic carving, the originality of the design and its antiquity, is incalculable.

Works of Art and treasures.

Good paintings are also to be seen in most of the Churches ; amongst these one may mention in the Cathedral, the *Purissima*, called *la Linda*, patroness of the Diocese, the *Lord of Earthquakes*, *Our Lady of Bethlehem* in the parish of the same name, *Our Lady of Good Success* in that of St. Blaise, which, according to tradition, appeared, on the wall of the church and whose face was like a heavenly vision: to us, indeed, at first sight, it scarcely seemed of earthly design.

The riches of the Churches of Cuzco would take a long time to describe. A short notice must suffice. It is said that at the opening of the Cathedral, the Bishop officiating, Mgr. Ortega Soto Mayor, had the pavement covered with plates of silver, each of which weighed 200 golden marks. The vestments of the Church are of great value. The thuribles, and numbers of chalices, are all of gold and silver. A car for the *Corpus Christi* procession is entirely made of silver ; on this is placed a Monstrance, over three feet in height, of solid gold, so heavy that a strong man can only with difficulty lift the pedestal. There is also a precious ivory Crucifix and a staff of silver gilt.

I do not speak of the numerous altars of cedar artistically carved and gilded with fine gold, the brightness of which the lapse of centuries has not tarnished. Many altars, like that of the Cathedral, are of silver.

Here and there, amongst so many marvels, one begins to see signs of decay ; but with praiseworthy care, even in Peru, necessary repairs are attended to ; thus in Lima the Cathedral has been restored, as well as the fine Church of St. Dominic ; and here Our Lady of Mercy,

St. Francis, St. Teresa and others have likewise been repaired.

Records of the Conquest.

Adjoining the Cathedral in the temple called *Sacrario*, where is kept a threefold memorial of the early days of the Conquest. In the first place, there is the altar where Father Valverde, the first priest who reached Peru, and later the first Bishop of Cuzco, celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the Capital of the Incas. In the second place, the statue, of Our Lady of Triumph, who, according to tradition obtained for the Spaniards a miraculous victory over an army of 200,000 Indians under the Inca Manco. Lastly, the Cross of the Conquest carried by



Ruins of Sacsay-huamán, Cuzco (Peru).

Father Valverde, before which both conquerors and conquered, Pizarro and Almagro, Atahualpa and Manco II, prostrated themselves.

To conclude these notes on religious monuments and treasures I ought to speak of the other notable buildings and the religious houses. I will, at least, mention those of the Society of Jesus, of St. Francis, of the Dominicans, of the Augustinians, of Our Lady of Mercy, etc. Amongst the finest, besides the large Seminary, that of Our Lady of Mercy deserves special notice, for its cloister of carved stone, for its paintings, for its admirable sculptures and for the grand flight of steps surrounded by an arch of black granite of such an extraordinary design that a Roman architect, on seeing it, exclaimed :

"This is a hazardous experiment in architecture."

Cuzco, from its temperate climate and the excellence of its soil, is suited to all the agricultural products of the temperate zone; unfortunately at present, water, that efficient co-operator in agricultural success, is wanting, but shortly, through the exertions of the government, Cuzco will have an abundant water supply which will transform its fields into pleasant gardens.

Successful agriculture is now carried on in the valley, where all kinds of plants are grown and fruits of all sorts may be gathered. Here all crops flourish, also cocoa, sugar-cane, quinine, coffee, the plants most used in dye-works and the finest drugs.

Amongst the most fertile valleys is one I visited last year, called *Oro amba*, watered by the stream *Vilcamota*; it is seven leagues from the city and is named by the Cuzcans *Bit of heaven*.

Of animals, besides the usual cattle and sheep, may be mentioned the *llama*, *guanaco*, *alpaca*, *vicuña*, all with valuable skins and wool much esteemed in the Old World.

But I must now conclude with the good news that we have found an extensive site, near the city, well-suited for the erection of schools of Arts and Trades and also for an agricultural colony.


Meanwhile in the buildings we have hired, we have already commenced the schools and from day to day the number of scholars increases. Thus we trust that the new foundation, with the blessing of God and Mary Help of Christians, and through the charity and enthusiasm of the good Cuzcans, will soon develop in a satisfactory manner.

You, dear Father, will not forget us in your prayers, and with our confrères of this house, bless also

Your affectionate son in J. C.
C. SANTINELLI.

COLOMBIA.

Manifestations of affection from the Lepers of Agua de Dios.

 In a former number we published a letter from our Missionary Fr. Alexander Garbari on the festal celebrations provided by the lepers of Agua de Dios on the

return of Fr. Louis Variara. This son of Don Bosco, who, for many years, even in the time of Fr. Unia, devoted himself exclusively to the lepers of Agua de Dios, having suffered in health, was by the solicitude of his Superiors and brethren called to another abode where, far from this lazaretto, he might more readily recover his former health. And he, though with sorrow, had left the lazaretto at the call of obedience.

But if the Missionary was grieved in quitting the lepers, they were so overwhelmed with sorrow at his abrupt departure that, without ceasing their lamentations, they at once adopted every possible means to regain their lost pastor. For this end letters and telegrams were despatched not only to the Provincial Fr. Aime and to Fr. E. Rabagliati in charge of the Lazarettos, but also to the Apostolic Delegate of Colombia, so that he might interest the Pope in their behalf. They applied also to the Archbishop of Bogotá to intercede with our Superior Don Rua, and finally to the President of the Republic.

To so many petitions Fr. Aime could not turn a deaf ear, so that after a *few days'* absence, Fr. Variara returned to Agua de Dios, an event unlooked for though greatly desired. The rejoicings on his return were briefly described by Fr. Garbari, who wrote that these manifestations of joy were as nothing in comparison with those which greeted the arrival of the successor of Fr. Unia, our beloved confrère Fr. Crippa, on his return from Europe at the end of last year.

Whilst thanking God Who, by such manifestations of affection, consoles our brethren in their generous self devotion in this great home of suffering, we hope to give pleasure to our readers by publishing one of the petitions which on this occasion reached Don Rua, almost at the same time as the numerous letters of thanksgiving, of which one was signed by more than four hundred lepers.

The following is one of the petitions received by our Reverend Superior, from which one may easily form an idea of the contents and affection of all the rest.

Colombia-Agua de Dios.

Very Rev. Father Don Michael Rua

Superior of the Pious Society of the Salesians.

Very Reverend and dearest Father,

The least amongst your unfortunate children

of Agua de Dios, but one who is full of love and reverence for you, salutes you with profound respect and feels honoured in writing you these few lines, being compelled thereto by a sad misfortune which you alone can repair. To place him at the head of the Novitiate of Mosguera, the Very Rev. Fr. Aime, Provincial of the Salesians of Colombia, has taken from us our beloved Fr. Louis Variara, the most precious jewel bequeathed to us by the Reverend Fr. Michael Unia, of beloved and imperishable memory.

Numerous are the petitions, wet with our tears, which, each day, we poor lepers send to Fr. Aime, asking for the return of our Father, but hitherto these have been unavailing; yet inspired by our great love for our Father Louis and in fulfilment of a sacred duty, we are bound to use all our efforts and grudge no sacrifice to regain the inestimable treasure taken from us. With the departure of Fr. Louis, the Lazaretto has lost its vitality and the sick are bereft of peace, tranquillity and courage....

With him have vanished the joy of our souls, the repose of our hearts, the contentment of our troubled spirits, the sweetest hopes for our gloomy future; with him finally have departed the favourable conditions which alleviated our sad lot.

From you, dear Father, we now look for a proof of your charity, giving back to the Lazaretto its vitality and to us courage, peace, tranquillity and joy of heart. Without this we cannot and desire not to live, because our chief support is wanting.

Remember, dear Father, that one of the noblest works of the holy Institute of which you are the worthy Superior, is to alleviate the sad condition of the lepers, drying their tears, sharing their sufferings, lavishing upon them all you tenderness and pity, feeding us with the bread of the soul and training us to the practice of those virtues which will lead us to heaven. Blessed be the Salesian Congregation! All the benefits we have hitherto received from Divine Providence; but these the greatest sufferings of our terrible malady disappear on reaching the Lazaretto, because there we find the Salesian Fathers who have changed this dreary spot into an ocean of consolation.

The greatness of the loss, which this abode

of suffering would sustain by the absence of our beloved Fr. Louis, may be easily understood.

The Confraternities of the S. Heart, of St. Joseph, of the Guard of Honour and the Holy Hour would gradually decline and probably cease to exist, for he was their animating spirit and their director. The building of the Oratory-Refuge, would be delayed and who knows when its would be completed; the band of Musicians trained by him would disperse; in a word the Lazaretto would quickly lose much of its vitality.



Cloister of the convent of Our Lady of Mercy, Cuzco (Peru).

I do not doubt that our ardent prayer, made with tears in our eyes and in the name of Mary, Help of Christians, of Don Bosco, of Fr. Unia, and of all the lepers of Colombia, will be received with all the generosity and kindness you have ever shown your poor children of Agua de Dios, and that you will receive in return abundant heavenly blessings, with our love and gratitude.

Your most obedient son

FRANCIS BERNAL.



London. The Salesian Schools. Battersea (1).

At the time of writing holidays are in full swing. The excitement of the break up time has worn off and given place to eager expectation of examination results, which have at last put in their appearance. There are just a few disappointments in the list, but on the whole the results are very satisfactory. The names are given in another place. The commencement of the new term is the time for a good start in the year's work; for new boys no delay should be made. Another page of this issue deals with the school at greater length.

The garden, lawn and some of the school halls were witnesses of some very different scenes from school-life during the three days of the holidays, August 7th, 8th and 9th. In deed it was a unique sight for our grounds, described in general terms by a local paper as a

GARDEN-PARTY.

of which it makes the following announcement.

Our readers are already aware of the requirements insisted upon by London County Council for the day schools attached to the Sacred Heart Mission at West Battersea. To augment the funds required to meet the necessarily heavy expenses about to be incurred on this account, it was decided to hold a garden party in the magnificent grounds attached to the Salesian Schools situate close to the parish church. A committee of interested ladies and gentlemen was formed, and the party was held on Monday Tuesday, and Wednesday last, and was successful beyond expectation, thanks to the earnest

zeal and untiring efforts of all concerned. The refreshment stalls and the Swiss Café were ably superintended by the Misses H. and M. Horan and Miss Saunders, who worked hard to ensure success, whilst the ever-ready Children of Mary, in pretty Swiss costumes, kindly acted as waitresses. The fruit stall was under the skilful management of Mrs. J. W. Sullivan. Miss K. Bogle and Miss Murphy were diligent in the sale of flowers. Members of the Sacred Heart Club and several other gentlemen kindly volunteered to act as stewards, and great credit is due to them for the very efficient way in which they carried out their by no means light duties. On each day there was a large muster of parishioners and friends from all parts of the metropolis, and a very enjoyable time was spent.

The programme was large and varied, and provided entertainment and amusement for young and old. The open-air variety entertainments were under the direction of Mr. Harry Platt, and many well-known and distinguished artistes gave their willing services. The Moonlighter Pierrot Troupe was well appreciated. Instrumental music was supplied by the Salesian Boys' Brass Band, which at frequent intervals played choice and select pieces in a thoroughly masterly manner. The boys are to be congratulated on their precise and skilful playing.

The grounds were thrown open to ticket-holders at 3 p.m. on Monday and at 4 p. m. on each of the other days, and then for seven hours fun and merriment held sway. In the afternoon athletic sports provided amusement for the children, whilst donkey rides, cocoanut shies, games, etc., made the early evening fly only too quickly. At 6 o'clock the famous Richardson's Show (which was exceedingly well

(1) In last month's issue, under this heading, referring to the top boy of the school, the word "bright" should have been "cricket" (Printer's error).

patronised) created uproars of laughter amongst those who were fortunate enough to secure tickets for it. The open-air concerts were remarkably successful, and all the artists received well-merited applause. Each day there was a constant rush for tickets to view the Tableaux Vivants which were given in the large theatre-hall of the Salesian Schools. The spacious stage was very artistically draped, and a variety of historical scenes were depicted in tableaux. All were capital and realistic representations, and if any at all could be singled out for special praise, that illustrating the execution of the hapless Mary Queen of Scots deserves it.

At nightfall the decoration and illumination of the grounds were seen at their best. The success of this was due to the patient labour and the skill of Mr. B. J. Hopper, who succeeded in producing a remarkably pleasing effect.

After the tableaux the great event of the day, which the young folk especially had been longing for, took place. Under the direction of Mr. J. W. Sullivan and to the accompaniment of the Boys' Band, an hour's dancing was indulged in on the beautiful lawn. The pretty balcony overlooking the lawn was decorated and illuminated by over four hundred coloured electric lamps, whilst over the lawn itself were suspended two powerful lights, which practically turned night into day. Besides this some six hundred fairy lamps of varied colours hung in graceful festoons all around, and rendered the grounds exceedingly pretty. Looking down from the balcony on the lovely scene one seemed to have been suddenly transported into Fairyland itself—the pretty dresses, the velvety, grassy carpet below, the brilliant lights and lanterns around, the happy laughter, all contributed to make a scene of life and light almost impossible to surpass. Each day was brought to a close by a display of fireworks.

The clergy beg to tender their sincere thanks to the committee and to those patrons and friends who have so generously helped in furthering the success of this their first garden party. The funds, as stated above, go towards the required improvements to the schools.

The Mediterranean.

Malta still provides us with reports of vigorous prosperity. A contemporary under the title of "The Salesians," says:

Last Sunday witnessed the inauguration of the new chapel of the Salesian Institute at Sliema, and on Wednesday the little theatre built below the chapel was opened. The Provincial of the Salesians, Father Lovisolo, happening to be in Malta, advantage was taken of the occasion to have these ceremonies performed in his presence, and Father Mezzacasa, the talented Salesian musician, was specially asked to come over from Sicily to lend his valuable musical aid.

Mons. Canon S. Grech officiated at the short but impressive and well conducted ceremony of the inauguration of the chapel. The remarkably good singing of the boys during this service bore witness to the great attention paid to their training.

The chapel itself, which is very neatly and tastefully built, will soon be a great boon to all who reside in the neighbourhood, for we are given to understand that it will be opened to the public as soon as the main entrance to the Institute is ready.

At the opening of the theatre Father Lovisolo made a very happy and appropriate speech expressing the high satisfaction he felt at the flourishing state of the establishment and bestowing the warmest praise on all concerned and especially on Father O'Grady under whose able direction such remarkable results have been obtained. He concluded his speech by thanking Government and all benefactors and friends for what they had done and were still doing for this good work.

"La Sentinella" was then given by the boys of the Institute assisted by some friends and members of the Staff. A very great and marked improvement could be noticed in the acting of the boys who seem to be quite at home on the stage.

The following ladies and gentlemen very kindly lent their help and added not a little to the attractions of the entertainment:—the Misses Mamo, Miss Zammit, Miss Cortis, the Misses Fallon, Mr. John Mamo, Mr. Zammit, Mr. Jos. Borg Cardona, Mr. Alex. Borg. Cardona, Mr. Formosa, Mr. A. Pullicino, Mr. Cortis, and Mr. Venuti.

South Africa. His Lordship the Bishop at Our Institute.

Looking south there is a welcome ring of progress about the account sent in by our Cape

Town Correspondent. Apart from his communication, it is the first time we have seen on the school note-paper the record of their successful exhibits at the recent exhibition at Cape Town. The School seems to have done very well in carrying off a *Gold Medal* for shoe-making, a *special Diploma* for book binding and the *Government Prize* for cabinet making. These awards will no doubt give them a higher place in the labour world, and deservedly so since it is the honest efforts of the boys which an appreciative public has recognised. But our correspondent touches on other matters: "The beautiful feast of *Corpus Christi* was fittingly kept at the Salesian Institute. As this is a day on which Our Divine Lord under the sacramental species is honoured by public processions we resolved that the feast-day should be celebrated by a procession in the Institute grounds. An altar was tastefully arranged in the open air, the route to it being also decorated. His Lordship D. Rooney had been invited to officiate and punctually at 5.30 p.m. arrived amid a welcome march from the band, and the procession started at once. The crossbearer was followed by the main body of the Institute boys and the band which accompanied all the singing; the altar boys came next preceding the officiating clergy and the bishop who carried the Blessed Sacrament. A few Co-operators and several Marist Brothers followed. Benediction was given by the bishop at the improvised altar and every one present felt the solemnity of the moment when the Blessed Sacrament was raised aloft bestowing benediction on them and the house through which it had been carried that day. The procession then slowly wended its way back to the chapel. We gladly take this opportunity of thanking his Lordship, Dr. Rooney, not only for his kindness on this occasion, but also for the innumerable attentions which the Salesians in Cape Town have received at his hands.

Another event of the last few weeks was the boys' annual retreat. It was preached by Fr. Fuignam an old and worthy priest of the Vicariate who completely won the hearts of the boys and was consequently able to do them lasting good. Besides our own private thanks which have been already accorded him we wish to publicly thank him here for the labour he has undergone in conducting the retreat and for the spiritual good he has accomplished in our

midst. As a fitting close to the retreat fourteen of our boys made their first Communion and two young aspirants to the religious life received the habit of the Salesians. This was the first ceremony of the kind that has yet taken place at the Institute in Cape Town, and was a source of great encouragement to us.

One other little interesting occurrence, the outcome of a favourite practice with our founder Don Bosco, was the Catechism competition. All those boys who gained full marks at the private examination, had to undergo another test before the whole school so as to find out the ten highest. The questioning was then continued among these ten till only the top three were left. The progress of the examination was most interesting and even exciting and no one enjoyed it more than the boys themselves who loudly applauded the victors at its close. The ten fortunate boys were rewarded by a holiday trip and the three best gained special prizes."

Examination Lists.

The successes at the Salesian School resulting from the Midsummer examination are as follows:—

Oxford Junior. A. Fuest, Honours and Distinction in Latin.

L. Grogan, Honours.

S. Fraulo, V. Murphy, A. Fransella, Pass.

Oxford Preliminary. J. Gibbons, A. Grant, C. Westlake.

E. Burns, T. Moran, A. Monaghan, H.

Foyle, C. Fraser, J. Gee, M. Madden,

L. Manley, J. Mc Grath, J. McTague.

College of Preceptors. E. Walsh, Distinction in Geometry, A. Syme, A. Surgeson, A. Fraulo, H. Banks, F. Shepperd, C. Forbett, M. Smyth, W. Kempsey, L. Rosinski, P. Girardin, F. Jordan, J. Bulter.

East Hill, Wandsworth, S. W.

After long waiting and persevering effort visible signs of progress are at last evident. The site of the new church has been cleared and the foundations are in progress. The building will be of goodly size, not large, but suited to the needs of the growing parish and keeping in view its distance from the neighbouring Catholic churches. It will be roughly between sixty

and seventy feet in length and between fifty and sixty in width. Arrangements for the laying of the foundation stone will soon be complete though the date of the ceremony is not yet fixed.

Now that the building itself is almost begun we would again urge our readers and Co-operators to help the Salesian Priests in charge to combat their financial difficulties, always so trying in connection with the raising of churches and schools. Many have already come forward—the clergy are extremely grateful to them, and hope that their example may draw many others to aid in this good work. The latest efforts of the clergy towards the funds were in the direction of an outdoor social gathering, thus described by their correspondent in the *West Battersea Parish Magazine* :—

We have looked forward with eagerness and anxiety to the result of this grand Social Gathering, and felt sure that, given fine weather, it would be an unprecedented success. Our most sanguine hopes have been amply realized, and whilst the financial statement is not before us yet, everything has pointed to success—brilliant in more senses than one.

A long pull, a strong pull, and a good pull together, was Father Hawarden's advice to the Organising Committee, and combined, well directed effort, resulted, as it always does, in complete success in every true sense of the word. Our Committee-men deserve the greatest praise for the excellent manner in which they managed everything—the weather included. The Salesian Boys' Band played delightful music in well finished style, which reflected great credit on the indefatigable bandmaster. The Royal Punch and Judy Show amused and delighted the smaller fry, and the bigger ones too seemed to thoroughly enjoy the antics of Punch, the affection of Judy, and the fidelity of dog Toby, if one can judge by the hearty manner in which they joined in the laughter. The entertainments! how well managed they were, and how enjoyable. It would be a rather difficult task to eulogise the individual merits of each artist in turn, but speaking generally, the concerts were admirable, every artist doing his or her best, and doing it very well, too, to entertain an appreciative audience. Whilst still on the subject of the entertainments, I think I may be permitted to make special mention of Mr. Harry Paulton, first because of

his fame and popularity, and secondly because of his special kindness in giving us the benefit of his professional experience in the matter of organising entertainments. His humorous lectures and songs were the very best feature of the evening's programme, and were most popular. He put into them his whole energy, and we are more than grateful. The illuminations at dusk were very fine, and under the direction of a most capable M. C., Mr. C. O' Driscoll, the dancing on the lawn was orderly, and much appreciated. Our Committee-men looked pleased and happy as they saw their hard efforts meeting with such well deserved success. Our genial Chairman Mr. J. F. Kelly looked particularly happy, whilst Mr. Kearns our Vice-Chairman, literally bubbled over with joy as he told me his pleasure at the success of the undertaking. Next month I hope to be able to record that all these outward signs of success have had a true signification, inasmuch as they have pointed to financial success,—a consummation of our hopes devoutly to be wished.



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.



DEVOTION TO OUR LADY Help of Christians



We are persuaded, that no aid but that of Heaven can avail us in the sorrowful vicissitudes of our day, and that especially through the intercession of Her who in every age has proved Herself the Help of Christians.
Pius PP. X.

Echoes of the feast-day.

Accounts of the celebration of the feast of Mary Help of Christians have come in from far and wide. Some have already been touched upon and about them all is a note of ever increasing devotion which was characterised by certain well-marked traits.

The first was the extraordinary numbers who approached the Holy Sacraments, and in many places the feast day was chosen as the First Communion day for the boys and girls, thus placing them under the protection of the Mother of Our Divine Lord whom they received for the first time, that she may indeed be a *help* and protectress to those little ones through life.

Another was the practice of the procession, carrying the statue or picture of the Help of Christians. This devotional ceremony is always a favourite and cannot fail to draw down the blessing of the Queen of Heaven. A third was the care with which the music for the occasion had been selected and performed. Our Institutes show a marked progress in this, combining the liturgical requirements with harmonious effect.

At Milan the day was made the occasion of the annual Conference, presided over by the Archbishop of Ravenna, Mgr. Morganti who also pontificated at the Solemn Mass of the feastday. In the evening a commemorative assembly was held, and during the answer

to the vote of thanks offered to His Grace, he said: "It is a most pleasing duty to do whatever I can for the Salesian Society, from which I and my family received no small benefit when with my three brothers I was received by Don Bosco in the Oratory School at Turin."

Bologna was also honoured by the presence of the Cardinal Archbishop for the titular feast. He said the Community Mass in the early morning and spoke to the crowd of boys in terms of eloquence of which he alone is capable. The Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Mgr. James Carpanelli, who had recently been created a Domestic Prelate of His Holiness and who had reserved that day for his first public appearance in his new dignity.

At midday a long procession arrived at the Institute consisting of a hundred and fifty children from a neighbouring parish who had made their First Communion the day before. They were accompanied by many of the parishioners who desired to see the Cardinal and obtain his blessing. The whole affair was a pleasant surprise to the Archbishop and he addressed the children and sent them away rejoicing.

Many other institutes had the good fortune of the presence of their bishop or Archbishop for the celebration of the feast of Mary Help of Christians. Accounts from over sea are still to be given, and they are very numerous, many of the newly founded churches in the growing centres being dedicated under her name.

GRACES and FAVOURS

Troia (ITALY). Devotion to Our Lady Help of Christians has reached almost to enthusiasm in this town, on account of wonderful favours received through her intercession.

On Jan. 7th a young subaltern in the army, stationed not far away was attacked by brain fever which soon developed to such an extent that the doctors could do nothing. The major in command sent a telegram that same day to the Mayor here, and the sad news was broken to his family. Their grief was intense. His sisters who are zealous Co-operators telegraphed to our Superior General for prayers and they themselves commenced a novena. On the 9th the Major sent another telegram, with the news that to the surprise of all, the young soldier was out of danger. He himself desired that the favour should be made public, and asked to be enrolled as a Salesian Co-operator.

In the same town a young man, already a Co-operator, fell ill with a serious lung complaint and was only just snatched from death's door. The priest who attended him wrote to the Oratory at Turin for prayers in which the sick man joined. From that time he grew better and has since resumed his ordinary occupations.

June, 1905.

PROF. R. T.
Salesian Co-operator.

Borgo S. Martino (ITALY). After several slight illnesses, I was, in October of last year struck down by a serious malady. I had every attention that could be thought of, and the best medical advice, but only passing relief could be obtained and the illness was considered incurable.

Our Mother Superior having tried every means in her power, determined to make a novena to Our Lady Help of Christians, promising to send to her Sanctuary the first offering presented by a certain great benefactress of ours. The whole community took part in the novena. A notable improvement was soon apparent, but a relapse brought another disappointment. However another novena was commenced, and without the use of any medicine whatever, I was completely cured. After having laid aside the community obser-

vances for so long, it is now a consolation to me to be able to take my full share in them and to enjoy a fulness of health which was so long denied.

April, 1905.

A. R.

Member of the Congregation of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians.

Cleveland (U. S. OF AMERICA). I enclose a small sum as a thankoffering to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Our Lady Help of Christians for favours received.

M. McF.

July, 1905.

Mangalore (INDIA). Thanks are offered to Our Lady Help of Christians for a temporal favour obtained through her powerful aid.

A CO-OPERATOR.

July, 1905.

Mangalore (INDIA). I enclose a small offering for a Mass to be said in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians for success in a civil suit.

B. N.

July, 1905.

Mayo (IRELAND). Please accept a small offering for two Masses in thanksgiving to Our Lady Help of Christians for two favours received through her intercession.

M. G.

August, 1905.

Demerara (BRITISH GUIANA). I am sending you five shillings for a Mass in thanksgiving to Our Lady Help of Christians.

A CO-OPERATOR.

August, 1905.

Chicago (U. S. OF AMERICA). Some eighteen months ago I found myself in a desperate condition. I had been doctoring for years and had given up hope when I received a copy of the *Salesian Bulletin*. I made a novena and a promise of sending an alms with the result that I am now, thanks be to God, in perfect health. My troubles have all disappeared and I have been lucky in all my undertakings. I enclose with great pleasure and thanks to Mary Help of Christians the sum of five dollars.

P. O'D.

August 18th, 1905.

PERMISSU SUPERIORUM

Gerent, GIUSEPPE GAMBINO—Salesian Press, Turin, 1905

APPEAL

ON BEHALF OF THE SALESIAN INSTITUTE.

To all those who are kindly disposed towards poor orphans, to all those who have at heart the betterment of society by the education especially of abandoned or neglected youth, we appeal with confidence.

The Salesian Institute in Cape Town is a school of Arts and Trades, one of the four hundred and more Institutions of Don Bosco. It consists of schools of printing, cabinet-making, bookbinding, shoemaking and tailoring. Boys are accepted irrespective of creed, are trained in one of these trades, while at the same time they receive a good "book" education and are taught both vocal and instrumental music.

The houses in which the work is carried on at present are only rented and were never intended for educational purposes. So far there are seventy-two lads in the Institute, all healthy and happy, and this is all that we can at present accommodate. During the past year close on sixty applications had to be refused. This year the demands are pouring in daily, but the answer is always the same: "There is no room."

Our benefactors and all those acquainted with the work urge us to build a suitable institute to provide for about two hundred boys, where a model school of Arts and Trades may arise and the complete educational system of Don Bosco may be developed. There is every prospect of a valuable site being secured in one of the old Cemeteries in Somerset Road; so it is now necessary to start a building fund. Confident in the blessing of Divine Providence and the goodness of the cause we turn for help to both rich and poor of every denomination and nationality.

A Committee has been already formed for the purpose of collecting subscriptions. While we expect much from the wealthy, we are confident that the labouring classes, who have experienced many hardships in common with our boys, will not deny their mite. A small subscription every month, sixpence, a shilling or half a crown, will prove most effectual in aid of the new Institute.

We wish to promise our prayers to all those who come to our assistance and we feel certain that the Almighty will reward abundantly every one of our benefactors.

For the Salesians:

E. M. TOZZI, S.C., *Superior.*

Feb. 14th, 1905.

Salesian Institute,

49, Buitenkant Street, Cape Town.

I hereby recommend most heartily the foregoing appeal to all the well disposed throughout my own jurisdiction, and to the Superiors of the Missions who have sent, or are likely to send boys to the Salesian Institute from any part of South Africa.

✠ JOHN LEONARD,

St. Mary's, Cape Town.

Feb., 14th, 1905.

(Cablegram.)

To Superior, Salesian Institute, Cape Town. — Rome, 13th March, 1905.

Ho'y Father wishes development to praiseworthy work of Salesian Institute and blesses Superiors, benefactors and Pupils.

Cardinal MERRY DEL VAL.

SALESIAN SCHOOLS

SURREY HOUSE, SURREY LANE

BATTERSEA, LONDON, S. W.



DIRECTED AND TAUGHT BY THE SALESIAN FATHERS.

The principal object of this School (which is distinct from the Orphanage) is to provide a classical education at a moderate charge for those boys who desire to study for the priesthood. The course is arranged to meet the requirements of the College of Preceptors and the London University Examinations. Boys who have no vocation for the Ecclesiastical state are prepared for any other career that they may wish to follow. 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.

For particulars apply to the Superior, the Very Rev. Father Macey, Salesian Schools, 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.