



Salesian Bulletin

No. 25 - JANUARY - 1908

Vol. V.

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


Leo XIII

DA MIHI

ANIMAS CÆTERA TOLLE

Important Notice to Readers.



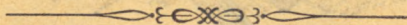
As announced previously in the **Bulletin**, the Rules of the Association of Salesian Co-operators, together with a summary of the Indulgences and spiritual favours, and appendices, have been reprinted and bound into a neat volume or manual.

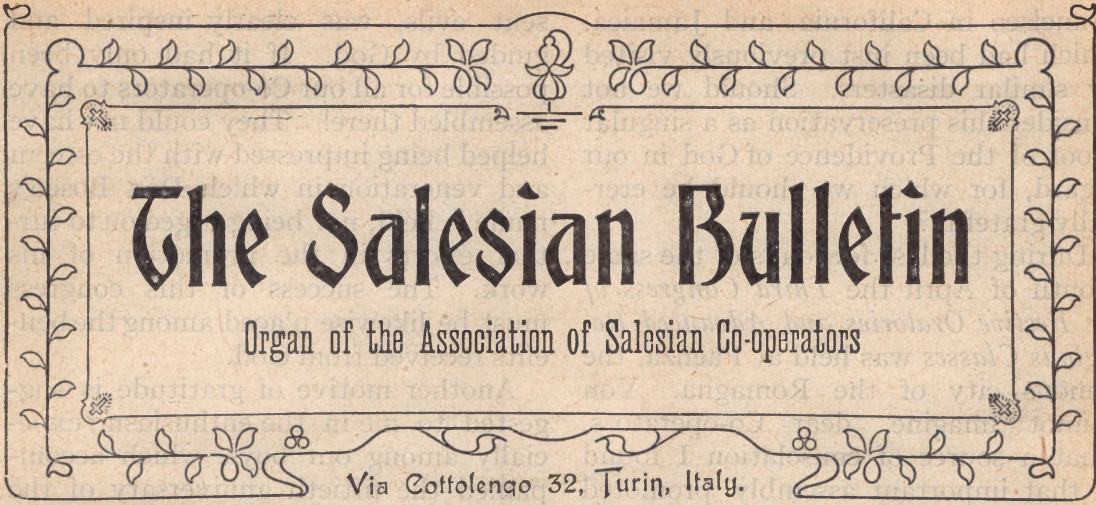
A copy of this and a diploma of membership is being sent to all readers. If some of the dates affixed thereto are subsequent to the date of receipt, that is the day on which membership will commence, and on which the plenary indulgence may be gained.

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.





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ANNUAL LETTER

of our Superior General, the Very Rev. Don Rua,

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SALESIAN CO-OPERATORS

My dear Co-operators,

For many reasons the Pious Society of St. Francis of Sales will regard the year just closed as a memorable one in its annals: on the one hand for the special favours with which it has been blessed by God, and on the other for the severe trials to which it pleased Divine Providence to see us exposed. But for both of these alike we cannot do otherwise than raise our hearts in gratitude to God; and in order to foster these sentiments of thanksgiving and of conformity to the Will of God, I have thought it well to place before you a brief notice of last year's events.

Favours received during 1907.

You may remember how during last April an earthquake devastated an extensive area in the Mexican Republic, and partly wrecked the Salesian Technical schools in the Capital of the State. The disaster occurred at midnight. In one moment, both parts of the building in which the stairs were situated, had fallen in, and other parts were at the same time severely shaken. The consternation of the three hundred and fifty boarders may be well imagined; and yet not one of all that number, nor one of the staff, received any injury, either in the disaster or the confusion which followed. Almost the very same is true of our Houses in Chili, at San

Francisco in California, and Jamaica, which had been just previously visited by similar disasters. Should we not consider this preservation as a singular proof of the Providence of God in our regard, for which we should be eternally grateful?

During the last few days of the same month of April the *Third Congress of the Festive Oratories and Advanced Religious Classes* was held at Faenza, the famous city of the Romagna. You cannot imagine, dear Co-operators, what a source of consolation I found in that important assembly promoted and organised by us. The significance and impressiveness which the meetings obtained by the presence of eminent Cardinals and illustrious Archbishops and Bishops, by the eloquence of some of the best known orators, by the vast gathering of the clergy, and the spirit of fervour which animated the Congressists — while all these served to guarantee the success of the movement, and that its fruits would be many and great, on the other hand they were also a triumph for Our Holy Founder, Don Bosco. And indeed, to see such an authoritative recognition not only of the opportuneness, but also of the necessity of the Festive Oratories, of that work with which Don Bosco commenced his apostolate, to hear it emphatically laid down that the means adopted by Don Bosco were the very ones to render the work efficacious, and to hear inculcated by Our Holy Father Pius X and by the Bishops the necessity of preserving the young from error by practices of devotion, by Christian doctrine, and by the advanced religious classes just as Don Bosco had continually taught by word and example; all this was another striking assurance to me that Our Founder, by his intimate knowledge of the needs of the times, and applying what is now recognised as the great remedy for the pre-

sent evils, was clearly inspired and guided by God. If it had only been possible for all our Co-operators to have assembled there! They could not have helped being impressed with the esteem and veneration in which Don Bosco's name is held, nor being urged on to further efforts in the promotion of his work. The success of this congress must be likewise placed among the benefits received from God.

Another motive of gratitude is suggested to me in the enthusiasm, especially among our boys, which accompanied the fiftieth anniversary of the death of the saintly pupil of Don Bosco, Dominic Savio. There was great rejoicing towards the end of the above mentioned Congress, when it was announced that the Ecclesiastical Curia of Turin had decided to institute proceedings for the initial stages of the Process concerning the *life, virtue, and fame of the sanctity* of this youthful servant of God; and a vote of thanks and approval, proposed by the late deeply lamented Cardinal Svampa to His Eminence Cardinal Richelmy, Archbishop of Turin, was at once passed by acclamation, and confirmed by eight hundred signatures. In truth the good that has been and is still accomplished among the young, by the memory of the distinguished virtues of Dominic Savio give me the assurance that Almighty God will not long delay the glorification of his lowly servant.

Then again we have surely great reason to offer special thanks to God, for his having so quickly granted us the privilege of saluting our Father and Master with the title of *Venerable!* The decree to that effect was passed by the Sacred Congregation of Rites in its meeting on July 23rd, and signed by the Holy Father on the following day the 24th of the month, which is consecrated to the monthly commemoration of Our Lady Help of Christian

in her Sanctuary at Turin. I mention this last circumstance, because I am assured that we ought to regard this commencement of the glorification of Don Bosco, as a further pledge of the predilection of Our Lady Help of Christians.

There is no need for me to dwell on the infinite consolation which I experienced on the reception of such news; it would be impossible for me to describe it. I must remark instead that my joy was increased by the way in which it was received by you, the Salesian Co-operators; very many indeed sent me their expressions of congratulation, and I am most grateful for them. It was also most comforting to receive the news of solemn thanksgiving services, not only in our chapels and public churches, but in various cathedrals and metropolitan churches, at which the most distinguished citizens, and great concourses of people assisted. I hope that wherever the number of Co-operators allows it, some such thanksgiving will not be omitted. A convenient occasion for it would be the occurrence of the next conference on the feast of St. Francis of Sales.

Trials and Crosses.

For having counted us worthy to suffer something for His Name's sake we should also return thanks to God. You must all have heard of the infamous calumnies by which during last summer it was sought to bring the name of the Sons of Don Bosco into dishonour; which evil reports, to the grave scandal of many souls, were echoed throughout the world. We cannot but return most hearty thanks to God for His comforting support during that terrible time, and for having, by the might of His arm, drawn us out untouched from the evil which surrounded us; but nevertheless it is

impossible to hide the sorrow and anxiety which it brought with it.

It is true that the whole fabric of infamous and detestable calumny was quickly beaten to the ground, but the voice of truth, though loyal and strong, can never be heard to such a predominating extent as to completely smother the shameless insinuations which were spread abroad. I feel it my duty, therefore, to protest in the strongest terms against the defamers and to take every means to establish the truth and make justice triumph. For it is not only that the honour of thousands of individuals is at stake, of generous souls who have consecrated their lives to works of charity, of sacrifice, and the benefit of the young; but there is the danger of the loss of so many of these young generations who if they were once persuaded of, or even suspected any stain upon our character, would cease to attend our schools and institutions on their behalf.

There is something further. These reports have gained credence to a very great extent outside Italy; now supposing that wherever these reports have been circulated there is no authoritative voice to contradict them and show their falsity, you will agree that I have reason to be afflicted not so much at the affront offered to ourselves, as for the evil which may accrue to so many souls. That is our only reason for complaint. For myself, I assure you, that I felt something of that spiritual joy which the Apostles experienced when they were dismissed by the Sanhedrim having been counted worthy to suffer contumely for the name of Christ.

The lesson to be learnt.

And now, we should not allow this trial to pass away without deriving

some advantage from it; and hence I point out the lesson to be drawn.

Let us learn to recognise that we must be pursuing the right path, and that the good work which you, Our Co-operators, are helping us to accomplish, must be considerable, if it is able to raise up against us such a storm on the part of the great enemies of morality, and of the Christian education of youth.

Their crafty proceedings seem to me to have had in view chiefly two things: first of all and above all, to cover the Salesian name with disgrace, so as to bring it into discredit, and to form a sort of void around us; and in the second place to paralyze and to restrict, and even to destroy if possible our activity and expansion.

By the help of God, and of Mary Help of Christians, the first of these objects has signally failed, for perhaps never in our annals were there so many applications for admission into our schools and institutes. It is for us now, dear Co-operators, to render their second object also vain. On our own part I may safely state that we were never more determined in our efforts or more animated with zeal and alacrity for the educational advantage, both religious and secular, of so many of the young. I would therefore ask you to increase your aid both moral and material so that the evil that has been done may be more than counteracted both at home and abroad. If in these times when earthly passions are paramount, and there is complete oblivion of a future destiny, the Salesian Co-operators could learn from the untiring activity of the children of darkness to place an impassable barrier against the tide of evil, and to do so as Don Bosco said by raising higher and brighter their torch of faith, these evils might in the end, by the disposition of Provi-

dence, turn out to be the instruments of good.

Proposals for 1908.

What, therefore, should I propose to you to practice in the present year.

The diffusion of good reading matter,

If I turn over the pages of your rule I find that one great means is proposed alike to your association as to the Society of St. Francis of Sales; namely *to counteract the influence of the evil press by good sound reading matter; and to accomplish this by the diffusion of good books, of pamphlets and booklets in districts and families where there is need.* Having before our eyes such clear evidence of the harm that is wrought by evil and immoral literature, there will be no need for me to spend much time in convincing you of the importance of this duty; I shall limit my remarks to a little practical guidance.

Above all never buy a bad book or immoral paper or even one whose spirit and tone is questionable; do not say that a few pence or even one penny will bring little gain to the proprietors. That is no reason at all; and besides, if many were to think the same, by a penny from one, and a penny from another, the systematic diffusion of evil papers and books would be secured.

Then again, let those who have to buy the daily papers either for business or for pleasure, give their patronage exclusively to good ones; and let them strive to further the publication of those that are trustworthy. If circumstances do not allow of a regular subscription to one of these, it might be possible in combination with a friend. When once such literature has been bought do not destroy it; but when you have read it pass it on to

others or strive to bring it to the notice of families or friends who you know may profit by it. If at the station or book-stalls ask for a paper that is above suspicion, and if it is not kept do not be put off with another. Let the managers of industrial firms and business houses give their advertisements only to good papers, and let keepers of hotels and restaurants and such places make it a rule never to admit questionable reading matter.

In regard to books and periodicals let every father or mother, every head of institutes or communities arrange to subscribe yearly or monthly to some good periodical, so that there may always be something to provide reading matter to the household or dependents. Much good may also be accomplished by the circulation of the *Bulletin*, established by our holy founder himself, and through which we often hear that good has been done in quite unexpected places.

The care of the young.

Again in the Regulations I find that the chief object of the Co-operators is *an active life in the practice of charity towards our neighbour, and especially towards the young who may be in danger*. Indeed how many snares and pit-falls there are, in our days, to entrap unwary youth. If, as our Holy Father Pius X now gloriously reigning has said: "through the evil effects of original sin, it is so difficult and arduous, even under favourable conditions, to bring an education to a successful issue," how can any of our youth, if left to themselves, and surrounded by a thousand dangers, succeed, I do not say in reaching the heights of Christian perfection, but in merely keeping upright, and preserving a good character?

Hence my second earnest recom-

mendation to you is to do your utmost on behalf of the boys and girls over whom you ought or may be able to exercise your vigilance. See that they grow up pious and well-behaved; notice carefully what books they read and what company they frequent; let your example train them in the exact fulfilment of all religious duties, and take every means to ensure that they are well instructed in their religion. This you can easily do if you see that they attend a *Festive Oratory*, which, in one of its many sections, especially in the large towns, will provide a sure safeguard as well as instruction for the young. This is what I desire to impress on you in regard to youth, and not only as a general recommendation, but as written to each one in particular, in order to be in truth an active and zealous Co-operator.

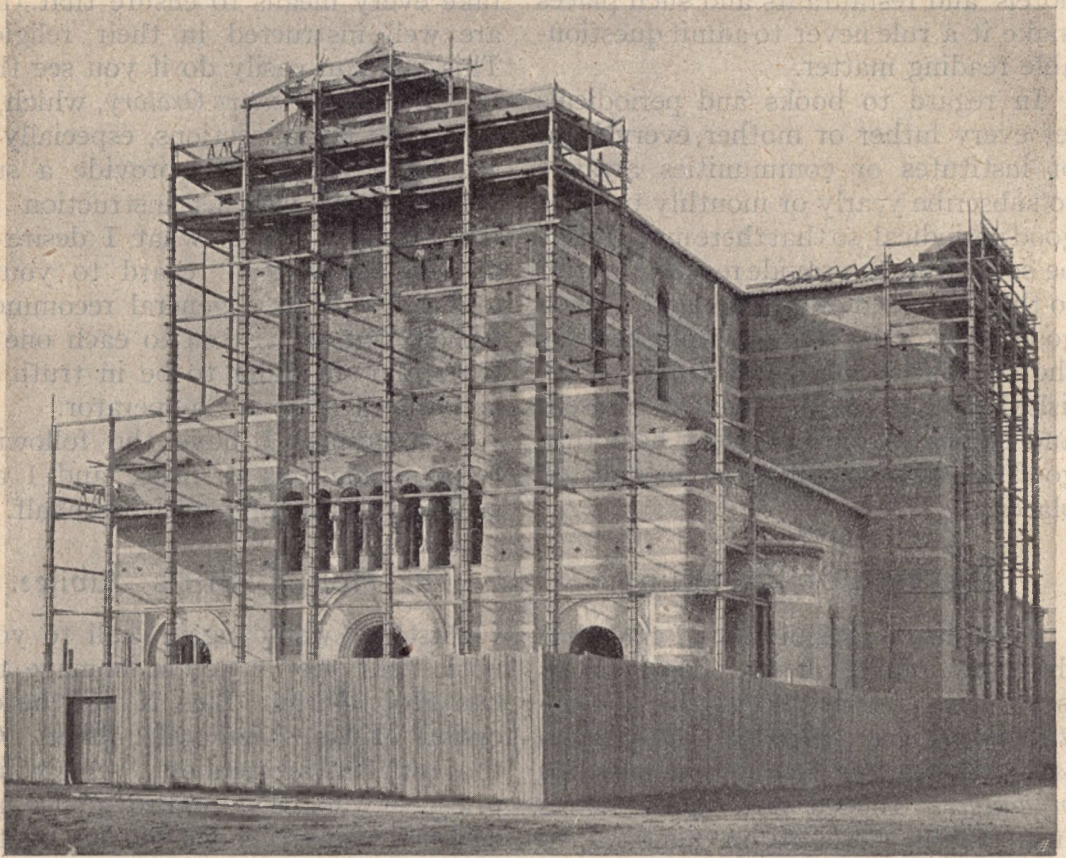
Furthermore I have the following recommendations to make and I appeal to you urgently in their behalf.

The Holy Father's Jubilee.

Firstly I would again call to your notice our special act of homage to Our Holy Father Pius X, on the occasion of his sacerdotal jubilee. On the 19th of September 1858 a young priest — whom Divine Providence had destined to ascend one by one all the grades of the ecclesiastical hierarchy — celebrated his first Mass at Riese, his native place. That newly ordained priest was Fr. Joseph Sarto, today *His Holiness Pius X*, to whom the whole Catholic world now turns in one grand manifestation of filial joy, on the happy occurrence of the fiftieth anniversary of that solemn event. Faithful to the teaching of Don Bosco we cannot afford to be behind-hand in this noble rivalry; and accordingly, as I have already explained to you, we intend to offer him if possible, a new

church in Rome. This fine temple, truly grand and imposing, arises in the new and populous quarter known as the *Testaccian*, on the outskirts of the eternal city towards the *Porta S. Paolo*, which was until now destitute of a church. The new edifice is dedicated to *Santa Maria Liberatrice*, (Our

But in order to bring it to completion within the time, it is essential that every one should send his subscription without delay. This is a special request that I make to each one of you, while at the same time I return my most grateful thanks to those who have already answered my appeal. Let every ef-



ROME — Church of S. Maria Liberatrice (State of work at the end of December).

Lady the Deliverer), a title whose origin is seen in the prayer : *Sancta Maria, libera nos a poenis inferni*; it will have therefore one of the most glorious titles to be found in the history of Our Lady's devotion in the capital of Catholicism, and similar to that which is connected with the name of *Sancta Maria Antiqua*, recently discovered in the Roman Forum, which is the first and most ancient of the churches dedicated to Our Lady in Rome.

fort therefore be made, so as to ensure the presentation of our homage before the end of the year.

Aid for the Missions.

In the second place I recommend our Missions to your charity. As you must have learnt from accounts in the *Bulletin*, by the favour of God these missions continue to develop; but the means must naturally be supplied in

proportion. But some may say, why not restrict this part of our work, or at least extend slowly. What would you expect me to answer to that, dear Co-operators? I know full well the importance our Founder attached to this pious work; and when I consider that in America, in Africa, in Asia, in Australia there are so many millions of rational creatures still buried in the darkness of error, waiting for many centuries to receive the Gospel labourers bearing the message of truth and salvation, I cannot help being deeply moved, and I cannot prevent the harvest from being gathered. I should fear to be condemned for want of trust in Divine Providence, and in your charity, already so often experienced by me, if from the urgency and the holiness of the work I did not gain courage to undertake further expense to hasten the progress of evangelization.

For this year I confide to your special care the missions of *Matto Grosso* and *Ecuador*. Among the *Bororos* of *Matto Grosso* we have not yet placed on a satisfactory footing the third *Colony of St. Joseph*, and the Inspector of those regions is already asking me for the means to start a fourth in the heart of the forests. From statistics lately made by our missionaries, in conjunction with the chiefs of the tribes I am certain that the numbers do in fact demand such an undertaking. It is clear also that what our confrères have already accomplished among the natives has firmly taken root and gained the confidence of the tribes; hence the opportunity for further evangelization. How then, without thwarting the designs of Divine Providence, could I draw back from this fourth foundation?

Similarly I can no longer delay the necessary supplies for the *Jivaros* of *Ecuador*. What has been already done is very considerable, but up to the present it is almost wholly confined

to the neighbourhood of *Gualaquiza*. It is necessary that apostolic journeys should be regularly made to the forests inhabited by the *Jivaros*, and colonies established among them. To this end we have arranged that the House at *Cuenca* should be a base for provisions to these missions, and for the present the principal residence of the missionaries. From there it will be more convenient to arrange for the supplies for *Gualaquiza*, and for the intended visitations of the natives. But again, for all these undertakings, it is indispensable that the Co-operators in all parts of the world should make their own the pressing needs of these poor missions.

Support for the works already undertaken.

Lastly I must again this year impress upon you the continual need we have for your charitable assistance, in order to keep up the good works which you have already enabled us to found. It is well known to you that we have to provide all that is necessary for thousands of poor children, who are deprived of other aid. Instruction in studies or in a trade so that they may one day be able to provide for themselves, this has also to be given at very great cost. At the same time we have to provide for the training of new masters and assistants, professors and missionaries, so as to fill the places that are vacant through death and to cope with the demands of growing places. The maintenance of the Houses and Churches, the scholastic furniture and apparatus, the equipment of the Festive Oratories — all these are extra burdens. Many places are still awaiting completion but the means are yet to be found. I have said enough, dear Co-operators, to convince you that our expenses are not only great ones and permanent,

but are continually increasing with the development of the work, and your charity must likewise increase to enable us to cope with the demands.

The work of 1907.

According to my custom of former years, I must now give you a brief report of what has been done during the past year; and as I have already shown, our daily expenses have been our chief concern, and your alms have been devoted to them. Should I add that they were hardly sufficient to cover that portion of our expenses my words might appear ungrateful and out of place, but, it grieves me to say it, our financial condition, which we hoped this year to see improving, has rather gone lower. Perchance, the war of calumny, to which I have referred, is partly responsible for it; and in view of that we are the more grateful to those who have continued their usual benevolence and assistance.

However in spite of that, and notwithstanding the scarcity of personnel we have not been able to avoid the commencement of works to which we were already pledged, and which we have begun solely for that reason.

In ITALY through the generosity of a noble lady - Co-operator we have been able to open a school of Arts and Trades at *Vigevano*. At *Ravenna* through the untiring zeal of the excellent Archbishop and Co-operator, Mgr. Morganti, and through the generosity of another illustrious lady-Co-operator, a school of Arts and trades has also been opened.

At *Modica* in Sicily a Festive Oratory has been established, mainly through the efforts of Mgr Blandini Bishop of Noto. At *Ruckenstein* in Carniola (Austria) a House for the training of personnel has been opened; at *Przemyst* in Galicia, a Festive Oratory was

commenced; at *Alicante* in Spain an Institute for adult vocations has been inaugurated; at *Jaffa* in Palestine the National Association in aid of Catholic Missionaries has entrusted to us a new School for boarders and day pupils. At *Cartago* in the Republic of Costa Rica an agricultural school, with some departments of Trades has been started; at *Panama* in Central America a new parish of St. Michael, in connection with the Festive Oratory previously established, is now in working order; Festive Oratories have also been added to other existing foundations such as *Nitheroy* in Brazil, and *Valparaiso* in Chili. Lastly at *Ramsey* in the United States we have been compelled to establish another House for the training of personnel, exclusively to cope with the needs of so many immigrants in that confederation.

Concerning the work on behalf of emigrants I am pleased to announce that it has increased considerably, and that we are determined, within the limits of our means, to extend whatever aid may be in our power to those who, whether out of necessity or convenience, have settled in foreign countries.

By the dispersion of its members in many lands, it is now becoming possible for the Salesian Society to devote some attention to several good works on behalf of emigrants of various nations, as has already been done with much success for those emigrating from Italy. As these have found great assistance from the priests of their own nationality, so it is my earnest desire that the Salesians of other nations, especially where the need is more marked, should devote some attention to the needs of their fellow country men in other lands. What has already been done at Buenos Ayres for Europeans, at Oakland in California for the Portuguese, and in the East End of London for Polish

emigrants, I desire to see extended and established in other lands, and particularly in the large ports.

Aid us also dear Co-operators with your prayers; so that we may never find ourselves unable to cope with the continual effort demanded from us by the universal influence which the work of Don Bosco has attained.

Conclusion.

And now I close my letter, just as our Venerable Founder used to do, with my most grateful thanks for the generous aid you have always given. I thank you in the name of so many of the young in our schools and houses who are provided for by you; in the name of our Missionaries whom you have aided in their apostolic labours; and on behalf of so many souls which; have received instruction, guidance and salvation by means of our Festive Oratories and Churches and schools. The grateful prayers of thousands of hearts are daily interceding for you that you may receive the hundred-fold promised by Our Lord in this life, and the recompense of the just in heaven.

Wishing you all prosperity and every joy during this new year, with the profoundest gratitude

I am

Your obedient servant

Michael Riva

INDULGENCES

which may be gained by the Co-operators.

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.

Every month.

1. On any one day at the choice of the associate.

2. On the day the monthly exercise of a good death is made.

3. 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.

In the month of January.

1. Jan. 1st The Circumcision.
2. Jan. 6th The Epiphany.
3. Jan. 20th The Holy Name,
4. Jan. 23rd The Espousals of Our Lady.
5. Jan. 25th The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle.
6. 27th Feast of the Holy Family.
7. 29th Feast of St Francis of Sales, Patron Saint of the Salesian Society.

It would be well to call to mind :

1st that the indulgences granted to the Salesian Co-operators are all applicable to the holy souls in Purgatory;

2nd That to obtain them, the present Holy Father has prescribed the daily recital of the *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be to the Father*, for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff, and the invocation, St Francis of Sales, pray for us. These prayers are the ordinary ones undertaken by all Co-operators at the time of their enrolment, and the Pope commands them by way of reminder.

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



In honour of The Venerable Don Bosco.

Mention has previously been made of the pilgrimage to Don Bosco's tomb at Valsalice, as it was the most prominent feature in the celebrations on the occasion of his being declared "Venerable". The initiative in this movement, which resulted in a triumph beyond all expectation, was taken by the "Circle" or club of the old pupils of the Oratory at Turin, the club being under the title of the Venerable servant of God. So indefatigably and so successfully did the members of the Committee exert themselves, that no words of congratulation would be strong enough to suit the splendid results of their efforts to present a worthy homage to the memory of Don Bosco.

The spacious courtyard of the Missionary Seminary at Valsalice presented a magnificent picture, the porticoes lending themselves particularly to a wealth of artistic decoration; the central arches in front of the tomb were handsomely draped, the terrace above bearing thirty banners representing the Catholic Associations of the city.

Long before the great demonstration was to take place crowds of people made visits to the tomb, paying their respects in constant succession to the Apostle of youth; and the Church itself, with its many mementoes, was the object of pious admiration; forming as it does a mausoleum befitting the respectful gratitude of Sons and Co-operators.

About three o' clock, some four thousand persons had gathered about the tomb, — that being the hour fixed for the commemorative service. In the seats for the presidents were His Grace the Archbishop of Sebaste, Mgr. Cagliero, Mgr. Spandre, Auxiliary to the Cardinal Archbishop of Turin, Our Rector Major, the Very Rev. Don Rua with his chapter, Mgr. Catalanotto, and representatives of different sections of Co-operators, together with the chief members of the Torinese Clergy and laity.

The band of the Valdocco Festive Oratory, as being privileged on such an occasion, had the honour of commencing the function, and on the conclusion of its selection Mgr. Spandre, amid great applause, stepped on to the platform to address the gathering. His Lordship began with a fraternal salutation to all the Sons of Don

Bosco and to all those who by taking part in those commemorations, were satisfying, as he said, what was almost a demand of some inward voice calling them around that tomb. The bishop's natural gift of eloquence then displayed itself in a brilliant piece of oratory, touching the sympathetic chord of every heart in a eulogium on Don Bosco, "the indefatigable apostle of youth, the benefactor of humanity;" and he found a ready response in urging the vast multitude to raise their minds and hearts to God, in gratitude for their being able to offer their salvation to the *Venerabile*, in whom the world rejoiced, and especially Piedmont and Turin which had the privilege of possessing his mortal remains."

The bishop dwelt with affectionate remembrance on the years he had spent as a boy at the Oratory, under the shade of the Sanctuary of Our Lady Help of Christians, and the paternal guidance of the Venerable Don Bosco himself; and finally, amid great enthusiasm, he referred to the Successor of our holy Founder, expressing his assured hope that as a reward for his years of heavy responsibility and patient toil, Almighty God would grant him to see the venerable founder of the Salesian work enrolled among the Saints.

When the applause had lulled, His Lordship announced the reception of an autograph letter, sent as a mark of special regard by the Holy Father to the President of the *circle* or club of Don Bosco. The assembly rose as the Bishop read the words of the Pope, and after renewed applause the *Te Deum* was intoned and taken up by all present. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was then given by Mgr. Catalanotto.

The lawyer, Signor Martina, then mounted the platform. Speaking of the opportuneness of the pilgrimage he said: "The city of the Consolata and of the Help of Christians, which possesses two of the brightest examples of charity, the House of the Ven. Cottolengo, and the centre of the great apostolate of education, the Oratory of Valdocco, Turin has today turned out in the thousands of its best citizens, under the standards of its popular Associations to say a prayer at the tomb of Don Bosco, and to pay an act of homage to his venerated Successor.

This union of the two names in one display of affection and regard, this combined homage to the Father and to him who so worthily carries on the work and its noble traditions, is the most palpable proof of the attachment of the past pupils of Don Bosco to the Salesian Work, and an evidence that, should any misfortune befall it, we ourselves are equally concerned, and that its victory and consolation is a triumph and a consolation to us likewise.

The wave of calumny and irreligion has passed over; it has passed but it has left us one great lesson. At one time the cry was raised. *Out with the barbarians!* but they are not all out; now

Saint. That day on which the indefatigable apostle of so many and varied forms of charitable works shall be raised by the *Church Teaching* to the highest of her honours, will call forth special powers of oratory and eulogium, and all the flowers of Italy could not supply a worthy garland. Today we also venerate and do homage to the man. His gentle features are impressed upon the hearts of all; even those who have never seen him hold his image among the dearest and most familiar. His forehead displaying the nobility and vastness of his sympathies which embraced the whole world; his clear, but kindly eyes searching the depths of the soul;



TANJORE (India) — The arrival of the Bishop.

and again they make their appearance; they foster their sinister plans in secret places; they are the barbarians of their country, of Religion, of charity. Against such as those, against such misguided men, who, having stifled every spark of faith in the darkness of the void which they experience in their hearts, become furious iconoclasts of all that is pure and sacred, raving against the gentle *Venerabile* of Bra, as against the Apostle of Charity, the Venerable Don Bosco; against such as these we raise no protest today. It would be to disturb the peace of the tomb; the great soul that reposes here would rise up to impose silence, and bid us rather stretch out a helping hand even to our enemies.

Today we are commemorating the memory of Don Bosco, as that of a man who ranks among the worthiest productions of the nineteenth century: it will be for the coming era to commemorate the

displaying at the same time a vision of charity and peace; his ardent words, lit up by a constant air of confidence; his very look, expressed in his marble effigy seems to suggest that he is just about to pronounce his motto "*Da mihi animas, caetera tolle.*"

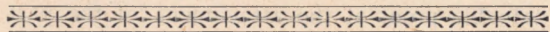
The speaker proceeded then to draw a parallel between the Venerable Don Bosco, and various distinguished Servants of God, who have been called at different crises to accomplish some opportune and much needed work. These men of their age have never been wanting in the life of the Church and of Society, and Divine Providence fits them out with all the gifts and adornments and powers of mind and heart which will enable them to accomplish the work He has chosen them to do. The various stages of Don Bosco's mission were touched upon, particularly from the point of view of their suitability and

remarkable fitness, which becomes the more apparent as the lapse of years allows of their being viewed in relation to their surroundings and circumstances. They were eminently democratic — in the best sense of the word — what more so than the moral and intellectual training of the children of the masses, putting into their hands the means of a successful career compatible with their state of life, and guided by the maxims and doctrines, and supported by the Sacraments of the Catholic Church. Charity was the vivifying principle — the charity of the Gospel, in contradistinction to the hard, avaricious spirit which worldly advancement and the rejection of God and His Providence was gradually instilling. This spirit of charity accounted for the world-wide nature of Don Bosco's work, and the varied forms which it assumed in various circumstances. And hence the world-wide homage now paid to the memory of the *Venerabile*, and the universal acclamations which reached his venerated Successor on that memorable occasion, when the sanction of the church, was bestowed upon a work, which in its ideal realisation, was nothing short of the unity of the nations in one faith, one charity and one hope.

This presentation of the main features of our Founder's work—viewed from its religious, civil and social standpoint — was admirably suited to the circumstances, and could not have been more happily put before the minds of an appreciative audience, by one who had himself been educated under Don Bosco's auspices. The President of the club then read a number of telegrams, notices of adhesion and participation, etc., from Co-operators and circles in many parts. Other distinguished members followed. Mgr. Catalano, the zealous Director of the Salesian Co-operators in Sicily, then read the letter which had been sent by the Sicilians to Don Rua, and begging him to accept the present of a valuable chalice, in compensation, they said, for the cup of bitterness which had been presented by others in the few preceding months, during the anti-clerical riots. In fact the little island of Sicily had come forward most handsomely on this occasion, having also asked the Very Rev. Don Rua to say Mass that day at Don Bosco's tomb making an offering at the same time of two hundred francs.

A message of thanks to the Holy Father was then proposed and carried, and our Rector Major rose to say the final word. He congratulated the great gathering on the success of their demonstration and thanked them for the tribute offered to the memory of our Holy Founder, and to himself on the feast of his patron Saint. He then called on His Grace, Archbishop

Cagliari, to give the blessing sent by the Supreme Pontiff, which was followed by cheers for the Pope, Don Bosco and Don Rua.



The Colombian Exhibition.

The Inspector of our Houses in Colombia (South America) sends the following to Our Rector Major. Bearing in mind what was said by one of the speakers at the demonstration described in other pages of this issue, concerning the various forms and adaptability of Don Bosco's work, and its truly democratic principles, the letter is interesting as an illustration and a confirmation of what was there said.

Two years ago I was able to send you a photograph of the diploma of merit, and the gold medal carried off by our technical schools, at the National Exhibition held in this capital, (Bogotá). The public in general, our benefactors and Co-operators, and the Government as well, were convinced of the highly satisfactory results obtained by the Schools of Arts and Trades. The specimens which were chosen to represent our work in the exhibition reached such a high standard that it was difficult to believe that they were only boys' work; consequently, after the exhibition, the school had many visitors, who meant to assure themselves of the genuineness of the work, and thus we gained many new friends and assistants.

As a result of that exhibition of 1905, the Government sold us the premises which we had till then only rented. The President of the Republic, General Raphael Reyes, said that he had no desire to ask us to pay him in coin, but that we should pay our debt by receiving a certain number of boys to be educated. Thus the Government is well repaid, for every year the state receives a number of young, skilled workmen, well instructed in religion and in their trade, and imbued with the true Christian spirit of respect and obedience to authority. It is true that all this involves many sacrifices, and the maintenance of such a work demands a heavy outlay; but Divine Providence has not been wanting till now. A certain Co-operator has already adopted one of these boys, not only paying for his education, but for his outfit as well. If this example were followed, our anxiety would be greatly diminished.

A friend of ours, a well-known architect out here, is preparing plans for a large school capable of accommodating five hundred boys. We

have not, of course, the means as yet to carry out the project, but Our Lady Help of Christians must find them.

A short time back Colombia kept its national feast — the anniversary of its obtaining independence. Almost up to the present year the return of this day was made the occasion of undesirable rejoicings and displays, in a spirit of hatred against its mother-country, Spain. Nothing could be more unjust than this ill-feeling against a country which gave to Colombia, as to nearly all South America, what it has of a language and of civilization, and which instilled so deeply the principles and practice of our holy religion, with the result that few peoples are so entirely Catholic as the Colombians.

His Excellency the Governor, tactful in this as in other national movements, has long sought to do away with these outbursts of feeling and disreputable customs; and this he is accomplishing by setting up counter attractions for the populace, this year's being a national, agricultural exhibition. The idea was enthusiastically taken up throughout the Republic, the result being a display which was a record of its kind, and in some departments showed quite a national advancement.

We had one of the sections in this exhibition and a somewhat novel one it was. Fr. Rizzardi was its promoter and organiser, and he had arranged a complete agricultural display in connection with the agronomic department of the school. Its most attractive feature was the section on the rearing and work of bees, an industry little known and less followed in this country. It would be safe to say that this part attracted more visitors than any other in the exhibition. The President himself was among the inquisitive and required detailed information from Fr. Rizzardi. The newspapers naturally seized upon the novelty, and their reports and various suggestive paragraphs have made quite a stir in the agricultural world of Colombia.

The distribution of awards was made in the Grand Hall of the Government buildings. The President of the Republic took the chair, his cabinet surrounded him, while an overcrowded House had gathered to witness the distribution, as well as to be present at the conclusion of what has proved quite a national movement. When the Director of the Salesian School was called for, Fr. Rizzardi came forward in his stead, prolonged applause greeting his appearance. He was the only priest in the whole assembly, being the only one who had taken a share in the organisation of the exhibition. While placing in the hands of our confrère the diploma of honour and silver medal, the Presi-

dent said: "It is a great pleasure for me to give another award to the Salesian School, which is ever to the front when the interests of labour are concerned."

You will see from this that we are endeavouring to keep in view the motto of Don Bosco's life of unwearying activity — *Laboremus*; and to do so more effectually, or even to maintain our present undertakings, I must ask you to keep our province in mind when you are sending out the new missionaries, and arranging for supplies.

Asking your blessing upon us all
I am

Yours obediently in Christ

ANTONIO AIME.

Book Notices.

The following publications from the *Catholic Truth Society* have just been received. Their titles and prices are mentioned here, a longer notice being reserved for our next issue. Orders may be made either to the Society's offices, 69 Southwark Bridge Road, E.C., or to their depôt¹, 4 Paternoster Row, E.C.

1. *Gospel of St. Mark*. St. Edmund's College Series. Annotated. Half-crown.
2. *Tommie and His Mates*. David Bearne, S. J. Half-crown.
3. *Children of Light and other stories*. M. E. Francis. One shilling.
4. *Common Sense Talks* by Lady Amabel Kerr. One shilling.
5. *My Very Own, and other tales*. S. M. Lyne. Two shillings.
6. *Spiritual maxims and Gathered Thoughts* of Brother Lawrence, 6d.
7. *The Practice of the Presence of God*, from Brother Lawrence, 6d.
8. *The condemnation of Pope Honorius* by Dom John Chapman, O. S. B. 3d.
9. *A parable of a pilgrim*, by Walter Hylton. 3d. cloth 6d.
10. *Social Questions and the duty of Catholics*, by C. S. Devas, M. A. 3d. cloth 6d.
11. *Science and its Counterfeit*, by Fr. Gerard, S. J. 1d.
12. *Galileo*, by Fr. Gerard, S. J. 1d.
13. *Infallibility and tradition*, by Fr. R. H. Benson, M. A. 1d.
14. *The maintenance of religion in the School*, by the Archbishop of Westminster. 1d.
15. *Some methods of social study*, by L. A. Toke. 1d.
16. *The reform of Church music*, by J. B. Ward. 1d.
17. *Scientific Facts and Scientific Hypotheses*, by B. C. A. Windle, M.D., F.R.S. 1d.
18. *Garibaldi and his friends*, by Fr. Thurston, S. J. 1d.
19. *Benedictine Nuns in East Africa*. 1d.
20. *Stories of English Benedictine Nuns*. 1d.
21. *The Catholic's Library of Tales, No 60*. Dick Hart, by David Bearne, S. J. 1d.



Reference has previously "The Venerable" been made to the celebrations held in various parts to commemorate the introduction of the Cause of our Holy Founder. The pilgrimage or demonstration at the tomb of the Servant of God was eminently worthy of the place and the occasion, but apparently not far behind it must be ranked the thanksgiving service in another great centre of Salesian work, the capital of the Argentine Republic — Buenos Ayres. The Argentine was the country chosen by Don Bosco as the goal of the first batch of his missionaries; and it has absorbed some of the best energies of apostolic zeal; untiring devotion has been given to the religious and intellectual development of the country, which being practically a new state, and still in the early stages of its national growth was sorely in need of the influences of religious and industrial training. The Southern portions of the state, to exemplify a part of the work accomplished, were, thirty years ago, a wild, unknown, uninhabitable territory; they are today reclaimed to the Christian faith and to civilization. The former is entirely, the latter to a very great extent, due to the labours of the missionary. The Argentine therefore was indebted to Don Bosco, and its gratitude was hearty and spontaneous in the noble display, by which it celebrated the distinction lately conferred upon him. The homage was chiefly embodied in the special service held in the vast metropolitan cathedral. Almost innumerable ranks of children from the Salesian Schools — connected either with their day or boarding schools or Festive Oratories, to the number of some 4000 occupied the side aisles of the immense building, while the nave was crowded with people of all ranks and conditions. The Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Fr. Grote, Redemptorist. The music was given by combined choirs to the number of 500 voices. His Grace the Archbishop, surrounded by the Met-

ropolitan Chapter, intoned the *Te Deum* which was then taken up alternately by choir and people. Souvenirs of the occasion, in the form of medals and pictures, were distributed to all who had taken part.

*

The flourishing school —
 At the School *Collegio Pio Nono* — has played
 of a distinguished part in the
 Pius IX. intellectual life of the same
 state. It was the scene of the
 early labours of the second Salesian Bishop, Mgr. Lasagna, who gave to it a high standard of mental and moral culture, which it has since maintained. As a continuation to the above celebrations, the afternoon of the same day saw a great and memorable gathering at the School of Pius IX. A gymnastic display was given first, the boys from the rival school of Leo XIII distinguishing themselves in it. Four bands from Salesian Schools then gave a musical concert, followed by the discourse of the occasion by His Lordship the bishop of La Plata. "The bond of union," he said, "between a father and his children, is not less strong in the supernatural order than in the order of nature, and when founded on grace its power is in a sense divine, and belongs to that union which the Son of God asks from His Heavenly Father for those who believe in His Name, and live in His holy love. Fathers and children, both ascending and descending, reciprocally communicate the glory, which in honouring one, honours the other also. This is the application of the words of holy writ, that the children by their virtuous lives form a crown of glory for their fathers, and that these latter reflect their honour on their children. *Corona eorum, filii filiorum; gloria filiorum, patres eorum.*"

Hence it appears to me, the glory now attaching to the name of Don Bosco is reflected upon his Society and upon his sons. I have no intention of giving you a panegyric of the Venerable

Founder, nor any eulogium of the work accomplished by his congregation; I have come solely to take part in this commemorative assembly because I have been honoured with the title of a Salesian Co-operator, which gives me the right to call myself in some sense a son of Don Bosco. But neither was it entirely this that has influenced me in coming; it was rather a duty, both as a priest and as a citizen of the Argentine." His Lordship then went on to show how the country owed a debt of gratitude to the Venerable Founder of the Salesians for its gift of faith and the practice of the Catholic Religion, spread and maintained throughout the Republic by the Schools and Churches and Missions which have been founded. Hence the Argentine people had a right, nay, a duty, to show their intimate connection with the work and they could all join in the words of gladness: *Gaudeamus omnes in Domino.*

*

His Eminence Cardinal Riboldi, Archbishop of Turin, assisted at the farewell ceremony of this year's missionary departure. The Sanctuary of Our Lady Help of Christians the scene of many similar touching ceremonies in former years, was crowded with friends of the new apostolic labourers, and with Salesian Co-operators and benefactors. The group of fifty Salesians, and thirty Nuns, Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, appeared quite a large number, but regarded as a reinforcement to so many districts, and in answer to so many demands for labourers in the vineyard, they are by no means numerous. The missionary letters from various parts of the globe, which are given in this periodical, have almost always one familiar ending, a prayer for more missionaries, for more help. The Superior of the Salesian Missions in Ecuador, Fr. Santinelli, gave the parting discourse which, coming from a missionary and delivered to missionaries, was full of apostolic fervour and encouragement, and quite in keeping with the occasion.

After the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the Cardinal Archbishop read the prayers prescribed for these ceremonies, and gave a brief address. The missionaries carry with them many good wishes and prayers for the success of their labours; we recommend their intentions to the Co-operators.

*

Congressists from nearly all the European States attended the last Eucharistic Congress held at Metz. The Holy Father was represented by His Eminence

Cardinal Vincent Vannutelli, and the movement resulted in quite a triumph for our holy religion. In the section dealing with the young in relation to the Subject of Congress, the practice of frequent Communion was treated of and led to an interesting discussion. His Grace, Archbishop Bourne, of Westminster, who presided at this meeting, afterwards gave a very clear résumé of the conclusions arrived at, and went on to say: "It seems to me that in discussing the young in relation to frequent Communion, one cannot omit recalling two names, those of Mgr. Ségur, and Don Bosco." He then went on to describe what he knew from personal experience at the Sanctuary at Valdocco, explaining Don Bosco's sentiments on the subject, and continued: "Don Bosco was evidently a precursor, for they are these ideas of his, now half a century old, that Pope Pius X has sanctioned. And the wisdom of Don Bosco's practice of inculcating frequent communion receives a further confirmation from the pope, in allowing us to give publicly to the humble priest of Valdocco, that title which we had already given him in our hearts, — the title of *Venerabile!*"

The Archbishop's words were received with great applause. At the close of the session, two Salesian priests asked to speak to him, and having thanked him for his gracious words, requested his blessing. "Oh willingly," replied His Grace, "I give you my congratulations and my blessing, and I give it also to your Superiors and your works and your Co-operators, for I count it one of my greatest privileges to have been among the friends of the Venerable Don Bosco."

*

The Salesian Co-operators and the whole of our work in the populous city of Bologna sustained a heavy loss by the death of the revered Cardinal Svampa. But although such a distinguished member of the association has been taken from us, it is a consolation and an honour to find that the new Archbishop, Mgr. Della Chiesa, is also a zealous Salesian Co-operator, he having long been enrolled among the members of the association.

Another episcopal vacancy has also been lately filled by the Pope, the new bishop, Mgr. Mappelli being likewise enrolled in the association. To both of these eminent pastors the congratulations and best wishes of the Congregation and its Co-operators are heartily tendered; and the prayers of the associates are asked for their intentions, and that there may be in store for each

a long and prosperous career in the service of God and the Church.

*

His Eminence Milan has been of late well
Cardinal Ferrari to the front in our annals,
for the congress and the opening of the Church of St. Augustine are events which will form part of the history of the Congregation and the work of its Co-operators. In October last just before the end of the long vacation, the Cardinal Archbishop visited, quite unannounced, the Salesian Institute attached to the above Church. Only a handful, comparatively, of the boys were in the school during the holidays, but nevertheless His Eminence spoke to them and to the community assembled in the Church; he gave a few pastoral exhortations, and then went on to say. "I shall come in later on when all are back and settled down to school-life again, in order to encourage and bless you and your companions, your teachers and Superiors, who have had to bear a great trial during these holidays from the anti-religious movement. But not only were they afflicted, but all good people with them, and all the clergy, and the bishops and the Holy Father himself, who has such great regard for the Sons of Don Bosco. But we need not fear these enemies of God, of the Church, and of society. We have Heaven on our side, and are sure of victory, for the gates of hell shall not prevail against the Church." The kindly words of the Archbishop were much appreciated, the more so as no better re-assurance could be given to those, who may have been at all influenced by the disturbances that were going on at the time.

*

English items
Battersea School When these lines are in print the school's first term will be, from the point of view of dates and calendars, a thing of the past; but not quite so it is to be hoped, in other respects. The first term is the longest of the three, and not by any means the least important, for the school work covered during that period is to do good service in furnishing the means for a satisfactory conclusion for all concerned. We have, in preceding numbers, touched on most of the items of special interest that served to vary the work of the first term. If numbers go to prove anything, and they are generally allowed to be indicative of progress, this first term has established something of a record; for although the number of students has previously reached a hundred and forty in the later months of the year, it had not, till last term, done so in the earlier months. The school's Christmas vacation

is not a very prolonged one, and as a certain percentage of the boys cannot arrange to spend it away, the school provides that the accustomed merry-making of the Christmas season shall not fall into abeyance. Having a permanent stage at its disposal there is every facility for diversions in the matter of entertainments, and good use is generally made of the opportunity; but we cannot quite anticipate what, at the time of writing, are still forthcoming events; we would rather point out that the commencement of the term is best suited for intending applicants. Prospectuses may be had from The Very Rev. Principal, Salesian School, Battersea, S. W.

*

The Metropolis is not always regarded in a favourable light by parents and others wishing to send boys to school. It has the advantage of being central and conveniently connected with almost every quarter of the country. But the provinces are sometimes considered to have recommendations of their own for school surroundings; provided they are not too much out of the way. Train service to Farnborough in Hampshire, where a rising Salesian School has been some time flourishing, is certainly one recommendation for the situation as a place for a school, while the county itself is everything to be desired as a healthy locality. Practically the same remarks, with a few qualifications, as have been given above, apply to this school, which has the recommendation of the Bishop of the Diocese, and will, it is hoped, be soon increased in size and accommodation. A letter to *The Director, Salesian School, Queens Road, Farnborough, Hants*, will obtain all information.

*

Chertsey-on-Thames, a well known residential centre, almost a suburb of London, is the Help of Christians well suited for a school, such as is now in working order, under the the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. Its main department is a preparatory school for little boys chiefly with a view to their transference to other boarding schools later on; a convent school for girls has also been opened and has already several pupils. Communicate with The Rev. Directress, Eastworth House, Eastworth Street, Chertsey, Surrey.



NEWS FROM

the MISSIONS



Tierra del Fuego

A short excursion to Cape S. Inès Twenty-three Baptisms.

Rio Grande (Tierra del Fuego), May 21st, 1907.

My Lord (1),

I send you a brief report of the Mission given to the poor half savage natives of Cape *Santa Agnese* to the south of Cape *Peña*.

On the first of this month, in Europe consecrated to Our Blessed Lady, accompanied by Brother James Dalmazzo and the Commissioner Inspector of Police, Signor E. Lopez Sanchez, I crossed the Rio Grande and stopped for the night in the *Estancia Argentina* of Signor Menendez where I was very kindly received by the administrator. The following day at 9 o'clock in the morning we set out again with horses lent us by Signor Menendez, and reached the *Rio del Fuego* at two o'clock in the afternoon. There we halted near the house of the Police, where they have about 180 horses and mares. Setting off that same evening, having penetrated into the woods, we met five men, eight women, four boys and four girls, all Indians. The four babies I baptized.

After several hours we returned to Signor Imperial's encampment, where we spent the night. The following day it happened that some Indians arrived and amongst them two children, one five and the other two years old, whom I baptized, giving them the names of *Inès* and *Tránsito*. The same morning we set out again towards eleven o'clock and at one o'clock we reached the

dwelling of Mr. Luke Bridges. He was not at home, but away at a distance of three hours' ride, busy with several Indians, constructing an enclosure for the rearing of beasts. Signor Lopez Sanchez sent him notice of our arrival and Mr. Bridges came home at once treating us with much kindness. With him also came several Indians with two children who were baptized. Two other children, who arrived shortly after, were also baptized. When the ceremony of Baptism was over we arranged with Mr. Bridges to make a halt at his encampment on the 15th day of the same month as there were nearly twenty children to be baptized. On our return we passed by *Punta Maria*, where I baptized another child two years old. We crossed the *Rio Grande* in a boat lent us by Signor Menendez.

I began my second journey on the 11th of this month accompanied by James Dalmazzo and Signor Imperial. Signor Menendez lent us four horses, two for riding and two to carry our luggage. That morning snow was falling and it was so bitterly cold we were unable to proceed on our way. However, towards two o'clock in the afternoon, the weather having improved, we left the farm of Signor Menendez and arrived at the encampment of Signor Imperial at *Rio del Fuego*, where we spent the night.

The following day, May 12th, we continued our journey towards *Viamonte* (the name of Mr. Bridges' *estancias* to the West of Cape St. Agnes). We arrived there safely. Mr. Bridges told us that the Indians had come down to the *estancia* with their children. "So much the better," said I, "it is so much time saved." There were present ten men, thirteen women, six boys and eighteen children, four of whom had been baptized during the previous journey. I baptized the fourteen children. After the Baptism Mr. Bridges assembled all the Indians round the Missionary and I gave them shirts, handkerchiefs, and clothing, as well as cakes, sweets, nuts, etc. With joy depicted on their countenances, these poor creatures returned to their *toldos*, situated behind Mr. Bridges' farm. The number of those present that day was fifty; but Mr. Bridges told me that during the *esquila* (sheep-shearing) there were more than two hundred.

During my previous journey I counted in the encampment of Andrés twenty Indians who at one time were at our Mission, which they left

(1) Mgr. Fagnano, in sending this letter to the Very Reverend Don Rua, approves of the Missionary's project to devote special care to this last remnant of the half savage tribes of Tierra del Fuego. These are the Indians who for many years were in communication with the Protestant Minister Thomas Bridges, whose sons now attend solely to their farm and other such matters.

to return to the woods. There they now live even during the winter, with the exception of a family of five living near *Río del Fuego* and another of three persons at *Punta Maria*.

We were back again by the 16th crossing the *Río Grande* on horseback.

Another year it would be well to go to *Viamonte* during the shearing time and remain there several days so as to instruct the adults and thus be able to baptize them. Mr. Bridges is kind to the Indians and gives every facility for doing them good: he is also willing to build a small wooden church for the greater convenience of the Indians and of the Missionaries.

As Providence has opened such a promising

two Catholic Churches are surrounded by fully three hundred pagodas and where we are frequently deafened by the noisy pagan festivals.

Our revered Pastor, Mgr. Theotonio de Castro, Bishop of Meliapor, was so good as to come in person to implore the blessings of heaven on our new building and on our work in these countries.

The ceremony, as far as possible, was carried out with the greatest solemnity. From the early morning the musicians of the Rajah's palace, at the request of one of our Cooperators, Alagiamthe Pillai, kindly lent their aid, announcing by their joyous strains that the day was a festival for the Salesians; and at the same time one of our native boys, twelve



The new Salesian house in Tanjore (India) inaugurated on the 28th of August 1907.

way for doing a little good to these poor unhappy savages, we must not let the opportunity slip.

I am

Your Lordship's obedient servant

JOHN ZENONE

Salesian Missionary.

Opening of the New Salesian House at Tanjore.

Tanjore, Sept. 2nd, 1907.

Very Rev. Don Rua,

I am glad to inform you that on Wednesday last, the blessing of the Chapel of Our Lady Help of Christians and of our new house in far away India took place. It must be remembered that this is a city almost entirely pagan, where the only

years of age, received Holy Baptism in the neighbouring parochial Church, changing his name of *Krishna*, one of the names of Vishnu (the second person of the *Trimurti*, or Indian Trinity) for the name of the lowly carpenter of Nazareth, the Spouse of the Virgin Mother of God. At six o'clock large numbers had already assembled near the parochial residence, when His Lordship the Bishop, preceded by the band, the Clergy and several parish priests from the neighbouring villages, with two Jesuit Fathers from Trichinopoly, made his way through the prostrate crowd towards the adjacent house to bless it.

Several triumphal arches had been erected along the road to be traversed and two rows of poles covered with green branches and garlands indicated the route.

The new building was also decorated with garlands and the waving of many little flags added to its festive appearance. The external decoration of the house, which was wonderfully successful had been undertaken by our good Co-operators, under the guidance of A. S. Than-gaprakasam Pillai. On reaching the Chapel, clad in his finest vestments, the Prelate was greeted by the singing of a motet and then began the ceremonial of the blessing. After the Chapel, the house also was blessed and then His Lordship approached the altar to celebrate Holy Mass.

During the Holy Sacrifice our native boys under the direction of the choir master Aroikesamy Pillai and assisted by the best singers from the parish church, gave a choice selection of music and plain chant.

There were many Communion although it was a week day. Twelve of our boys after a careful preparation of several months instruction, had the happiness of being admitted to the Holy Table for the first time.

After Mass solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given and thus brought to a close the beautiful service which had lasted more than two hours.

In the evening a brief entertainment was given in honour of His Lordship. Compositions in English, Italian and Tamil were read and sung, the whole concluding with a dramatic sketch, very well acted, and which gave much pleasure.

The Bishop had to leave the same evening for Meliapor, and one of our Co-operators, the communal secretary, R. Colundasami, kindly provided carriages for the occasion. These were numerous and first class equipages both on the arrival and the departure of the Bishop. The conveyance, in which His Lordship was seated, was a splendid coach drawn by a pair of magnificent white horses and attended by four servants in scarlet livery. It was the carriage of the Syndic, an excellent Brahmin, highly esteemed.

Then came another carriage with a pair of horses lent by the Rajah's household, followed by several others belonging to eminent persons of the city, so that all the priests were able to accompany His Lordship to the Station. At 9 o'clock the train left for Madras and our beloved Prelate departed, blessing the crowds who had collected to see him off.

I must not pass over in silence the increase of the devotion to Mary Help of Christians, and the goodness of this tender Mother towards our Christians.

On the 18th of last August, Signor T. S. D. Sami wrote to me:

"I send you an offering for the new Chapel of Mary Help of Christians at Tanjore. My niece was seriously ill; we prayed to Mary Help of Christians and almost immediately there was an improvement and now after a few days the invalid is quite cured."

Likewise from Trichinopoly on the 3rd of the same month the following was written to me: — I have the honour to announce to you that I have received a special favour from Mary Help of Christians. In token of gratitude I send the small sum of three Rupees, begging you to say a Mass at her altar in the new Chapel dedicated to her at Tanjore — Yours respectfully, T. V. Rajendram."

And from Cuddalore on the 6th of the same month of August: — I send you two Rupees in thanksgiving to Mary Help of Christians for a great favour she has obtained for me. I wish this favour to be published in the *Salesian Bulletin*. Yours respectfully, A. M. Gnanaprasam."

May the Blessed Virgin ever extend to us her maternal blessing!

Yours devotedly in *Corde Jesu*

GEORGE TOMATIS, Priest.

Matto Grosso (Brazil)

The voice of gratitude — The demand for a fourth Colony.

Cuyabà, Feast of the Apparition of St. Michael Archangel.

Very Reverend Don Rua,

I gladly choose this date, recalling your name, on which to send you the latest news of our Missions which could not be more consoling.

After a long journey, I have at last returned to the territory of Matto Grosso, whence after a brief sojourn at Cuyabà I shall proceed to our Colonies hidden in the depths of the immense forests which cover these extensive regions.

Before placing our additional staff and distributing the stores which thank God, I was able to collect during my last voyage to Europe, I resolved to await in Cuyabà the arrival of the Superior of the Colony of the S. Heart in order to understand fully the state and the requirements of these new settlements.

The accounts which I received both as to the moral and the material progress are most satisfactory; there is only one thing regrettable, namely that the Colonies are always at the end

of their resources, being destitute of supplies of clothing and other things still more necessary to existence in these far distant regions isolated from any centre of civilization.

In these circumstances I requested Fr. Balzola to return as speedily as possible to his field of labour, accompanied by a good number of the Staff destined for him, and preceded by ten beasts of burden carrying the most necessary supplies bought, on credit, in the market of Cuyabà. After all we must be thankful that there is still open to us this method of purchase, frequently our last resource. Still, faithful to the system of Don Bosco, our Venerable Founder, in order to be able to purchase on credit we have also need of some current coin to liquidate our old debts ; and for this as in the past we count on the generous help of the association of our Co-operators, as well as on the no less efficacious and abundant offerings of our indefatigable benefactors.

Thus with the alms, which Divine Providence enabled me to collect in Europe, and with the rest of the staff, I propose as I said above, to start soon for the Colonies. May Almighty God still continue to raise up generous hearts, ready for great sacrifices in favour of poor abandoned souls. The arrival of the help so sorely needed will be a great comfort and assistance for our confrères, who are sacrificing their lives for the benefit of the poor dwellers in the forests; and at the same time it will be a cause of much joy and a powerful stimulus to our Christian boys and neophytes to persevere in the path they have so happily entered upon. Already I seem to hear their exclamations:

— Knives ! axes! Ah good, good! bravo, bravo !

Allow me once more to recommend to you all our Benefactors, and in particular those who contributed most efficaciously to the success of the collections made by me; these are: Signora Ortensia da Silva Ramos, with the help of the charitable Association. "*Ouvroir brésilien du Sacré Cœur* ;" this comprises the most distinguished members of the Brazilian Colony in Paris and she presides over it with extraordinary zeal and diligence ; the estimable Signora Lacerda de Toledo Piza, wife of his Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of Brasil in France, started a subscription amongst her numerous friends which, in a few evenings, produced enough to enable us to pay for the passage of several Missionaries; the Signorina Carmen d'Azevedo always an ardent promoter of every good work; the illustrious families Combaud and Fauchier Magnan who are most kind to me whenever I visit France; finally many other good families whom I never forget ; and if I do not mention

their names now, so as not to be too lengthy, I shall not fail to publish them at an opportune time and place.

Their generous contributions enable me to provide what is necessary for the Colonies of the Sacred Heart and of the Immaculate Conception and to complete the third foundation, placed, as you are aware, under the powerful patronage of St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church.

Moreover, the Government of the Confederation is always disposed to protect those works which promote progress and civilization; and in view of the eminently humanitarian services rendered by the missionaries to these tribes, and considering the wonderful success obtained in the prospering though difficult work of the evangelization of the people, who but yesterday were a terror to all who had to traverse the immense territories which separate the civilized regions of the state of Matto Grosso those of Goyaz, but, who today, furnish faithful guides for travellers, possess a sufficient knowledge of agriculture, and are settling down gradually to industry, the Government of the Confederation, I say, has determined to vote a sum equivalent to more than 50,000 francs and to declare the various agricultural and industrial machinery destined for the Colonies exempt from all duties.

This generous recognition, on the part of the highest Authorities in Brasil, encourages us to pursue our labours in the three existing colonies, and, if Divine Providence so ordains, to think of founding without delay a *fourth* colonial centre. You will say that for the present this is a rash undertaking, and in appearance this is true ; but in view of the results already obtained and of the docility of these poor savages, our brethren in Jesus Christ, like us ransomed by His blood, the priest cannot but seek out the rest of the fold, who, were they replenished with heavenly graces, would become our equals and perhaps our superiors.

And the proof is clear and evident; I allude to the boy Michael Magone, son of a Cacique of the Coroados. He was my inseparable companion during my last journey through Europe, manifesting in all circumstances a rare intelligence, great delicacy of feeling and a remarkable malleability of character which will enable us to give him the highest education. In truth when seated at table amongst well-bred Europeans, he attracted the admiration of all, and had it not been for the characteristic features revealing his origin, and which belong to all his fierce tribe, with his polished manners he would have passed for a youth born amongst civilized people. With a heart full of the deepest gratitude he preserves a lively remembrance of those

persons who showed him special attention or gave him some present; for instance, he remembers with much gratitude His Excellency Dr. Lauro Müller ex Minister of Commerce and Railroads, who manifested a special interest in him, in his tribe and in general in all the Savages; His Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of Brasil in Paris and his wife, who loaded him with gifts; and, in like manner the names of all those families who showed him kindness will always be dear to the Bororo youth. It was precisely in this voyage that I was able to appreciate better than ever the gifts of our young convert, whom I have had to send back to his father on the return of Fr. Balzola to the Colony, so as not to fail in the promise given that he would return after six months... and nine months had already gone by.

In coming to Cuyabà, Fr Balzola brought us three other boys to be educated and trained in our Technical Schools of S. Gonzalo. The eldest named Vincent, a godson of the Senator Giuseppe Maria Metello, has chosen the trade of a carpenter which he had begun to learn at the Colony. The second Peter Ferdinand, will be a blacksmith; the third, named Innocent, is learning the trade of a tailor. After only two months they give good promise, for they work with great energy and adapt themselves most exactly to the school routine. This is the greatest comfort for us, lightening our labours and the painful sacrifices exacted by our Mission. Discerning such excellent dispositions in beings, whom the greater number of those who could judge reckoned untamable, we are all greatly consoled.

It is true that at every step numerous difficulties arise in our work of evangelization, and patience is continually needed, but this is the least part. Financial assistance is what the colony needs most. The solution of this last problem appertains to our constant and generous co-operators; as for the rest, God will provide with his more abundant grace. When these needs have been satisfied there will appear on the social scene hundreds and thousands of savages gained to the faith and to civilization; barbarians yesterday, tomorrow these neophytes will become useful members of society, and worthy citizens of their country.

As I said before, towards the middle of this month, when the indispensable preparations for the journey are completed, I shall set out for the Colonies with the remainder of the staff destined for them, and the stores consisting chiefly of clothing, machinery for weaving and sawing, and agricultural implements. Their size and weight makes their transport in these parts

very difficult and enormously more expensive than from Europe to this place. A beast of burden, whose pack may be about two hundred pounds weight, costs us the same number of francs if we hire it, as if we bought it; from 500 to 600 francs being thus required. You can thus calculate the amount required for 55,000 pounds weight of goods and machinery, which must be conveyed to the Colonies. This exorbitant outlay which nevertheless, is unavoidable, must also be supplied by Divine Providence, whose direct instruments in our regard are our good Co-operators whom we can never sufficiently praise. Tell them, that for the present we are paying only what is absolutely necessary, giving a mortgage for the rest; but for the remainder we rely upon their generosity.

If each one would only devote one franc *every year* to our Missions how quickly should we have the consolation of seeing them develop and prosper, thus completely attaining their end. If our Lord Jesus Christ has promised that a cup of cold water shall not go unrewarded, what recompense will He not give to those Co-operators who contribute to a work so great, so holy and humanizing, which has for its end the conversion and enrolling amongst civilized nations of thousands of poor savages!

According to my calculations before the end of this year the projected fourth colony will be a reality; for this we require 20,000 francs and six Salesians. The money, I am sure, will be provided; the staff, carefully chosen, I am certain you will provide.

With this extension of our sphere of activity, numbers of the children of the forest now seated in the darkness of barbarism can be received in the new colonial centre and there learn the principles of civilization, the foundations of a purer morality, and receive the light of Faith.

On the point of starting on our journey our little caravan implores your blessing and your prayers. Like Moses, do you raise your hands to heaven, to implore help and secure the victory for the fighting battalion. We your sons are members of this battalion which has to struggle with so many difficulties in cultivating the Lord's vineyard; the victory we aspire to, you know well: to gain souls to Christ and members to Society.

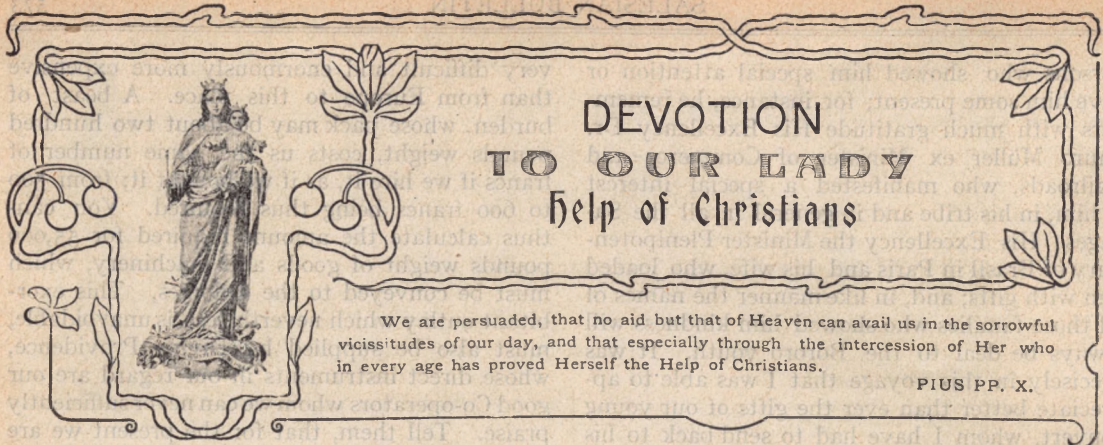
On my return I will send you an account, from which you and those who take an interest in our Works may be assured of the continual and providential progress of the Colonies.

I remain

Your affectionate and devoted son in J. C.

ANTONY MALAN
Salesian Missionary

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.

In their practice of this devotion during the present month, the Co-operators are recommended to keep particularly in view the welfare of the new missionaries, who have lately arrived at their various destinations in far off lands; special devotions are held in the Sanctuary on the 24th of every month, and the members of the association are invited to unite their intentions with those prayed for in the Oratory on that day.

Three other chapels have of late been dedicated under the title Help of Christians, one at Pressano, another at Souza Orneiroz in Brazil, and a third at Mendoza in the Argentine; the missionaries are thus true to their tradition, that wherever they fix their abode, there also is a centre of this devotion established, unless indeed, which is not unfrequently the case, some special favour granted by the Help of Christians establishes it for them.

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Developing his subject—Our Lady, the Help of Christians—the Ven. Don Bosco points out that Mount Calvary supplies us with the clearest proof of Our Lady's claim to the title. While Jesus hung in his agony on the cross, his Mother, by a supernatural effort, assisted him to the last. It seemed that Our Lord had left nothing undone in order to prove his love for men; one gift however yet remained to be bestowed upon us.

From the cross he turns his dying look towards his mother, his last and only treasure on earth; and to her he says: "Woman, behold thy son"; then to his disciple, John: "Behold thy Mother"; and from that hour, the evangelist continues, the disciple took her to his own. From these words the Fathers of the Church draw three great truths: first that St. John succeeded to Our Lord's place as a son to Mary; second, that Our Lady from

henceforth bestowed all a mother's regard and care upon this new son, that was given to her; and lastly that in the person of St. John, Our Lord intended to include the whole human race.

The circumstances accompanying this solemn act upon Calvary confirm these conclusions drawn by the Fathers of the Church; the words spoken by Our Lord are used in a generic sense as if to show us that something is being treated of which is of universal application. The particular name John is not used, and "disciple" may be applied to all those who fulfil the conditions of being one. Jesus upon the cross was not merely the victim of the hatred of the Jews; he was the great High Priest offering sacrifice of propitiation for all mankind. Hence, as in imploring pardon for his executioners he obtained it for all sinners; so in opening Paradise for the good thief he opened it to all who repent; and as according to St. Paul the executioners represented all sinners, and the good thief all who truly repent, so St. John represented the true disciples of Jesus, faithful Christians, the Catholic Church. Hence St. Augustine calls Mary the true Eve, and St. Ambrose the mother of all true believers. By this maternal office therefore, Our Lady not only became the Help of Christians, but it was a sort of duty to her. It gives us accordingly a kind of right to expect help from her; this arises from the words of Jesus Christ, and is guaranteed by the maternal affection of Our Lady. And her subsequent conduct is a proof of it. Writers of her life insist on her zeal for the safety and increase of the Church. She directed and counselled the Apostles and disciples, and supported the first Christians in their trials. Every reason is therefore given us for confidence in her maternal goodness and we should take every advantage of it.

GRACES and FAVOURS



LIFE OF MONSIGNOR LASAGNA

SALESIAN MISSIONARY

TITULAR BISHOP OF TRIPOLI

CHAPTER XXXVII.

The two evils of Brazil—Abolition of slavery—Dawn of redemption for the savages—Matto Grosso—Preliminary explanations—Character of the savages—Promise of the new mission—Choice of Missionaries—Pecuniary means—Solicitude for his spiritual children—An illustrious statesman—The Eucharistic Congress at Montevideo—Final discourse.

After six months spent in visiting the Salesian Houses already established in Brazil, and specially in travelling through the two more populous States of S. Paolo and Minas Geraes to make new foundations, Mgr. Lasagna returned to his favourite school of Villa Colon on the 10th of January 1894. The work he had done was great if one takes into account his innumerable responsibilities; but it was as nothing in comparison with his ardent desires of doing good in this immense Republic. From the first time he set foot in this land, then ruled by the Emperor Don Pedro II, two great evils had caused him continual sorrow; slavery, and the hunting of the Indians. His large heart would have wished to heal these wounds without delay and, as a new Las Casas, visit all the Brazilian *fazende* preaching a crusade for the liberation of the Slaves. The oppression of so many poor creatures touched him profoundly, but this was not the object of his mission, and he had to be satisfied with offering up fervent prayers to God to hasten the hour of enfranchisement. One can easily imagine the lively joy experienced by the zealous missionary when the learned Leo XIII issued his immortal Encyclical *In plurimis* to the Bishops of Brazil, on the emancipation of the slaves, and above all when he learnt that in Brazil the decree, by which the slaves were freed dated May 8th, 1888, had been signed by the daughter of the Emperor Don Pedro, who was at that time in Europe, making an offering of it to the Pope, more pleasing to him than all the gifts presented on the occasion of his sacerdotal jubilee.

This decree put an end to the degrading traffic in human flesh which was a disgrace to Brazil; and Mgr. Lasagna, at that time a humble priest, gave hearty thanks to the Most High. But his zeal was not satisfied until provision was made for the evangelization and civilization of the savages, still numerous in those immense territories. Now he beheld the dawn of that day in which he could put his hand to this work so eminently humanitarian and so truly Christian. He gave thanks to that loving Providence which allowed him to lay the

Tanjore (India).—Please accept a small offering in thanksgiving to Our Lady Help of Christians, as I have obtained at her hands the recovery of a relation who was very dangerously ill.

Oct., 1907.

J. S.

Dundalk.—I beg to return most grateful thanks for favours received through a Novena to Our Lady Help of Christians, and after promise of publication.

Dec., 1907.

M.

Cork.—Kindly publish thanksgiving for two special favours received through the intercession of Mary Help of Christians.

A. S.

Dec., 1907.

Belfast (Ireland).—Kindly publish in the *Salesian Bulletin* my thanksgiving to Our Lady Help of Christians for a favour received, and have a Mass offered to obtain a much desired conversion.

A. M.

November, 1907.

Chicago (U. S. of America).—Please accept a thanksgiving in honour of Mary Help of Christians for favours received through her intercession.

R. W. R.

November, 1907.

Foxford (Ireland).—Some time ago I promised Our Lady that if two great favours were granted me I would return thanks through the medium of the *Bulletin*. Thanks to Mary Help of Christians my petitions have been heard and I now hasten to fulfil my promise.

L. O'D.

November, 1907.

County Kilkenny (Ireland).—I enclose an offering for a mass of thanksgiving at the Shrine of Mary Help of Christians for favours received through her allpowerful intercession.

Anonymous.

December, 1907.

Hongkong (China).—I beg to enclose an offering for a Mass in thanksgiving to Mary Help of Christians for favours received through her intercession.

L. C.

November, 1907.

foundations of the Mission of Matto Grosso which for so long a time had occupied his thoughts; a foundation which in itself was enough to immortalize a man, and render him worthy to be numbered amongst the greatest benefactors of humanity.

Matto Grosso, which signifies "great forest," is a lofty plain situated near the centre of Southern America, and the State of the same name is one of the largest of the United States of Brazil. It has an area of nearly 600,000 square miles. The capital is Cuyabá, founded about two centuries ago, by gold seekers from S. Paolo, and has about sixteen thousand inhabitants and a small port on the river of the same name. It is the seat of the Governor and the only Bishopric in the whole State, and has for its defence a military garrison, being situated near the Brazilian frontiers opposite Paraguay and Bolivia.

On this vast and lofty plain are found the sources of the principal rivers, whose waters towards the North join the River Amazon and to the South unite with the Paraná. There is no direct communication with the sea, and to reach Buenos Ayres, there being no communication by land, one is obliged to traverse over 3000 miles, ascending the Rio de la Plata, the Paraná, the Paraguay, the San Lorenzo and finally the Cuyabá. The civilized inhabitants, mainly of the Portuguese race, negroes or mulattos, number eighty thousand; but the immense forests of Matto Grosso, the plains and the river banks are overrun by probably as many savages, whose numbers it is impossible accurately to determine. These retain nearly all their primitive fierceness, and hitherto they have resisted all the efforts made to civilize them. Divided into nomad tribes, they wander through the forests, living on the produce of the chase and of fishing, in both of which they have attained an incredible dexterity. They generally acknowledge two divinities: one beneficent, the cause of all good and the other malignant, the cause of all evil. The tribes are governed by a chief, assisted by subordinate officials. To become chief of the tribe, the Indian must be strong, brave in fighting against his enemies, bold in forays and in hunting wild beasts; he must know the forests well so as to be able to transport his subjects hither and thither, as necessity requires. For the most part they speak *guarané*, subdivided into many dialects, so that there is a very great difference between the language of one tribe and that of another. The climate of this region is very hot and unhealthy, though the vegetation is extraordinarily luxuriant and fruit is most plentiful. The animals, both in appearance and ferocity, differ greatly from those of Europe. The leopard and the panther, which are the tigers of Brazil, are very numerous, and there are monkeys of all kinds. Amongst other serpents, one finds the *boa constrictor* which sometimes attains seven yards in length, the rattle snake, called *cascavel* by naturalists, the *alligator* or American crocodile and a thousand others.

Mgr. Lasagna had resolved to send valiant missionaries to these unhappy dwellers in the forests,

whose appearance only still testified that they were men, to raise them out of the dreary abyss, cause the light of faith to shine upon them, and, inviting them into the fold of the Catholic Church, make of them sons of God and our brethren in the charity of Jesus Christ. And he gave himself no rest until he himself had been to visit this extensive field of labour which Divine Providence seems to have reserved for the Sons of Don Bosco. He was moved to this by the pressing solicitations of the Bishop, Mgr. d'Amour, who was continually requesting his help. On the 2nd December 1893, he informed the venerable Prelate that at that very time several Salesian Missionaries had embarked at Genoa for Matto Grosso; and therefore, unless unavoidably hindered, he himself hoped to start in the following April to accompany them to Cuyabá. No words can express the joy of this zealous Pastor on receiving the welcome news; and he had nothing more at heart than to share it with his beloved children in a beautiful Pastoral dictated by his ardent charity. Amongst other things he wrote:

"We rejoice with you, beloved children, in the assured hope of soon having amongst us the worthy Sons of Don Bosco, who, crossing the ocean, are coming to undertake the work of catechizing and civilizing our Indians, and at the same time to assist us in all that relates to the temporal and spiritual welfare of this Diocese and of this State. And we now beg of you, dearest children, not only to give to these good missionaries and their superior, His Lordship Mgr. Lasagna, the reception they deserve, going to meet them at the port on the day of their landing and treating them according to the dictates of your generosity, but also that you would assist by your co-operation in the important works, which with the blessing of God and the assistance of the Governor of the State, they hope to establish in this country."

Then, after giving due praise to Dr. Manuel José Martinho, President of Matto Grosso, for his good intentions of furthering this work of civilization, the venerable Prelate continued as follows:

"The missionaries will not confine themselves to the catechizing of the natives, but they propose, also, to found agricultural schools, as they have done in other States and a House of education in this Capital, where arts and trades will be taught to boys from the working classes, including as well the children of the Indians, giving also to many opportunities for study and preparing them for higher education, when they do not wish to learn a trade. These are, indeed, great undertakings, promoting civilization, suited to our times; they are works of God, and therefore wonderful, of undoubted benefit and from which society will gain abundant fruit."

(To be continued).



PERMISSU SUPERIORUM

Gerent, GIUSEPPE GAMBINO—Salesian Press, Turin, 1907

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 herartily 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.

Holy 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

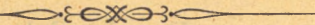
BATTERSEA, LONDON, S. W.



DIRECTED AND TAUGHT BY THE SALESIAN FATHERS.

The principal object of this School 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. Muldoon

Salesian Institute

Queen's Road, 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 to:

The Rev. Mother

Eastworth House, Eastworth Street

Chertsey, Surrey.