



# Salesian Bulletin

No. 3 — MARCH — 1906

♣ Vol. V. ♣

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

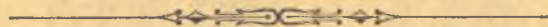
*Leo Saxius*

✠ DA MIHI

ANIMAS CÆTERA TOLLE

# 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.

# The Salesian Bulletin

Organ of the Association of Salesian Co-operators

"Oratorio Salesiano" Turin, Italy.


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## The Patron of the Universal Church

**T**HE month of march is the month of the Holy Father's patron Saint, and the Catholic world is commencing to arrange for the due celebration of his sacerdotal jubilee. No doubt his holy patron has tenderly watched over his upward career and brought him at last to watch over the interests of the universal church, of which he is the constituted patron, and which his Foster-son came down on earth to found. The holy Father's intentions are always one of the objects recommended to the prayers of the Co-operators.

Many Good works are brought before our readers in this issue. In honour of St. Joseph let some one of them be the object of their special interest.

## Important Notice to Readers.

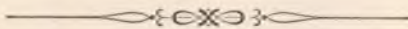
s announced previously in the **Bulletin**, the Rules of the Association of Salesian Co-operators, together with a summary of the Indulgences and spiritual favours, and appendices, have been reprinted and bound into a neat volume or manual.

A copy of this and a diploma of membership is being sent to all readers. If some of the dates affixed thereto are subsequent to the date of receipt, that is the day on which membership will commence, and on which the plenary indulgence may be gained.

Those readers, who on receiving a copy and reading the instructions and regulations, do not desire to be enrolled as members, should return the two things, and their names will be cancelled. Those who retain them will be definitively enrolled.

Explanations and information concerning the rule will be found in the manual, but will be supplemented by the **Bulletin**. Any member is of course free to withdraw his name at any future time should he so wish.

It is greatly desired that by this means a new impetus will be given to the development and active participation of the Salesian Co-operators, and that the works of Don Bosco will be known, esteemed, and aided more and more. It will also serve to strengthen the bond of charity, of prayer and of work, which ought to unite the Co-operators amongst themselves, and also to the members of the Salesian Society, with whom they work for the greater glory of God and the good of society at large.



# To the Salesian Co-operators



notice which we give on another page of this issue seems to call for a few explanatory remarks on our part, and some consideration on the part of all those concerned in the good works whose interests are represented by this periodical.

Up to the present time our readers have been considered as forming two classes. Some were regularly enrolled as Co-operators and had received the diploma of registration. They joined, as far as their sphere of action allowed, in the different works of the Society, said the prescribed prayers, and co-operated by alms, or by interesting themselves in the education and protection of youth, noting the special feast-days observed by us, and participating in all the spiritual favours of the Congregation.

The second class consisted of those who received the *Bulletin*, but had not signified their intention of being enrolled as members of the Association of Co-operators. Some of their names had been sent in by friends, others had from time to time shown their interest in our different works, and thus many received the *Bulletin* monthly, without being actually in touch with the doings of the Association.

But this state of things was evidently an unsatisfactory one. Considering that the first copy our edition was issued

for the month of April 1892, and that our Co-operators were at the same time regularly enrolled, it is plain that time and circumstances have combined to make a re-arrangement necessary. The first copy in one place announced that: "by our *Bulletin* we hoped not only to supply the medium of communication, but also to remove the most serious difficulty in making our Institute known, and in due time propagating it among English speaking nations."

This end it would seem has been gained, and the number of Co-operators and readers has increased enormously; it is principally in view of this increase, as well as to do away with the double class of readers, that the central organisation at Turin has sent out to all whether before enrolled or not, a copy of the new "Co-operators Manual" and diploma of registration. Those that do not return them to the Oratory at Turin, or to our House at London, will be confirmed as members.

While discussing this re-organisation, a few words dealing with a slightly different but no less important matter are just *apropos*. The readers of the different *Bulletins*, for instance those who receive the Italian or French or Spanish *Bulletins*, are considered as one department of the whole body of Co-operators, and their support goes mainly to furthering the good work being done in the particular province

or provinces. The readers of our *Bulletin* must for the present regard **London** as the centre of their province, and their efforts should be directed

this as to a head-quarters Co-operators should send their subscription for the *Bulletin*. This subscription is not fixed to any special amount, but its produc-

tion and postage are costly matters and each member should therefore strive to be regular in this yearly or half-yearly subscription. However, this donation must not be regarded as a separate item by itself. An offering towards the works in general, or any one of them in particular, includes the offering for the *Bulletin*. Any other explanations concerning the Association of Co-operators or the works of Don Bosco should be applied for at the same head-quarters. Certainly we should not allow ourselves to be outdone by our co-members in other countries, whose persevering efforts have accomplished so much, and are destined to accomplish even greater things. From time to time special appeals are made on behalf of some particular need, but as a rule the home province should be reg-



St. Joseph's Altar — The Oratory, Turin.

towards developing and furthering the works already set on foot there; for only by this means can the province extend its influence for good, and the number of its foundations which will afterwards form new provinces. To

arded as the main object of co-operation.

Many are the names which are being continually added to the list of Co-operators, but it goes without saying, that the share in the favours and spiritual advantages is proportionate to the zeal

displayed in promoting the objects of the association. The earnestness of first fervour is so apt to die out. Our Superior General in this regard once remarked that on turning over the pages of the Co-operators' names, or on opening his daily letters he meets with the names of some who have been constant Co-operators right on from Don Bosco's time, and still persevere in their charitable assistance.

But among all those who belong to an association there exists a mysterious bond of intimate communication. It is similar to the influence of a good mother over the members of her family; she constantly endeavours to realise in her management the equality with which she regards each one of them, each being equally her child. Towards your association Our Lady Help of Christians holds the place of a mother, and of a devoted mother whose maternal care is solicitous for all. Through her, the prayers, good works and the merits of the persevering and zealous become profitable to the less fervent without any loss to the former. At the same time even more signal favours are open to them. One need only open the Rule or manual to read the long enumeration of favours granted to the associates, which they can gain for themselves or apply to their departed friends. The manual will also bring before your notice many good works in which you may exercise your zeal,

but if you find that none of them suit your circumstances prayer is always at hand, and future surroundings may yet enable you to overcome the difficulties which at present hinder more active co-operation. We must look forward to the time when the numbers of Catholics in the large populous centres will make it possible to emulate the combined action of our associates in other lands; but in order to make that possible a knowledge of the work must be propagated even more. A very simple, and at the same time effective means of doing this is by bringing the *Salesian Bulletin* before your friends. Having looked through it yourself, if you do not wish to keep it, pass it on to any good Catholics, or show it to them when they are with you. The most humble means are frequently God's instruments for effecting some secret good, and in this way the Co-operators are also accomplishing another important object, the spread of Catholic literature. No doubt many more Catholics would join the Pious Association of Salesian Co-operators if they knew it. Each member should therefore make himself an apostle of the work, and by combining in the labours of this world-wide association, he will co-operate with the Holy Father himself in his grand object of spiritual restoration, which is nothing else than to become, as an excellent bishop put it, *Co-operators with God*.



# Don Bosco's Successor in England

**O**UR Superior General being solicitous for the welfare of every part of the spiritual empire over which he rules and the better to weld its various constituents into a more connected whole, endeavours to visit some part of it each year. It is of course no light undertaking for one of venerable years, entailing as it does continual self-sacrifice and inconvenience; for this reason he was constrained to appoint Fr. Albera as special visitor to the Houses of America, and the details of that visitation are still appearing in these columns.

In the commencement of the month of February the Very Rev. Don Rua, Don Bosco's Successor, visited the little island of Guernsey in the English Channel and being once on British soil it was only natural for him to continue his journey to England and to London. Outside of the town many of the inhabitants of Guernsey are of French descent and speak their native language. Some of the French Salesians therefore were quite in their element when His Lordship the Bishop of Portsmouth placed them in charge of two parishes in the isle of Guernsey. Our Superior General had come to the Channel Islands to visit the Houses there, and came over to Portsmouth to see the

Right Rev. Dr. Cahill in connection with them. His Lordship very kindly entertained Don Rua and the three Salesians with him on Monday night Feb. 13th and he left for London on the following morning.

Of the big world of London at large it may

be said that it knew him not; not so however of the little world of the Salesian House at West Battersea. All the community were soon around their Superior General and the assembled boys received him with continued acclamation.

The Very Rev. Don Rua briefly expressed his thanks in response to the boys' hearty greeting, postponing any formal address to a more opportune occasion.

That same evening he was entertained at a literary and musical gathering, when greetings were offered

in many languages. In his reply Don Rua said that he had not started from Turin with the idea of visiting England or the Salesian School in London, but as Divine Providence had ordained it so, it was a great pleasure to him to be in their midst, and to visit the Houses in England once more. He congratulated them on their addresses and music and thanked them heartily for their welcome.

Into the three or four days following, which



**The Very Rev. Don Rua, Don Bosco's Successor.**



made up his short visit a good deal of business had to be crammed. On the next day Don Rua went into the day-schools at Battersea, to see the children of the parish, where each department had some short item of welcome in his honour. Don Rua spoke briefly to the children encouraging them in good and in their attendance at Holy Mass and the Sacraments. Before leaving, he gave them the blessing of Mary Help of Christians for themselves, their parents, their brothers and sisters. Considering the wonderful efficacy of this blessing, we do not doubt Our Lady Help of Christians will render it of lasting effect upon their homes and future lives.

Our Superior General was received by His Grace the Archbishop of Westminster and His Lordship the Bishop of Southwark. He visited the Houses at Farnborough, Burwash, East Hill, and Cambridge Heath N. E. and the novitiate and School of the Nuns of Mary Help of Christians at Chertsey on Thames. Our Sunday Feb. 18th he officiated at the evening service in the Church of the Sacred Heart at Battersea. The very large gathering of parishioners and Co-operators reminded one of the occasion when Don Rua said the first Mass on that High Altar immediately after its consecration on Oct. 14th 1893.

And what of the Co-operators? Our Superior General, as head of their association, is ever mindful of their work and interests, and he gave the *Bulletin* a special message for them. Tell them, he said, I would have greatly wished to see all of them personally, but the short time at my disposal and the consequent haste made it impossible. Nevertheless while here in London I send my heartiest greetings to them all and recommend them to Our Blessed Lord and our heavenly mother Mary Help of Christians. I am greatly consoled to see around me the great things they have helped to accomplish in England, and I would urge them all to come forward generously and help to develop the works of Don Bosco ever more and more.

On Tuesday Feb. 20th Our Superior General left for Lisbon via Paris. He had seen

and done a great deal in a short time, and though only a brief interview with each was possible, it was felt that if one had not had the good fortune of knowing Don Bosco, it was the nearest privilege to it to have known Don Rua his first disciple and successor.

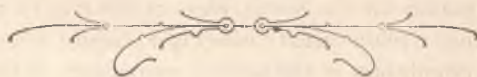


### Indulgences for the Month of April.

The following plenary 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. The seven Dolours. April 6th.
2. Palm Sunday.
3. Easter Sunday.
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-operators manual. It must be remembered that the present Holy Father in granting these spiritual favours laid it down as an obligation that Co-operators should never omit their daily Our Father, Hail Mary and invocation to St. Francis of Sales.*



# Don Rua's Representative in America

(Extracts from his Secretary's Correspondence)

(Continued)

## MEXICO.

### Our arrival.

It was ten o'clock in the morning when our steamer entered the harbour of Vera Cruz: but many hours elapsed before the official inspection was over; the delay however did not trouble us; we had seen our confrères from Mexico and Puebla approaching the steamer, waving their hats and handkerchiefs and we began to communicate with them by signs from the deck and afterwards conversed with them on board. Seeing them disguised more or less in our own fashion, we became more reconciled to the secular clothing which at first seemed so irksome. Many of our confrères we had not seen for ten years, when the Salesian Mission was founded in Mexico.

The Customs officials were slow in passing our baggage, but civil enough. When this business was ended, we rejoined Fr. Albera who had retired with the others to a house close by. We spent the night there and the next morning having said Mass, we were at the station by half past seven. We spent eight hours in the train, always ascending, amidst magnificent scenery. The heat continued to decrease, until we finally reached the city of Mexico, 1,000 feet above the level of the sea.

At the Station we found awaiting us many private carriages, belonging to our best Co-operators and amongst them the one who had laboured most strenuously for the Salesian Mission in Mexico. He had always taken an interest in the Sons of Don Bosco, meeting them at Vera Cruz in 1892 the first time they set foot on Mexican soil—I speak of Mr. A. Lascrain. Our house is situated on the North West of the city in an extensive plain called *Colony of S. Giulia*, where the population is continually increasing. With-

in a short distance are several railway lines and already electric tramways connect it with the city.

One of our sacerdotal confrères, going out of the station and being busily engaged in assigning to each one his seat in the different carriages dropped from under his arm the end of his cassock, usually covered by the large Spanish mantle. At once a policeman hastened to warn him, "Father, raise your cassock, raise your cassock!" The poor official had wished to do his duty and avoid a possible penalty; but he could scarcely have found in that costume the misdemeanour condemned by the law.

### At the School of S. Giulia.

At the school we were anxiously expected; at the first sound of carriage wheels the band began to play and the boarders, to the number of 200 and upwards, drawn up in the spacious vestibule, greeted them with all their might. All went at once to the Chapel to intone joyfully the hymn of gratitude: we had completed our journey of twenty-two days, a painful one more especially for Fr. Albera.

The School of S. Giulia is one of the best we have seen; the building is finished with the exception of the Church, which is in process of construction on one side of the school; this occupies a site of rectangular form, measuring about two hundred yards by one hundred. The outside has an elegant appearance though simple in design. Inside there are open cloisters not only all round the ground floor, but on the first floor also. The rooms are spacious and the dormitories and workshops are light and airy.

One half of the premises is occupied by 180 girls under the charge of the Sisters of Mary Help of Christians, who have already purchased another site in order to erect a larger boarding school, for the building thus divided is insuf-

ficient for both institutes on account of the continual applications for admission.

Next day Fr. Albera visited and inspected carefully the work of the boy tailors, shoemakers, carpenters, blacksmiths, compositors, printers, book-binders etc. He examined the boys in the various schools and found all to his complete satisfaction.

### In the Capital.

Mexico is not the most populous amongst the cities of Latin-America, nor has it the best situation. It is surpassed by Buenos Ayres in population and by Rio Janeiro in the beauty of its site; still as a city it holds the first place. Its squares, its avenues and streets, the magnificence of its palaces and houses of business make it one of the finest capitals. Its inhabitants number about 350,000 and they are always increasing, whilst it possesses all the conveniences of the best European cities. But the greatest glory of Mexico is its Cathedral, the most splendid monument erected by the Spaniards in America. On visiting it, we could not fail to admire the splendid statues which adorn the façade, the magnificence of the columns which support the lofty cupolas, the richness and multitude of the ornaments of its wonderful tabernacle. All these are undoubted proofs of the faith of the Mexicans. We could not see the treasures of the Church as we visited it during the hour of Divine Service; but all have heard of the gold, silver and precious stones accumulated here by the faith and piety of the first converts. After visiting it with care and observing the concourse of the faithful, one is put in mind of that which Moxo wrote: "I have never been able to pass the Cathedral of Mexico, without feeling profoundly touched. Here, I say to myself, within these sacred walls where the pure and spotless blood of the Lamb of God is daily offered up, there flowed, three centuries ago every day the impure blood of thousands of victims. Here, the Mexicans to day, docile to the instructions of their zealous priests, learn to forgive and forget injuries, to have compassion on their neighbour, to share his sorrow and love him as themselves, where in former times they saw their inhuman priests sacrificing the poor creatures who had the misfortune to fall into their hands, and far from condemning their atrocious cruelty, greeted it with acclamations of joy. What a contrast between the two religions!"

To the North East of the city is situated the celebrated Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe, well-known not only in North and South America, but also in Europe. Fr. Albera was able to say Mass at the shrine itself. Fr. Grandis, Superior of the Salesian houses in Mexico, and I said Mass at the side altars. There one experiences the sentiments called forth in our greatest and most devout Sanctuaries, one is in contact with the Supernatural, and memories crowd upon one from the moment one enters these sacred walls.

Devout persons of all classes succeed one another without intermission, their demeanour is truly edifying. Fortunately for us it was a day free of pilgrimages, so that we were able to admire the greater part of the treasure of the Shrine; it is, undoubtedly, the most ancient, the most celebrated and the richest in America; it has been a place of pilgrimage for four centuries.

### Puebla de los Angeles.

The second House of the Salesians was opened at Puebla, four hours by rail from the Capital. It is the chief town of the State similarly named and an archiepiscopal see. It numbers 120,000 inhabitants and is famous in Mexican history; our Fr. Lemoynes says in his *Fernando Cortez* it was called the *City of the Angels, or Angelical city*, because it is related that during the construction of the magnificent Cathedral, dedicated to Our Lady, the Angels wonderfully assisted in building the walls. Each day at dawn, the building materials, collected inside the enclosure, were found to have been laid in their destined places by mysterious hands. This Cathedral also from its architecture and richness is one of the most important works of the Republic.

There are 150 boys in our School; the workshops are excellent and much appreciated in the city. Their typographical work has frequently gained prizes. The lithographical establishment is the best of any of our houses, provided with all the necessary machinery of the most modern type. It is a pity that the building is too small; but very soon a new wing of the great building will be completed and then there will be ample room. We remarked with pleasure that in several workshops there were many who had come from distant places to perfect themselves in their own trade, spending several months with our confrères. The Church, open to the public, is a gem, decorated in exquisite

taste; there is a splendid high altar of onyx, a beautiful local marble which resembles crystal and produces a wonderful effect. It would be incomparable if to its beauty were joined the solidity of Carrara, but I was told that it is more liable to crack.

The Daughters of Mary Help of Christians are here at a disadvantage. Their house is too small for the number of children gathered there. Fr. Albera visited them and arranged for their transfer to a larger building better suited to their zeal and the well being of their pupils. Doubtless Puebla will soon see a repetition of the wonders effected by their Sisters in the Schools of Mexico and Morelia.

We saw many other things worthy of remark in Puebla, but space fails me.

#### At Morelia.

From Puebla we returned to Mexico and a railway journey of eighteen hours took us to Morelia where the Salesians have opened a School for Arts and Trades only. This third city is also an archiepiscopal see and the chief town of the State of Michoacán; it has, however, only 30,000 inhabitants. It is a pleasant city and the magnificent Cathedral, is over loaded with silver ornaments. Our reception here was a veritable surprise. The Co-operators had arranged, at their own cost, a banquet at the School on the arrival of Don Rua's Representative; around him were the élite of the city, some of whom attended at a considerable sacrifice to themselves. The academic séance opened with lofty discourses of which I cannot supply even a compendium. They praised the work of the Salesians, who in a few years had conferred so many benefits upon Mexico and ended by saying that the Salesian Institutes deserved the support not only of private individuals, but of the Government, who should have at heart the propagation of sound principles in the whole social body and more especially amongst the labouring class to counteract evil principles which threaten destruction. "Let us assist the Salesians!" said one, "with our influence, with our money, with our encouragement, with all that we can make use of. Let us not rest satisfied until we see a Salesian Institute in each of our towns. Let our Indians and artisans be instructed in the holy fear of God, the love of their neighbour, the sanctity of labour and respect for those in authority, then our beloved people will no longer be dazzled by world-

ly splendour, but their path will be illuminated, so that they may safely attain the portals of true progress.

I have already mentioned that the school of Morelia is exclusively for artisans; but there is also a flourishing, though youthful agricultural colony, where theory and practice are combined and this work daily gains in importance. The land is suitable for making experiments and we hope to instil into the sons of the soil a taste for agriculture. The workshops for the young artisans are too small to accommodate newcomers and it is much to be desired that the well-planned building should be completed.

The Sisters of Mary Help of Christians are more fortunately situated, for they are able to accommodate in their schools more than 400 girls, besides a large infant school in which much interest is shown. Fr. Albera visited this establishment many times, assisting at their various exercises. When he gave each a medal, it was a pleasure to behold their delight manifested in word and gesture.

#### The development of the Salesian Institute.

Fr. Albera had now completed his visitation of the seven Salesian houses of the Republic and everywhere he had noted the sympathy shown to their work. But, one must remark, the Mexicans do not rest satisfied with signs of approbation, but co-operate generously in the increase and improvement of our schools. One is, indeed, astonished in beholding what has been accomplished in less than ten years. The Church of Mexico, now building, dedicated to Our Lady Help of Christians is in the style of the 13th. century; it will have three aisles the largest measuring 200 feet by 30; at the entrance there will be a tower 150 feet in height. When the building is completed it will not cost less than £ 40,000, but the proverbial charity of our Co-operators will not fail us. The Provincial showed Fr. Albera not less than twenty-two requests for the opening of new houses, all in large centres, suited to the development of our work. Several committees had even provided and furnished the houses intended for us and yet we cannot take possession through want of subjects. I must make a special mention of one of our compatriots, very rich, whose name I conceal so as not to vex him, who, hearing of the Salesian Visitor wrote repeatedly to beg that we should visit his neighbourhood, where he

owned several large works. "Come and see" he wrote, "how much there is to be done here; how the Protestant schools are increasing and we Catholics know not where to send our children. Come and choose what land you like, give me your own plans for building and I will have them erected; only tell me that you accept my offer. Here," he continued, "we are neighbours of that Colossus, the United States, where I know there is an immense field of labour awaiting you; here you will have an opportunity of studying the language and the character of the North Americans."

### An Apostolic appeal—Benefits of the Apostolate.

In reading these petitions from distant countries one is impressed; in hearing them from the lips of our own missionaries they may seem only the result of their ardent zeal; but to verify statements here with our own eyes and see that which is not invariably the case elsewhere, that pecuniary resources and good will are not wanting, and yet to be obliged to refuse from absolute want of subjects is too sad, and caused Fr. Albera to make that Apostolic appeal which he had probably often heard from Don Bosco.

"Fathers and mothers, relations and friends, laymen and ecclesiastics, be generous above all in promoting, or, at least, in not hindering vocations to the Apostolate. Remember that the preservation and propagation of the faith is confided to priests, especially to the zealous Missionaries. Remember that the Church of Jesus Christ opens her arms to embrace, not the souls of one family, of one parish, of one diocese alone, but of the whole world. Hear the divine voice of Jesus Christ ever proclaiming: *Euntes in mundum universum, praedicate evangelium omni creaturae*: Go ye into the whole world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. Be therefore generous when you have a son, a relative, a friend who gives signs of a vocation to the clerical state; above all when they look forward to the Missions, to walk in the glorious footsteps of a Xavier, a Solano, a Bertrand, a Las Casas, of hundreds and thousands of apostles past and present; do not dissuade them but encourage them to pursue so glorious a career. Certainly it is a sacrifice to deprive yourself of a useful subject but the apostolate will always entail sacrifices so long as there remains a single

corner of the earth to be evangelized; it cost the Eternal Father the sacrifice of His Only Son, in Whom He was well pleased; it cost Jesus Christ His life on the tree of the cross; it cost Mary the piercing of her heart with a sword of sorrow. And if it should cost us some pain, should we not rejoice to be made like, to the Blessed Virgin, to the Saviour of mankind, to God Himself?

Let us not forget that the American nations were formed by the Christian apostolate, by the labour of the Missionary rather than by the valour of the European conquerors. These, it is true, traversed these lands, often obliged by necessity to overthrow, to destroy, to capture, but they passed.... The Missionary, on the other hand, built up, gathered the vanquished together, consoled the savage, persuaded him to obey, instructed him in the Faith, making of him a friend and companion in the true conquest which reconstructs peacefully and hopefully..."

Then there sprang up hundreds of Christian villages on the plains and amidst the forests of America. These in course of time grew into cities, increasing in wealth from mines and agriculture, and when on all sides like a breath of liberty arose the cry for independence the earlier colonies formed themselves into nations. But if at that time the work of the Missionary was forgotten and overlooked, it is true to say that his influence still prevailed amongst those youthful nations, many of whom, not well established, are still struggling through that period of transition from youth to manhood.

The work of these latest arrivals, the sons of Don Bosco is precisely that of the missionaries of former times. It is the never-interrupted crusade of the Gospel which they continue. They strive to convey to the people to whom Divine Providence sends them, the *good tidings*, the faith which sanctified, the hope which animates, strengthens and forms reliable characters so necessary to all nations, especially to those in process of formation.

May the rising generation be trained in the school of duty, of learning, and of a manly character, worthy of these generous Republics in which we have spent two and a half years, studying them with paternal affection, an affection which increased the more we learnt of their history and which now renders our leave taking more sorrowful.

(To be continued).



## MATTO GROSSO

### The two Colonies amongst the Coroados.

(Narrative of the Provincial, Fr. Antonio Malan)

#### I.

#### At the Colony of the S. Heart.

Very Rev. Don Rua,

**T**his time I can send news most consoling to your fatherly heart and pleasing to our Co-operators and benefactors, always so zealous for the progress of their poor and suffering fellow-creatures, and so generous in promoting the extension of the Kingdom of Christ, in these regions still covered with the mists of ignorance and sin.

#### On the Journey—Meeting with Fr. Balzola—Assembly of Indians.

After the necessary preparations for the journey, on the 17th May, Fr. Joseph Salvetto, with six missionaries, and two Indians from the Colony as guides, started on their journey towards the Colony of the Sacred Heart: I put off my departure for a few days in order to finish some work, and on the 24th May, the feast so dear to us of Mary Help of Christians, I started in company with two others for the Indian Colony in the plains of the Araguaya.

As we were short of one beast of burden we had to wait two days at the Oratory of St. Antony in the neighbouring village of Coxipó do Ponte, but afterwards we were able to make a good and rapid journey. It did not take us even half an hour to collect the animals which, ac-

ording to custom, are allowed to wander in the open country during the night: and indeed the straying of the animals is one of the greatest troubles for travellers journeying through this desolate country....

We halted for about half a day amidst the growing population of the village of *Capim Branco*, to administer the Sacraments to the faithful: then filled with ardour we set spurs to our horses in order to reach our desired goal, the Colony.

Two days before we reached the Mission we had the happiness of meeting our indefatigable Fr. John Balzola, who with the Indian Miguel had come out to meet us. Near a limpid stream we partook of some refreshment, the traditional *passôca*, meat compounded with flour and sausage which can be kept a long time and is the daily nourishment of all who make long journeys; but it is necessary to eat it near a stream, otherwise one would choke with the burning thirst it produces.

Fr. Balzola sent on at once the faithful Indian Miguel to give notice of our arrival, so that in the evening of the 4th June, when the sun was disappearing behind the verdant foliage of the forest, at the poetical and mystical sound of the Angelus bell, in a picturesque spot, about half a league from the Colony, on the hill of *Santa Cruz*, we saw a band of Indians, accompanied by several of our Missionaries, joyfully awaiting us. All at once bonfires are lighted, guns are fired, the shouts and cheering of the Indians resound for the arrival of the Superior, bringing linen goods, knives and tools, greeting our arrival, the happy termination of our long journey. A smile was to be seen on all faces, of those arriving, as well as of these expecting us. Our missionaries were filled with great joy, seeing again so many of their brethren, after a whole year passed amidst these forests, hearing no other language but the uncouth and screeching tones of the *Coroados*. Even the savages, poor things! could not but rejoice knowing well that in general it is the Superior who brings them the assistance and the tools which are so attractive in their eyes and which gladden their hearts!

**The official reception—The wretched appearance of the Indians from Rio das Mortes—Government assistance—24 yoke of oxen for the transport of supplies for the Indians.**

On the outskirts of the Colony, the Captains with their respective subjects, in military array, were drawn up to do us honour, whilst their banners floated in the gentle evening breeze...

valent throughout the year in the luxuriant pastures watered by the *Rio das Mortes*, which flows at a distance of twelve leagues towards the N. E. It was in those circumstances that eighty-five sick Indians came to the Colony, as I told you in a former letter to obtain medicine, clothes and food from the Missionaries. Of these, but few were sufficiently clothed; some had only a shirt, all in rags, others a sort of blouse, or drawers, some appeared satisfied with a strip



**Sacred Heart Colony (Matto Grosso) - Boróros little boys lately baptized together with some of their relatives.**

Their ambition was to obtain a shirt, without abandoning the hope of a pair of drawers, and perhaps even a good knife, or a sickle or scythe; precious treasures for those who have nothing but the most primitive tools, as in the olden days before iron was in use. You see this tribe has already some idea of progress, but still very imperfect, looking only to the fruits to be gained from labour and not at the labour itself with its difficulties.

They had, indeed, a thousand reasons for their numerous requests, for they were naked, destitute of everything, and all more or less suffering from the malignant fever which is pre-

of cloth or sacking, or even with nothing but a hat, in which case their only ornament was to stain their bodies with *urucú*, with which they paint themselves from head to foot.... One of them kept as a precious treasure a priest's collar which he got on a journey to Cuyabá a year ago, and which he proudly wore round his neck night and day. Others were still more destitute. They thought themselves fortunate if they only had round their waist some rags hanging like *lace* which certainly did not minister to vanity; how miserable is their condition!

Unfortunately, I had not the pleasure of witnessing the excitement produced by the ar-

rival of the abundant supply of clothing and food which I was able to procure thanks to the charity of our generous benefactors who with their alms cheered my lost journey to Europe and to Rio Janeiro. The worthy Governor of Brazil, recognizing and approving the beneficent work of our missionaries, generously allowed the goods destined for our Missions to the Indians to enter the country free of duty, giving them free transport as far as Corumbá. This kindness on the part of the Government was a great consolation and encouragement to fight and conquer all difficulties in the work of the civilization of so many savages.

A portion of the good load drawn by twenty-four yoke of oxen, left Cuyabá on the 28th May and will only now be arriving at the Colony of the Sacred Heart. The carriage will cost more than 3000 francs; it is just this enormous expense together with the many difficulties experienced in the daily work amongst the savages, which causes us much anxiety. But God, Who makes the roses bloom amid thorns, sweetens our labours, blessing and crowning them with the best results for so many poor savages, whose abode is formed of palm leaves with the bare ground for a bed, tormented by venomous snakes and noxious insects.

#### Examination of the children—Serious study of the Catechism.

I examined the little Indians who have made good progress in their studies and work. Those in the higher class read fluently, make well written copies of portions of the 2nd reading Book; they can make sentences fairly well expressed, count to above a thousand and practice on their slates the first rules of arithmetic. All this is very surprising, considering the numerous and grave difficulties.

The little girls, under the skilful and devoted care of the Sisters, read, write correctly, spin, sew seams and hems; but the sewing is hindered by lack of material. And what of the women? With the help of these same heroines of charity they are learning to love work, although in this they look only to their own profit, and they are employed in the labours suitable to their sex, preparing themselves to become good wives and mothers.

The religious examinations, both boys and girls, were excellent. I am convinced that they know more than many Christians, educated in civilized countries. It is thus that God manifests Himself to the simple and humble of heart!

#### Twenty-six additional Baptisms—Piety and fervour—Superstition defeated on two occasions.

My visit was happily marked by the baptism of twenty six neophytes, sufficiently instructed in the faith and anxious to receive the Sacrament of regeneration. Scarcely had I arrived when they said to me, „Father, pour water over me.”

When the touching ceremony began, it was consoling to behold these poor children of the woods, devout and silent, waiting to become God's children by adoption!... Doubtless the Prince of Darkness trembled with rage, but the time has now come for the sacred standard of the Cross to cast its rays over these forests and dissipate for ever the darkness of error and idolatry.

During the ceremony, the exorcisms and the pouring of the water made the greatest impression on these savages. They understood the symbolic meaning as explained to them by the Missionaries; and in these ceremonies they saw a certain resemblance to a function celebrated with great solemnity by the *bari* or *priests of their tribe*, to banish the evil spirit from game, fish and certain fruits.

As usual, in the choice of names, we gave those of our Co-operators and benefactors who were the Godfathers of the newly baptized,

In the month of March the indefatigable Fr. Balzola baptized *in articulo mortis* nineteen Indians, who arrived sick from *Rio das Mortes*. After death, they were religiously interred in a cemetery prepared for them near our own; this has contributed greatly to put a stop to the barbarous rites formerly used in the burial of the dead, I allude especially to the lugubrious and frightful *bacururu* of which I have already spoken in a previous letter. This is, indeed, another victory gained over the satanic superstitions by which these poor savages are held captive.

On this subject, I may mention that we have obtained another no less important, having induced the sick to seek the medical assistance of the Missionaries. The methods of the Doctor-prophet-bari were lamentable, for once he had decreed the death of one of his subjects, the individual must necessarily die, so as not to lessen the reputation of the *bari*, who suffocated the patient by order of the *Bope* (the evil spirit), without any protest even from his own relatives.. The whole tribe and the *Bari-doctor-prophet* himself accepted our proposal willingly and joyfully: *Deo gratias!*

#### Fr. Malan's feast-day—The little orators and three of their speeches.

With great joy, in this beloved Colony crossed by balmy zephyrs and echoing with the



songs of thousands of birds, flitting through the surrounding foliage, I spent the feast of the wonder-worker, St. Antony of Padua, my holy patron. In these regions inhabited by poor Indians, I did not expect any congratulation, but greatly to my surprise there were speeches and compliments, and with a heart over-flowing with joy I had to attend a feast after its fashion, truly characteristic and touching. The orators were our little Indian boys and girls who with imposing gestures made their speeches in Portu-

helped us. It is well, Father, that although you have remained away so long in the distant city, today you must have the heart of a happy father...

Father Malan, here the Boróros remain very cold, and even many Boróros have died! We promise that, as good labourers arrive, we shall ever do more, and led by you, we shall join the civilized population and then to all the tribe we shall proclaim your praise saying: Behold the friend of the Boróros, behold our benefactor! Long live Father Malan! Miguel."



**Sacred Heart Colony (Matto Grosso) - Boróros little girls recently baptized.**

guese. You will, I think, be pleased to see some of these speeches. Much to my regret I find I have none of these spoken by the Indian girls, but from the three subjoined you will be able, to judge of the progress of the boys.

"Rev. Father Provincial,

You have already been much pleased with our examinations. Then we knew but little, almost nothing. But now you will rejoice still more to see that several of us can read well, yes gentlemen! And not only in this, but we have also made progress in the prayers, so that we are able to recite almost all with the civilized population, without stopping. In this God has

"What is all this, my friends! Can we allow the Boróros to remain speechless on the arrival of our benefactor? No, certainly, for they also have hearts and know how to show their gratitude. It is true that we are all very curious and anxious always to ask for and desirous of getting something; but this does not matter; everyone knows us now; we are Indians and that is enough!... Let the world say what it likes, I come before the Father Provincial and in the name of all my companions I wish to remind him not to forget the promises made last year before he left for the city. He will not have forgotten them, but this is an opportunity for reminding him. Father, the Boróros have finished

all they had. Is this not true, Father Provincial?... Now allow me to exclaim, Long live Father Malan! Long live our benefactor!

Giulio."

"Father Provincial, friends!

I have nothing to be ashamed of! Why should I be bashful?... Every one speaks of timidity but the Boróros have not known this, Therefore, leaving aside timidity I come forward to welcome the Father Provincial and his companions. Speaking of their arrival, they must certainly have had a good journey, because I know that all those who come to the Colony cannot make a bad journey. And all know the reason why. It is this, the Sacred Heart of Jesus always helps the good persons who labour for the Boróros and for His glory. Therefore I repeat once more Welcome!

Pancrazio."

You can understand, Reverend Father, my emotion in listening to these speeches full of simplicity, but exhaling a fragrance like that of the flowers of the desert refreshed with morning dew. Ah! there are moments in which the Missionary after being weighed down with heavy burdens, forgets all in seeing the harvest ripening under the rays of the Gospel and cannot refrain, in his joy, from intoning a hymn of thankfulness!

**Establishment of a Meteorological Observatory—The expected telegraphic and telephonic connection of the new Observatory with Rio Janeiro and Cuyabá—Consoling progress of the Colony.**

To comply with the request of Captain Dr. Silvado, Director of the Government Observatory at Rio Janeiro and to satisfy the desires for progress of the President of that State, Colonel Antonio Barros, I chose in the Colony of the S. Heart a suitable site for erecting a new *Meteorological Observatory* similar to that of the School of Arts and Trades at Cuyabá, the utility of whose daily observations are recognized and appreciated in the various countries of America as well as beyond the sea. The President has kindly made us a present of the instruments necessary for the equipment of this Observatory of the 2nd class, which, being situated in a zone hitherto unknown, but exceedingly rich, may furnish to science, always eager for new facts and the discovery of new laws, climatic data, and interesting accounts of phenomena, so abundant in these regions.

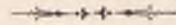
But this is not all. The illustrious Governor has promised us the telegraphic and telephonic apparatus for the transmission of our daily ob-

servations to the Central Observatory of Rio Janeiro and to that of the Capital of the State, Cuyabá. In all this we recognized the wise direction of Providence, which lovingly watches over our labours and toils.

I left the Colony of the Sacred Heart in a prosperous condition. Two workshops of great importance have been added, a blacksmith's shop and a tannery. Field labour promises an abundant harvest. The increase of the land under cultivation is very considerable. There also is made good *rapadura* a kind of loaf sugar, having the shape, size and hardness of a small brick, which keeps well and is in general use.

The grain harvest this year, though damaged by the constant rain, which throughout Matto Grosso spoilt almost entirely the plantations, was abundant. And yet we shall soon be without provisions, from the continual increase of the Indians. *Deus providebit* and charitable souls will continue to help us with their alms. This is our never-failing hope.

Thanks therefore be to God, who assists our native Colony of the S. Heart to make progress in so consoling a manner. When we went to establish ourselves there, our hopes were well founded; but in seeing with our own eyes the happy results of our labours, our enthusiasm was so great, that even before the completion of the initial works in the first Colony, we pitched other tents on the green banks of the river *Barreiro*, or *Rio das Garças*, a mission which, as I have already informed you we placed under the protection of our Heavenly Mother Mary, under her most glorious title of the Immaculate Conception.

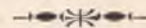


## ECUADOR

### In the forests of the Jivaros

*Custom and characteristics of the Indians.*

*(Continued).*



With such instructions from father to son it is easy to understand that for a Kivaro a head is more precious than a purse of gold. A head cut off is the proudest boast of his life. The day when he returns home with a head on the point of his spear, that is indeed a day of triumph, the grandest day of his life. The Kivaro murderer from that day makes his preparations for the feast of the shansha.

But what is the shansha?... The Kivaro murderer takes the head of his victim, with consummate skill he removes the skin from the skull,

he takes out any bones which remain in it; he then boils it to remove any substance that might putrify; thus boiled he places it upon a red-hot round stone, about the size of an orange, so that it may dry and take the shape of the stone: Then filling it with shining sand he sews up the opening, and having carefully, combed the hair the shansha is complete, his beloved shansa which he looks upon as a most precious treasure and contemplates with veneration, fixed on a long pole in his house. It becomes his protecting divinity, the genius of his family which preserves him from accidents so that the victorious Kivaro prepares at once to celebrate the feast... When a Kivaro has made a shansha he has first to keep the *feast of ingress*. He calls the *priest* who pours down his throat some tobacco juice, and after this much *ciccia* is drunk by the whole family, for several days.... Then the preparations for the feast of the shansha are begun, commencing with a rigorous fast, and this fast is continued even if it lasts, as sometimes happens, for whole years. Meantime he visits his relations and friends, to acquaint them with his victory and to invite them to the feast; he cultivates a special field of *yuca* and bananas, fattens all the pigs he can find, etc.

#### Kivaro eloquence.

It has already been mentioned that the manuscript, from which we are gleaning, speaks of the first visit of Mgr. Costamagna to the Mission of Gualaquiza. Now it happened one day that the Bishop, Fr. Mattana and Fr. Tallachini, going to catechize the Indians in their houses, saw a large assembly or as one might say, a senate of savages, in a small and verdant plain, where the woods opened out as if for a temple.

In number about forty, leaning lightly on their spears, they stood in a semi-circle; the most conspicuous probably the captains, a few steps in front, with ornaments of feathers, bones and scales of insects, and with guns which the others had not.

The missionaries came up and His Lordship seeing this imposing spectacle and rejoicing in his heart at this meeting, went forward and called out with a voice which he tried to make as fierce as their own, and in their own tongue: Good, good, long live the Kivari!

Not one answered; no one moved an inch to one side or the other. Then the Bishop, seeing his mistake, retired to some distance, waiting until the customs of the Kivari would sanction an audience.

The discussion lasted about a quarter of an hour; after which the tired orators, with panting breasts, received a *pinguina* of *ciccia* from the

shadow of a woman, who till then had remained crouched on the ground, preparing the ambrosial nectar. They raised it to their lips and removed it only after a good draught. The vessel passing from hand to hand and from mouth to mouth, soon reached these of the missionaries; but not that of the Bishop who had prudently retired in time.

Then the discussion began again, and went on for about two hours, with brief intervals for refreshment.... The debates became more lively at various points in the assembly; many of the savages shouted together, with one hand over the mouth, in accordance with their custom, their eyes shone, their cheeks were burning, they gesticulated with arms and feet, they brandished their spears aloft and on all sides; under the spacious leafy vaults of the forest resounded their shouts, their exclamations, their hasty questions, their warlike and menacing cries, their shouts of triumph.

In the various altercations one heard from time to time such expressions as the following.

— They offended us. They refused us hospitality.

— They slew our first expedition.

— Vengeance, vengeance. We have sworn it there, near the *temple of dreams*.

— I have fastened a lock of my hair to the stake I shall not be satisfied until I have cut off a head.

— I have hung up two locks of hair. I must cut two beards.

— I have sworn to the *Iguanci* and have offered five locks of hair. I must chop off five heads.

— The Kivari of Pongo must die.

— They must all be killed by our spears.

— Cut to pieces and thrown to the tigers.

— We shall drink *ciccia* out of their skulls.

— It is well, it is well! Death, death!

— Death, death, Vengeance, vengeance!

Before such a splendid and fascinating drama the spectator may well doubt whether the Athenian Areopagus or the Roman Forum presented a more sublime spectacle; whether the streams of eloquence flowing from the mouth of Demosthenes or Cicero were more convincing. And, in fact, these had no such powerful teachers as the Kivari find at every step in the majestic and divine grandeur of their woods and streams, in the sense of irresistible and tremendous power conveyed by the roaring of the wild beasts, the crashing of the hurricanes. The gesticulation, the tone, the look, the whole action of the orator, although savage, is sublimely natural, pathetic, electrifying. Mirabeau and Lacordaire would have found something to learn from them.

If lions could speak, how greatly would they surpass in eloquence the most powerful orators of humanity! With what majesty would they raise aloft their victorious countenance! What lightnings would dart from their eyes! their speech would be rapid and startling like the thunder-bolt, terrible and subduing like thunder.

Even so, the Kivari, when they speak diplomatically amongst themselves, without interrupting each other, but declaiming both together, are men with the instincts of lions; they are talking lions. With this instinct join the power of Hercules, the figure of Hector, the voice of Stentor and you have the Kivaro as an orator.

like bellows; their eyes fixed on each other resembled two burning coals; now with one foot and now with the other they struck the ground; the hand clutching the spear beat the air as if moved by electricity; their heads were in constant movement, their locks floated in the wind on their bare shoulders; the spears glittered and flashed on all sides. From every member and from the spears themselves as if they were live things a thrill of terrible significance seemed to exhale; the atmosphere breathed fury and flame, whilst the neighbouring hills re-echoing the shouts and cries seemed to respond and approve these ferocious sentiments.



Sacred Heart Colony (Matto Grosso) - Central buildings, temporary chapel, etc.

#### A sham fight.

"One of the captains," continues the Missionary, "placed himself in the centre of the circle and, giving his orders, divided the people into two companies. Then followed some manoeuvres, a sham fight.

Two leaders came forward to negotiate. At a distance of three paces, with a stern countenance painted in divers colours, with a lofty brow crowned with feathers, shining like those of a sovereign, with swelling breast, covered with a cuirass of dazzling objects, the spear in one hand and the other hand on his mouth, the dialogue began, at first grave and solemn, recalling the former friendship, then more excited, calling attention to injuries done or received, finally threatening and furious.

The bodies of the orators writhed like serpents; their breasts on fire with revenge worked

All the other Kivari remained at *attention* and silent during this conference. But at a sign from the Commander this came to an end suddenly, and all together shouting death, one company disappeared in the woods, whilst the other remained on the defensive. After a short interval, the forest re-echoed with savage cries and fierce threats of vengeance and massacre: Strike, strike! Kill, kill! Those who were attacked, divided into various bands, groped their way through thick brushwood, and thorny brambles and briars, gliding between the close growing trees, so as to repulse the assailants, or take them in flank. But these surrounded them on all sides, enclosing them in a circle and obliged them to surrender.

There was a moment's truce, of which the Bishop availed himself to make the savages some presents; to suspend round their necks

a small cross or a medal of Our Lady. Then speaking so as to make himself understood, he said : "My children, do not think about war ; it will do you no good, but will cause you to lose every thing. Go to the Mission ; wait for us there until we return. We will teach you many things that will make you happy ; we will make you beautiful presents..."

He would have said more ; but the flames of the dispute blazed up afresh.

At this moment one of the orators approached the *Father Kivaro* and gravely whispered in his ear — If you would be a Kivaro, you must brandish the spear and make many speeches.

Not wishing to lose the whole day, the Missionaries leaving their guides, resumed their journey alone, saying the *Angelus*..."



### London.

News from London is entirely taken up this month with the visit of Our Superior General to England. We have recorded this at length on another page. It only remains to add here, that the Salesian House at London looks forward to a ready correspondence with Don Rua's special invitation, to come forward and develop Don Bosco's work in England more and more. In connection with what was said in the first pages of this issue his words come home with more effect.

Before leaving the House, Our Superior General was photographed amid a group of the boys in the departments of Arts and Trades. It may be possible to reproduce it in another issue. These departments though labouring under heavy difficulties are coming more and more to the front, and may in no long time be of great good to many a boy from the metropolis and elsewhere. Here is ample scope for the generosity of Co-operators. For one item however Don Rua had great praise ; we allude to the band to which the young artisans from various departments belong. Several very appreciable programmes were performed during his stay, and it was indeed an important factor in each of the entertainments given in his honour.

Part of the last day of Don Rua's stay in England was spent at *East Hill, Wandsworth*. He had an opportunity of seeing the new building which, it is hoped, will soon be opened for Divine Service. The decoration of the interior is now being carried on, and the completion of the principal part of this will settle the date of the opening. The day-school boys belonging to the rising institute received Don Rua with welcome addresses, and Our Superior General expressed himself well pleased with the great deal that has been accomplished in a short time (1). We

(1) We give here the address presented to Don Rua by the day pupils of the Salesians at Wandsworth accompanied with an offering of one pound collected amongst their number which did not exceed thirty in all. It is inserted here at his own wish.

*Very Rev. and Dear Don Rua,*

*It seems to us to be brought in touch with Don Bosco himself to have you with us to-day. We have been told by the Salesians under whose care we are, that you were Don Bosco's right hand and are now the model of his virtues and the true interpreter of his spirit.*

hope that his good wishes and blessing will fructify to a great harvest in that part of London.

The prolonged efforts of the bazaar committee resulted in a happy consumation on the 21st, 22nd, and 24th of Feb. last. On each of those days large gatherings attended and the opening ceremonies were performed by distinguished patron—son the first by Sir John and Lady Knill, on the second by Father Bernard Vaughan, S. J., and on the third by Sir Alfred and Lady Turner. We have since learnt that the Rev. Rector has every reason to be satisfied with the issue of the venture.

In case readers should have missed the insert referred to in last month's number, we give here the items to which the Rev. A. Hawarden (96, North Side, Wandsworth Common, S. W.) wishes to draw the readers' attention—and subscriptions. The articles to be supplied are mainly these: *Organ, Pulpit, Font, Brass Candlesticks and altar adornments, Vestments, Stations of the Cross and Statues.*

#### The Fourth General Congress.

Just when all our Co-operators have been receiving their new manual of regulations, and no doubt wondering what all these Co-operators are doing in every part of the world, we learn that some are gathered in Congress at Lima in Peru. This is the 4th Congress of Salesian Co-operators. The 1st was held at Bologna, the 2nd at Buenos Ayres, the 3rd at Turin, the 4th accordingly goes again to America and is being held in this month of March at Lima. It is on the occasion of the centenary feast in honour of St. Thuribius, and is under the presidency of

the Delegate Apostolic, the Archbishop of Lima and the Bishop of the Republic.

The Directors and Co-operators of the sister States of South America will attend. These gatherings invariably give immense impetus to the work of Our Society, and accordingly Our Superior General urges all to aid it by their prayers, so that it may equal in its influence for good its three predecessors, and be a herald of a new era of success for our work in the American Republics.

#### Southwards

In the month of March a great development is looked forward to in the work of the *St. Joseph's Charities*, under which name the Co-operators in South Africa know their pious schemes on behalf of the Salesian Institute to be built in Cape Town. Considering the great need of immediate developments we cannot wonder at the earnest words of the Director of the present Institute whose words we give below. Wherever this copy may go throughout South Africa may it find willing hearers to the appeals of the members of the Committee, whose indefatigable efforts are worthy of all praise. The work of the schools as it is at present is in a very flourishing state, and the arts and trades departments are rapidly pushing their way. They could afford at the time of the annual prize-giving to arrange an exhibition of youthful work; but we had better let the correspondent speak for himself:

The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Salesian Institute was held in St. Aloysius Hall, on Wednesday evening, when a large number of persons interested in the work of these boys attended. The brass band of the institute played selections during the evening, and physical drill and dumbbell displays by the members of Captain Shawelwood's class formed by no means an uninteresting portion of the evening's entertainment, and the precision which the boys went through the different exercises reflected great credit on their instructor.

The annual report on the progress of the school was read by the Rev. Father Tozzi, as follows: This, our little function, may be justly called the feast of charity and gratitude, where so many of our good benefactors, real ministers of Christian charity, are present at the simple display of boys who are eager, in company with their teachers, to give expression to their heartfelt gratitude. The average number of boarders this year eclipses all past records, the capacity of the institute being strained to its utmost. We have had 72 boys during the whole of the year.

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*We glory in the privilege of being Salesian Boys and feel proud to-day to have the singular honour of meeting you, dear Father. No doubt we appear very few to you, who are accustomed to visit schools and colleges containing many hundreds of boys, but you will remember that we are only beginning here, and that this school is only twelve months in existence. Though few in numbers however our zeal is none the less fervent to prove ourselves worthy of Don Bosco's Sons.*

*We know you have many orphans to care for and this morning have brought a little offering for them. It is very little but it is given with a generous heart. We promise you that when we are men we shall be Salesian Co-operators and do our best for Don Bosco's poor orphans.*

*Asking you to bless us and pray for us  
We are,*

*Very Rev. and Dear Don Rua,*

*The Salesian Boys of Wandsworth.*

The consoling feature of this increased number is the general improvement in the tone and discipline of our school. Last year we started to take in a good number of very young boys, and keep the lower standards at school during the workshop hours. Consequently, the efficiency of the higher standards greatly improved, and the examinations have been highly satisfactory. Our boys may well say : "We learn not for school, but for life," since every item of their syllabus is of direct application and utility in life. In this regard, especially, this year may be called most successful, since it has witnessed new emulation and special progress of the boys in each trade. Owing to the increased number of our pupils, we have been able to classify the boys of each trade into five progressive classes, and begin to follow the syllabus of our trade schools at Home. In consequence, this year we have seen two departments that, so far, had not given great results in the training of boys, not only come up to the level of the others, but even claim for their pupils the most considerable improvement obtained in the whole school; these are the tailoring and shoemaking departments. A fresh means of emulation among the pupils has been the adoption of quarterly examination and the show of work by each trade. So this year we are able to put before our benefactors a real exhibition of juvenile industry. The articles are for sale, and the proceeds will go towards the building fund of a new institute. We still hope to be able to get the old Catholic Cemetery, where we may be able to develop our institute and house our boys more comfortably in premises adapted to educational work. Our committee of ladies and gentlemen have done, their best to start a building fund, and we trust that their efforts will be blessed with an ever-increasing success, as the need of the new institute is daily felt more keenly. I wish to thank our good benefactors, the members of the subscribers to our building fund, for their untiring, zeal. I have said that this, our gathering, is a feast of charity and gratitude, and this is the feeling that has followed me throughout this day. When thinking what to say to you this evening charity and gratitude have been ringing in my ears. Charity, that kindled by our Divine Lord towards the poor and towards impoverished little ones; generosity, the response of a well-disposed soul to all the inspirations of kindness. Twenty years ago this very day I first entered, as a small boy, one of the first houses of Don Bosco. For twenty years I have received kindness and help at the hand of many a generous benefactor, and to-day all the kindness and charity received during this long course of time comes

back to me, while I cannot find proportionate means to give expression to my gratitude. For twenty years I have eaten the bread of Don Bosco, and I hope that my boys will never be backward in the course of their life to acknowledge our humble beginning and the debt we owe to our benefactors. The help we have received in this city has been already great, but I feel that the generosity of our Irish and Cape Town people will eclipse all the records of my twenty years' experience when we call on them for our new institute.

The Most Rev. Dr. Rooney, Coadjutor Bishop, distributed the prizes, most of which took the form of things useful to the boys in their work or studies.

#### Eastwards.

A cablegram has been received by Our Superior General from His Lordship Mgr de Castro, Bishop of the diocese in India in which Meliapor, is situated. It announces the safe arrival after a happy voyage of the Missionaries despatched to India a few weeks back. The Sons of Don Bosco *en route* for Macao in China were accompanied on board at Genoa by Fr. Albera. They started on January 17th and are by this time at their destination. The Holy Father in reply to a message from Don Rua sent the following telegram :

*To the first Salesian Missionaries to set out for China, the Holy Father sends the Apostolic Blessing, and look forward to a great harvest of souls in the missions confided to them.*

No doubt we shall be able before very long to give some interesting letters from those distant lands.

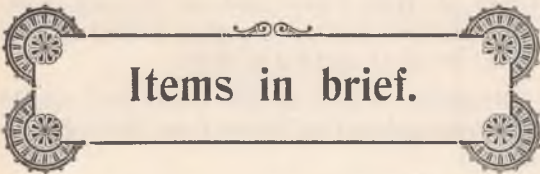
#### Co-operation in Malta.

In a former issue an evening entertainment at the Salesian Institute, Sliema (Malta) was described by the Editor of the *The Malta Herald*. This gentleman shows much kindly interest in the work of the Institute and having convinced himself that exceedingly beneficial results would follow the development of the school, he has endeavoured to bring others to his opinions. No doubt he will be the indirect means of bringing many to interest themselves in the work; it rests with the Islanders to carry out the plan suggested by him or not; we will merely quote here some of the remarks of the Director himself, who in a letter to the Editor of the *Malta Herald*, after thanking him for his kindly interest, says ;

"I should like to call further attention to two salient points in your last issue, which I believe of much importance and deserving special consideration. 1st. *The extension of the scope of the Institute by increasing the number of inmates,* and 2nd *The making the public cognizant of its possibilities.* Upon these two facts depends the greater success of the school. To attain its real object it is expedient that it should have, in addition to Government support and encouragement, that of the Public, in the way you appropriately pointed out, or in other words that the public should assist the Government in its efforts to make the Institute all that is desirable, so that the greatest advantage possible may be derived from the substantial sum expended on it.

With the aid of these two factors the present school will, I venture to say, surely achieve much that will be satisfactory to all concerned.... Your suggestion about holding an exhibition of works done in the school gives new stimulus and encouragement to my already conceived wish and intention in the matter, notwithstanding the difficulties connected with it, which you opportunely mention."

The letter closes by re-iterating the desire expressed by the Editor of the *Herald* to see the *Institution better known, better appreciated, and patronized by the public.*



## Items in brief.

A telegram to Fr. Malan at Cuyaba tells him that ninety more Indians have joined the Colony or native village of the Sacred Heart in Matto Grosso. The Indian settlement will before long assume considerable proportions and our missionaries will evidently gain experience in ruling youthful states.

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His Eminence Cardinal Richelmy, Archbishop of Turin, distributed the prizes at the advanced School of Religion attached to the Salesian Institute of St John the Evangelist in that city. Students of Arts and Medicine were among the recipients of prizes.

His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Milan visited our Institute of St Ambrose at Milan a few weeks back. He said the Community Mass and at the Gospel addressed the large gathering of assembled boys, referring to the Divine Child as the model of boyhood and youth.

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At the end of the old year 1905 our Professional Schools at Lisbon took up their residence at the newly erected Institute. Our Superior General on leaving England visited this latest development of the zeal of the Co-operators in the Portuguese capital.

\* \*

A distinguished Salesian Co-operator, His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Seville, has been recently called away to his reward. He was a constant admirer and supporter of Don Bosco's works, and the author of one of the best monographs on Our Holy Founder. May he rest in peace.

\* \*

*Readers are particularly requested to notify their new address when they change their residence. They are also urged to send in without delay the names of Co-operators who are called away from this life so that the suffrages may be offered as soon as possible for the repose of their souls.*



The prayers of the Co-operators are asked for the repose of the souls of the following persons lately deceased: —

Mrs. Elezabeth David, Princes Town, Trinidad.  
Miss Editha Millien, Arima, Trinidad.  
Mr. Patrik Bracken, Moreno, Argentine Republic (S. America).  
Sister Mary de Sales Blake, Convent of Mercy, Galway, Ireland.  
Mr. Thoms Devine, Lack west, Kilmihil Ireland.





## 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.

Last month we gave some of the details of the growth of the Devotion in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians, and they will be followed by a series of such notes taken from the annals of the Sanctuary at Turin, arranged in monthly order. The preceding number dealt with January; these are accordingly concerned with February.

1888. Feb. 2nd. The Sanctuary was the scene of the solemn funeral services of its founder Don Bosco. At the Pontifical Requiem His Lordship Mgr. Cagliari, the first Salesian bishop, officiated. So many hundreds of mourners and such a sorrowful function had never before been witnessed at the Sanctuary, and in all probability will never be seen there again.

1896. Feb. 25th. By a brief dated on this day the late Holy Father Leo XIII. granted to the Superior General of the Salesian Congregation the faculty of affiliating to the Archconfraternity of Mary Help of Christians the other associations under the same title, and with the same object, in any diocese or church in any part of the world. The brief says:

The Association canonically instituted under the invocation of Our Lady Help of Christians in the Church of the same name, by the priest Don Bosco of happy memory, founder of the Pious Salesian Society, was raised to the dignity of an Archconfraternity by our Predecessor Pius IX. of holy memory by Apostolic letters dated April 2nd 1870. Some years after, at the request of Don Michael Rua, Superior General of the aforesaid Pious Society. We by Our own letters dated Jan, 19th 1894 granted to him the faculty of affiliating other Associations, with the same object and title, erected wherever there are or will be Salesian Churches. But now after a like request we

have extended this faculty to any church in any diocese throughout the whole world, being confident that this will redound to the greater advantage of religion.

1903. Feb. 13th. This was the date of the memorable Pontifical Document, by which His Holiness Leo XIII. decreed the solemn coronation of the miraculous image delegating His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Turin to perform this ceremony in His name and with papal authority.

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The practice of consecrating the 24th of each month to Our Lady Help of Christians has spread with marvellous rapidity, almost all the Salesian Churches in Italy having already adopted it with great increase of fervour and piety. An intention is given each month for the Co-operators special prayers. This we give here in case any of our readers may feel disposed to join with their associates in other lands in this pious practice. For the 24th of March, special prayers are recommended to Our Lady Help of Christians for the intentions of the Holy Father.

## GRACES and FAVOURS

**London.**—Please say a Mass in thanksgiving in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians for a grace received.

L. G. V.

Feb. 1906.

**Charleville (IRELAND).**—I am sending an offering for a Mass at the shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians and one for the Holy Souls

in Purgatory in thanksgiving for a temporal favour obtained through her powerful intercession, and for which I had prayed a long time in vain. A promise had also been made of publication in the *Salesian Bulletin*.

E. O'S.

Feb. 1906.

**Pistoia (ITALY).**—At the end of last May I was presented to the Very Rev. Don Rua at Livorno to ask for the blessing of Mary Help of Christians, so that she might obtain my cure from severe neuralgic pains in the head with which I had been afflicted for many years. Don Rua did so, and directed me to say the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Hail Holy Queen with the invocation to the Sacred Heart and Our Lady Help of Christians until the feast of the Assumption.

I followed his advice exactly with the result that from that very day those pains have entirely disappeared.

My family join with me in thanksgiving to Our Heavenly Queen.

M. B.

Dec., 1905.

**Aldershot (ENGLAND).**—The undersigned encloses a postal order as an offering for a Mass in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians for the Holy Souls in thanksgiving for a great favour.

B. A.

February 1st, 1906.

**Belfast (IRELAND).**—Enclosed please find offering for a Mass in thanksgiving to Our Lady Help of Christians, in fulfilment of a promise made.

*A Client of Our Lady.*

February 7th, 1906.

**Pomeroy (IRELAND).**—I enclose one pound in gratitude for favours obtained through the intercession of Mary Help of Christians.

E. de M.

February 12th, 1906.

**Fermanagh (IRELAND).**—I enclose an offering as a thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary for a favour obtained through her powerful intercession.

J. S.

Feb. 5th., 1906.

**Bath (ENGLAND).**—It is my pleasing duty to tell you of a great grace we have recently obtained through the intercession of Our Lady Help of Christians; namely, the speedy recovery of a little child from a serious contagious illness on the application of a blessed medal, and after making a novena to Mary Help of Christians. Please publish the favour in the *Bulletin*. I enclose an offering in thanksgiving.

S. M. P.

Feb. 13th, 1906.

**County Limerick (IRELAND).**—I enclose a small offering in thanksgiving to Our Lady Help of Christians for a temporal favour received through her intercession.

K. H.

January, 1906.

**Mangalore (INDIA).**—I am sending you an offering of one pound from a person in this place who wishes to thank Our Lady Help of Christians for a great favour received through her intercession.

A. J.

January 17th, 1906.

**Kilmoganny (IRELAND).**—Enclosed please find postal order in thanksgiving for favours obtained through the powerful intercession of Mary Help of Christians.

*Anon.*

January 25th, 1906.

**Chicago (U. S. OF AMERICA).**—With deepest gratitude I wish to acknowledge a favour granted through the intercession of Our Lady Help of Christians and enclose a little offering in thanksgiving.

*Child of Mary.*

Feb. 11th, 1906.

**Pondicherry (INDIA).**—Kindly accept the donation I am sending you this day by postal order as a thankoffering of Mary Help of Christians.

E. G.

Feb. 14th, 1906.

PERMISSU SUPERIORUM

Gerent, GIUSEPPE GAMBINO—Salesian Press, Turin,

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. tobin 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.*

# The Association of Salesian Co-operators

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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 Salesian 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 heathens, 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 persons desiring to become Members of this Association are respectfully solicited to send their name and address to the *Very Rev. Michael Rua, Superior General, Salesian Oratory, Turin, Italy*, who will be most happy to enrol them and forward their Diploma of Admission, as well as the *Salesian Bulletin* every month.