



Salesian

Bulletin

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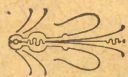
*Beatus qui intelligit super egenum et pauperem:
in die mala liberabit eum Dominus - [Ps. XL.]*


Leo XIII

DA MIHI

ANIMAS CAETERA TOLLE

Important Notice to Readers.



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

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

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

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

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

The Salesian Bulletin

Organ of the Association of Salesian Co-operators

Via Cottolengo 32, Turin, Italy.

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THE MONTH OF JUNE.

It will not be necessary to call the attention of our Readers to the special devotion to which the month of June is dedicated. It may be well, however, for them to remember, in this connection, that on the Eve of the present century, at the Midnight Mass which was offered by special favour of the Sovereign Pontiff, the whole of Our Society was consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and in agreement with the invitation sent out by Our Superior General the Co-operators took part in that consecration.

The Ven. Don Bosco wished this devotion to become one of the characteristics of his followers, and among his recommendations we find the following:

Let us at all times honour the Sacred Heart of Jesus, for, on account of the many and inestimable benefits bestowed on us in the past, and yet to be bestowed upon us, It has well deserved our humble and lowly adoration.

CONSIDERATIONS.

DIFFERENT circumstances serve to render the month of June a convenient occasion for a general survey of the year's policy, and of the question of ways and means. By the time the half-way month has come round it is perhaps natural that some should lose sight of the main features of the year's work, as set out by Our Superior General in the month of January. It is also natural, therefore, that a reminder should be forthcoming, and the month of June is opportune for it, especially as it follows close upon the month which may be regarded as the most eventful and most full of consequence to the Salesian Society and its undertakings. The month of May—familiar to us as the month of Mary Help of Christians—means to Salesians and their Co-operators more than an ordinary month devoted to Our Blessed Lady. Under the title *Help of Christians*, She has more than proved herself the champion, the patroness in the fullest sense, of the works of the Ven. Don Bosco; and very many of the wonderful events accompanying and characterising those works have occurred in the month, when the devotion to Our Lady Help of Christians is naturally at its height.

This devotion spread most rapidly in the early period of Don Bosco's apostolate, for through the intercession of the Help of Christians marvellous favours were daily granted in all quarters in answer to prayer, and in return for generosity towards the works dedicated to her, and of which she was the self-constituted patron. The month of May

consequently became famous among the Co-operators as the month of special fervour and extraordinary favours—and as a period of progress and prosperity in the works of the association. It has thus always been connected with a revival of interest and co-operation, and hence the fitness of the reminder which is now given.

Last month's devotion culminated in the feast of Mary Help of Christians which is the recognised day for the conference of Salesian Co-operators. It was so kept in all the large centres where our work is established, as will be seen later from accounts sent in of the celebrations in different places. At most of them the leading members of the clergy presided, and the speakers naturally directed their remarks to the influence of the devotion to Our Lady Help of Christians on the work under consideration. The proofs of it are found in those wonderful and striking favours mentioned by Don Bosco: "I pray you to remember, moreover, that... the most Holy Virgin has by unmistakable signs constituted herself in a special way the Patroness and Protectress of poor, neglected children, and that in her quality as such, she obtains for those who are their benefactors here numerous and extraordinary favours, not only spiritual but temporal as well."

All this of course points in one direction—perseverance in the maintenance of those good works which have been begun by the aid of the Co-operators. If the work in its early stages needed support and pecuniary aid much more

so will it need that aid when its scope has greatly increased, and the number of calls upon it has multiplied many times. Moreover, the increase in the number of Co-operators does not lessen the need for each individual member to do his share, since there has been a corresponding growth in demands. Referring to this continual demand for supplies our Superior General in a former annual letter said: "Every year I feel it a duty to give some account of our new foundations, the reason being that, ordinarily speaking, from the number of new houses, our Co-operators may form some idea of the vitality and progress of the Society (with which they form part). They may also perceive from it how much their Association is appreciated by Bishops and also certain governments who request us to undertake foundations in their respective dioceses or states for the care of youth. It is, moreover, a duty of gratitude on our part to make known these acts of their zeal and generosity. *In doing so, however, we are far from losing sight of the devotedness of many of our benefactors who, even at the cost of heavy sacrifices, have been for years the support of those institutes which have been long in existence.* How edifying and encouraging is the constancy of those who, year by year, by their contributions enable us to continue to provide for the maintenance and education of so many boys, to foster ecclesiastical vocations, to spread good literature and assist the missions that stand in greater need. For this reason when looking over the registers of our benefactors, I come across the names of those who helped Don Bosco and still continue to help his successor, I always feel deeply touched and exclaim: 'Here are the labourers of the first hour.' Times have changed, and those with whom they formerly dealt have

departed; but their good will and charity towards the Salesian Institutions remain unshaken. The generosity of these benefactors will be bountifully rewarded; and we on our part do not fail to pray every day that its reward may be proportioned to their perseverance; that they may receive a hundred-fold and life everlasting: they are the Gospel words, and they do not pass away."

These recommendations of our Superior General are quite *a propos* in this as, in former years, and they urge the perseverance in co-operation which we have dwelt upon above. At the same time we must again remind the members of the association of their first duty to their own province, whose centre is at the Salesian Schools, Battersea, London. Many good works in that province await development, await, that is, the generosity of benefactors. The province includes the whole of the British Isles and looks to the Co-operators residing in them for the means of maintaining and developing the works of its different Institutions besides enabling it to consider new undertakings. Communications regarding them should therefore be made to the Very Rev. Fr. Macey, S. C., at the above address. The interests of individual provinces are identical with the interests of the society in general; to assist the one is to benefit the other; this idea we have developed in former issues. It only remains to urge it anew with the arrival of the half year, and to recommend it to the consideration and generosity of the Association.



The Very Reverend Don Rua

IN THE NEAR EAST

I.

From Turin to Constantinop'le.

In a previous issue a reference was made to the somewhat formidable undertaking entered upon by Our Superior General, in setting out, at his advanced age, on a lengthy visitation of our Houses and Institutes in the East. His secretary gives the following details of the journey and its main events.

No mention can be afforded of the receptions at Milan where the Very Rev. Don Rua passed a few hours at the Salesian Institute of St. Augustine, or at many other places on the main railway lines, where there are Salesian Houses, and whose associates had for the most part to be content with a smile of welcome or even of a far-off view of their Superior. It must simply be stated that the most cordial manifestations of welcome and esteem and co-operation were in evidence wherever Don Rua stopped or called, and all were anxious either to have the privilege of being presented to him or of exchanging a few words of recognition if previously acquainted. His Eminence the Card. Archbishop of Milan was especially pleased at the opportunity of once more meeting and conversing with the Successor of the Ven. Don Bosco; and very hearty were the greetings of the clergy in all the towns at which he stopped.

At Goritz.

The first Salesian House which was to receive the visit of Our Superior General was that of Goritz where we arrived on Feb. 4th. By some regrettable circumstance, the Superior of the School had not received notice of the arrival at the time he should have done; he had therefore scarcely time to hurry off to the station without being able to inform the many Co-operators and others who were looking forward to the visit. The preparations at the School itself were however all made, and great enthusiasm prevailed.

During the day that the Very Rev. Don Rua had to spare for his stay at the House, he received many of the Co-operators, most of whom

attended the dramatic entertainment given by the boys, and had thus an opportunity of meeting the head of their association.

At Trieste.

On the following afternoon, the 6th, the journey was continued to Trieste. Don Rua was accompanied from the station to the School by a large number of the friends of the Institute who had assembled to give him welcome. The number of boys had increased very rapidly and made themselves heard distinctly enough as Don Rua reached the school; later on, after Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the band gave some fine selections. On the following day Don Rua said Mass at half past nine, for the convenience of the Co-operators, and afterwards he held a reception during which he was able to suggest various means for the development of the Oratory. He then visited another Co-operator and the Bishop of the diocese with whom he dined. He had intended leaving on the morrow, but acceding to a general request he put off his departure for two days. The Superior of the House took advantage of this to keep the feast of Our Patron, St. Francis of Sales. In the evening there was another dramatic performance by the boys, at which the Co-operators were present in large numbers; while it was going on His Lordship the Bishop entered quite unexpectedly. He had come to bid farewell to Our Superior General and to wish him a pleasant journey.

At Lubiana.

On the 11th the journey was proceeded with. We passed through the well cultivated lands of Carniola to the town of Lubiana where the prince-bishop, Mgr. Jeglic, was awaiting our arrival, while he himself was going by the same train to Vienna. The zealous prelate was most affectionate and generous in his welcome, conducting Don Rua to his own carriage for the drive to the Salesian School. In the carriage were the Vicar General, and the President of the Committee of Co-operators. The mayor of the town had also sent his carriage to

accommodate Our Superior General. That same evening he had to receive many of the Co-operators, and at five o'clock on the following morning the public church attached to the school was crowded to its utmost, and nearly all approached to receive Holy Communion from his hands. After the Mass, Don Rua, by means of an interpreter spoke a few words of gratitude and encouragement, and then gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The morning was occupied by a visit to the Governor of the province, Baron Svarz, to thank him for his interest in our work, and particularly for his recent commendation of the successful results obtained in our elementary schools. The Mayor and the Vicar General were also called upon and Don Rua was everywhere received with the greatest respect and honour. At half past two on the same day the mayor's carriage arrived to take him to the station where he took the three o'clock train for Radna.

At Radna.

Leaving Lubiana the train-line follows close along the course of the *Sabe*, a clear stream, whose waters however are further on polluted by the refuse of the coal mines which are situated in that vicinity. After about two hours' journey a slight break in the hills is reached and here we alight at the *Lichtenwald* station. The platform was crowded with expectant friends, and although but a small place, a most hearty greeting was given. The parish-priest's carriage then provided the means of conveyance to the neighbouring district of Radna, where Our Superior General was awaited by the clerics of the House of studies. He had just time that evening to have a brief conversation with most of the students, for whom he said the community Mass on the following morning. He then visited the building which was given by the before-mentioned Vicar General at Lubiana, and is admirably suited to a House of studies. The main edifice is a quadrilateral, surrounding a central courtyard, around the whole of which runs a spacious colonnaded corridor. Its position is everything that could be desired, for it commands a magnificent view of the surrounding hills and sloping lands, the House being itself erected on the hill-side. Some of the Co-operators of the district met Don Rua at dinner, at which various addresses and impromptu speeches were made, and in the evening an entertainment was given in honour of the guest. On the following morning the clerics invited their Superior to preside at an academical disputation in Latin.

Don Rua was agreeably surprised at the ability displayed by the various disputants, and while commending the proficiency in the scientific defence of the truths of religion, he recommended them not to lose sight of the necessity of being skilful in presenting the same doctrines in a popular form as the need of general instruction called for much attention in these times. At the same time their skill in argument and their command of Latin met with a high encomium.

En route.

Leaving *Radna* on the 14th, the journey was continued to Zagabria where the Archbishop awaited us at the station. It was just



Salesian House of Studies at Radna in Austria.

twelve, midday, as the carriage crossed the main thoroughfare and we all uncovered to recite the *Angelus*. His Grace the Archbishop took this opportunity to represent again the need he has for a Salesian House in his episcopal city, and whilst treating of these affairs the palace was reached. We had to sit at the Archbishop's table, but the dinner was hardly finished when we had to hurry off again to the station to catch the train. We were now commencing a long and weary journey through Slavonia, Servia, Bulgaria and Rumelia, direct to Constantinople. This long stretch of railway proved the greatest fatigue which the Very Rev. Don Rua had as yet undergone, since it was practically a two-days' ride, lasting from the Friday afternoon till Sunday morning, and the compartment was not at all well adapted for night travelling. A stop of an hour and a half had been announced at *Zaribrod* where we expected to be able to say Mass, but the railway officials restricted it to an hour, though it was really less than that, and the interval was entirely occupied with the ex-

amination of luggage and passports. The first break was at Belgrade. I had noticed several groups of people along the railways, apparently in expectation; and on enquiry I was told, that as it was a general holiday in those parts, many had come out, as is their wont, to enjoy the sight of the passing train. In the evening Tirnova was reached, and our compartment was again filled, this time with Turks, in their characteristic garb, and I began to fear that the night would again prove a painful one for our Superior. There was no sleeping accommodation on the train, so there seemed little help for it. Happily the number of passengers now began to diminish as their destinations were reached, and I succeeded in enticing those remaining to sit together on one side, so as to leave the other free for Don Rua, who was thus able to get somewhat more rest than on the preceding night. The long stretch of the sea was however already in sight and Constantinople was rapidly being neared. There was one more examination of baggage and passports and at last the train steamed into the capital of the Ottoman Empire.

At Constantinople.

The Inspector of the Province and Director of the House were in readiness at the station, and they had come fully equipped with a sort of permission termed a *Cavas*, or special passport, which exempted us from any further bother about baggage and papers and we were soon riding to the House. For this purpose we made use of the carriage of a distinguished Co-operator, and driving rapidly across the bridge over the Golden Horn we were in Pera where our school is situated. The band was in attendance and after a short interval Don Rua celebrated Holy Mass, which as it was Sunday was attended by all the boys as their second Mass.

The stay at Constantinople lasted over a week. There were numerous visits to be made and to be returned. On the 22nd Don Rua dined at the Apostolic Delegation, where he met many of the chief ecclesiastics of the district. He also paid a visit to the excellent lady-Co-operator who insisted on his using her carriage during the whole of his stay. Visits were also made to the Italian Ambassador, the Consul General, the Manager of the Navigation Department, and Signor Rosasco; the Conventual Fathers, the Dominicans, the Lazarists, the Jesuits, the Brothers of the Christian Schools, the Franciscans, etc., etc.

On the 18th there occurred the solemn requiem for the repose of the soul of the Superior of the Franciscans, who was a zealous Co-operator, and

Don Rua therefore wished to be present. Large numbers of the clergy of both the Latin and the Greek Rites were also present, especially as they knew that the Successor of the Ven. Don Bosco, was to be there, and many were afterwards introduced.

A short time was spent in visiting some of the places of interest in which the city abounds. We passed over into *Stamboul*, the strictly Turkish quarter, but were not able to enter San. Sofia.

On the 24th when we re-entered the House, consoling news was announced, namely the removal of certain difficulties which stood in the way of our acquiring a piece of ground which was necessary for the development of our work. We had already been to see it, but on hearing this news Don Rua wished to go there again to give it its first benediction. It was then time to go to the harbour to embark for Smyrna.

II.

At Smyrna.

Mar. 6th, 1908.

We were already on the boat which was to take us over to the Steamer, the *Syracuse*, when Mgr. Borgomanero, Fr. Palmieri and Fr. Bonaventura arrived to wish Don Rua a pleasant voyage. The consul had provided our Superior with a complete *Cavas*, which like the one mentioned before gives great facilities for the passing of luggage and exemption from many inconvenient inquiries on the part of officials. The Director of the Steam Navigation Co. came himself to present Don Rua to the captain of the vessel who showed us throughout the utmost attention and consideration. There was a general waving of handkerchiefs and caps as the vessel steamed off, and as we answered these parting signs of sympathy and esteem, we could not but offer a prayer that so much generosity will meet with its reward.

On board.

The view of Constantinople from the sea is beyond description, and well merits the glowing accounts that are given of it; the water was perfectly calm, so that during our night passage of the sea of Marmora there was hardly any sign of a wave. Don Rua was therefore able to get a little much-needed repose, and about six a. m., we were both able to say Mass. We then went up on deck to view the shores of the Dardanelles and the fortifications which protect them. Once out of the straits, the sea was rough, and it was

no longer possible to walk the deck in peace as on the preceding evening. Indeed there was hardly any rest to be had. It was hardly daylight when Smyrna came in view, but the port could not be entered till nearly seven o'clock. There were already many at the landing-stage waiting our arrival. Among them was the Rev. Don Annese, representing the Archbishop, the Dragoman Saman representing the Consul General, the Director of our House and some

Institute especially among the clergy. Secular and Regular, the clergy were most cordial and enthusiastic in their welcome, and there were convents and religious houses without end which he was pressed to visit.

On the 2nd of March we went on a sort of pilgrimage to the ruins of Ephesus. The train journey ended at a small place named Ayasouloux, and after a short walk the commencement of an immense Roman aqueduct was



Our Rector Major's visit to the Salesian Institute at Lubiana in Austria.

of the associates. Our Superior General was greeted by this assembly and proceeded to the Royal Technical Commercial School which has been confided to the Salesians. The boys were in readiness with an enthusiastic welcome and then all entered the chapel for the celebration of Holy Mass.

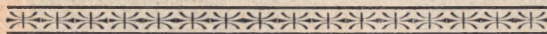
It would be out of the question to give in a few words any idea of the innumerable manifestations of regard and esteem which were bestowed upon the Successor of Don Bosco by our Co-operators and friends in this city. He was visited by the Archbishop and by the Consul General, both of which he returned, and in the Archbishop's palace he had an opportunity of meeting a great number of the friends of the

pointed out to us, while on the right arose a hill crowned by the ruins of a former citadel. Further on we were shown an ancient mosque called *Selim*, near to which are the ruins of a long decayed temple of Diana, which was reckoned among the seven wonders of the world. We had no time to visit it, for Don Rua was desirous of making a pilgrimage to the former temple of Our Lady at Ephesus. We therefore refused many offers from Turkish drivers to make use of their vehicles, but took our way among several imposing ruins, one being the remains of a Roman *Stadium*. We thus reached the celebrated church where the Ecumenical Council was held which condemned Nestorius, and where the Ephesians enthusiastically applauded the pro-

clamation of the Divine Maternity of Our Lady. Some idea can still be formed of the dimensions and plan of the edifice which strikes one, at this date, with a degree of regret for the grandeur that has long since departed. In the ruins of an old gymnasium we partook of some light refreshment, for midday was already past. We then concluded our ramblings among the tombs by inspecting the remains of the *Forum* and of an imposing theatre, which had accommodation for some 25,000 spectators.

On the following day in the afternoon we resumed our journey. Beyrout is our destination, and we have again embarked, this time on the *Saghaliën*.

(To be continued).



The New Salesian Church dedicated to Santa Maria Liberatrice in Rome.

Our Readers will recollect that this new Church, the erection of which has been confided to our Society by the Holy Father, is intended by Our Superior General to form the combined homage of the Co-operators for the jubilee of the Sovereign Pontiff. He is therefore most desirous of completing it within the present year and looks to all the members of the Association to enable him to realise this desire.

The present state of the works.

The walls of both the Church and the adjoining House are completed, and the edifice is roofed in with the exception of the bell-tower and one of the arms of the cross. Externally these walls are in a finished state while interiorly the plastering is being completed.

Most of the decorative work of the interior is carried out in the actual construction of the building so that the parts already up are also decorated. This applies likewise to the exterior so that with the exception of the mosaic work of the façade, and the circular windows above the three doors, that part of the work may be regarded as being brought to its termination.

The presbytery attached is completed exteriorly and the first floor is ready for use. The ground floor is in want of the necessary fixtures and paving.

What remains to be done.

There is, however, still a great deal to be done to render the church capable of being opened during the present year. The great vaults are now being fixed previous to the laying of the floor, and the galleries and choir are in course of erection. The general plastering of the whole is yet to be begun as well as the mosaic work of the flooring with the preliminary fixing of the ventilating apparatus. The paving is to be carried out mainly in white and black marble and considerable time will then be taken with the completion of the sanctuary and the High Altar, and the side-altar of the Sacred Heart which will be next taken in hand. The glass work and means of illumination are as yet only in design. The three doors of the main entrances are still awaiting some generous benefactor, so that they may be executed in keeping with the style of the edifice.

None of the furniture of the Church or sacristy is yet supplied.

Two special needs of the exterior work are the stone facings of the façade and all the railings which are to surround the whole edifice. The building already dominates the whole of the Testaccian quarter and it would be a pity to have to drag out the completion of the details when the main features are in position, and when it has already become an object of surprise and interest to those who enter the Holy City by the bridge of San Paolo.

The High Altar.

Since it has been all along intended to place in the back of the altar, above the tabernacle, the miraculous Image which was venerated in the demolished church of the Roman Forum, it was found necessary to increase the size of the altar and its accompanying fixtures. This serves to draw attention to the picture, and to give it the form of a *Confession* which is a favourite custom with Roman churches.

Red Verona marble steps lead to the platform on which stand four octagonal prisms of polished granite, inlaid with black and white marble; these support the four columns which are surmounted by marble decorated capitals. On these rest the arches and the four faces of the baldacchino all in red Verona marble with inlaid cornices.

All this will form a sort of canopy to the altar itself which will be placed beneath. It will consist of a marble block at the back with inlay work of finer marbles, and surmounting which will be the miraculous pictures. The altar-table

proper will be in front of, and at a small distance away from this marble structure, the intervening space being filled with the steps that lead to the throne. The altar-table and throne will both be of marble richly inlaid. The whole of this structure will form a central monument, more than thirty feet high, and though it may not be a worthy tribute of honour for the venerated Image of *Santa Maria Liberatrice*, it will be a great and lasting memorial of filial devotion towards the Vicar of Jesus Christ.

The Holy Father has already decreed that the new church shall enjoy all the privileges of the ancient basilica, and the many votive tablets commemorative of favours obtained will be fixed in a suitable place, in order to inspire confidence and devotion.

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 July.

1. The Visitation of Our Blessed Lady: 2rd July.
 2. The Feast of the most Precious Blood: July 5th.
 3. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel: July 16th.
- 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



Design of the High Altar
of the new Church of Santa Maria Liberatrice in Rome.

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.

NB. — Our Readers are earnestly requested to direct all communications for the *Salesian Bulletin* and the *Association of Salesian Co-operators* either to the Director of the *Salesian Bulletin*, or to the Very Rev. Don Michael Rua, both at the following address: **Via Cottolengo 32, Turin, Italy.**



London
1. Salesian School.

By the time these *Notes* are in the hands of our Readers matters scholastic will have taken their most serious turn, for final examinations are on the very near horizon. Without attempting any forecast of the results, it is safe to indulge the hope, and even the conviction, that they will be as satisfactory as in previous years, realising, that is, about ninety per cent of passes, if not more. It is common knowledge that examinations sometimes have surprising results; those on whom the least hopes have been built being very successful, and apparently safe, candidates failing to do themselves justice. These occasional discrepancies cannot be satisfactorily accounted for, and leaving them for the present out of consideration, a pass list is confidently looked forward to which will bring credit and honour to all concerned.

The school terminal examination, for those students who do not take the public examination, will be held a week later than usual, and the customary reports of that will be despatched. In our next issue we hope to give the report of the Diocesan Religious Inspector who visited the school, as previously announced at the end of last month.

2. The Technical side.

The boys in the trades section have on various occasions been mentioned with distinction for the efficiency shown in the musical displays in which their band has taken part. But during the season which closed in April last, they have given proofs not only of efficiency but of prominence in another direction. The weather had been fairly considerate on the Saturday of the season when St. Joseph's Football Team held their contests with various local elevens. Whether played on the home ground, or away, they maintained throughout undoubted superiority not having had their colours lowered by any opposing team. So favourable indeed were the

results that of the nineteen matches played they were the victors in every case, and whereas the total number of goals scored by the team was a hundred and forty three, only twenty were scored against them during the whole season. Such results leave no room for doubt as to their efficiency on the football field, an efficiency which we hope to see maintained not only in this direction, but in the various departments of their school work.

May 24th.

At the time of writing it is too early to give details concerning the celebrations at any particular place, of the feast of our Patroness, Mary Help of Christians, which occurred on the 24th of last month. Wherever there is a Salesian House, that day is regarded as deserving solemn commemoration, for perhaps no feast-day throughout the year means so much to the Congregation as that one; not only is it the culminating point of the month of May, but a celebration expressive of all that the society owes to the intercession and patronage of the Help of Christians, both in its origin and in its development.

At her famous Sanctuary in Turin the solemnity appears to assume more elaborate proportions with each succeeding occurrence. The whole month preceding it was kept with special daily devotions, and a sermon given every morning and evening on the great prerogatives of the Mother of God. On the 15th of May the Novena was commenced by Mgr. Sanfermo. During these nine days the church was draped with the costly hangings that were first used for the occasion of the Pontifical Coronation of the Image of Our Lady Help of Christians, and two galleries or tribunes were erected, accommodating another six hundred persons so as to provide room for the crowds that are drawn to the Sanctuary. On the eve of the feast-day, Mgr. Spandre, Auxiliary to His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Turin,

pontificated, and at four in the afternoon the Conference, prescribed for this occasion, was given to the Salesian Co-operators. The Sanctuary is brilliantly lighted with thousands of electric lights, the cupola and façade being also illuminated in the evening.

On the 24th itself the Sanctuary was opened at three o'clock in the morning and Our Superior General said Mass at half-past five. At a quarter past seven His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop celebrated, and at ten His Lordship the

the Jubilee celebrations. A good deal of the programme is allotted to the juvenile section of the Pope's subjects, including a Congress of the various societies of young men, and an international sports festival. This latter has met with the special approbation of His Holiness, and the young men will all have an opportunity of assisting at the Papal Mass on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination. They will also present to the Holy Father a gold chalice subscribed for by boys in all parts of the world.



Dramatic Club of the Salesian Festive Oratory at Smyrna in Asia Minor. (*During Don Rua's visit*).

Bishop of Casale pontificated. Benediction was given at four in the afternoon for the accommodation of the pilgrims, the grand evening service beginning at six.

From the arrangements previously announced it would appear that every anniversary brings a more imposing manifestation of faith and of devotion to Our Lady under the title Help of Christians; in other words, further realisations of the Ven. Don Bosco's early dreams and subsequent predictions. Details of the various celebrations will be forthcoming in our next.

The Holy Fathers Jubilee

A special bulletin has been issued in Rome giving the arrangements made for

Our school at Rome made a special point of celebrating the feast of St. Joseph in March, that being also the so-called feast-day of the Sovereign Pontiff. Fifty of the younger boys had been prepared for their first Communion on that occasion, and a *Te Deum* intoned by Mgr. Symon, was sung in thanksgiving.

During the celebrations held in honour of the same event in the Salesian School at Verona a telegram of thanks was received from His Holiness in which he sent his Apostolic Blessing to all those participating in the festivities. At Faenza too an entertainment was given by the boys at which their parents and friends attended in large numbers.

In connection with this youthful enthusiasm

it may be mentioned that on April 4th last in the Archiepiscopal palace at Turin the Ordinary Process was opened for the cause of the Beatification of the servant of God, Dominic Savio, the saintly pupil of the Ven. Don Bosco. The whole association is asked to join in the prayers that are now being offered, to implore from Almighty God the light and assistance necessary to obtain this great end.

Bogotá and Buenos Ayres, S. America.

The Colombian minister of education assisted at the examinations which were lately held in our School in the capital of Colombia, and everything connected with his inspection met with his unqualified approval. He was also present at the distribution of prizes, at which after the usual presentations, the Archbishop gave the certificates of proficiency to the six first boys who have completed their technical course at the school.

The past pupils of St. John's College conducted by the Salesians in Buenos Ayres have formed an Association uniting several previously existing sections. The combination thus includes literary dramatic, musical and athletic sections, as well as a committee for mutual aid and social work.

An Archbishop's letter His Grace the Archbishop of Scutari gives us his own account of the commemoration of the introduction of the cause of the Ven. Don Bosco. Writing from Scutari in Albania (Turkey) he says: "Today being the feast of St. Francis of Sales, the Patron of the Institutes founded by the Ven. Don Bosco, the undersigned went to celebrate Mass in the chapel of the *Daughters of Mary Help of Christians* in this city, and after the Mass a solemn *Te Deum* was sung in accordance with the decree of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, given with the approbation of the Holy Father, by which Don Bosco is declared Venerable, and the introduction of the cause for his beatification and canonization is decreed. These two facts are a source of joy not only to the Salesian Society and to the Nuns of Our Lady Help of Christians, but to all those who knew or have read of the heroic virtues of their Venerable Founder, his ardent zeal for the salvation of souls, and his untiring labours for the Christian education of the young of both sexes. It was quite appropriate therefore that some celebration should be held in the School conducted by the nuns of his Institute; and to this the undersigned to some degree contributed, when in a short address he touched on the virtues and merit of their Founder, a man chosen by the Providence of God, according to the present need of the

church, and especially to provide for the religious education of the young through the many means provided by the servant of God.

And as the earliest education of all is that provided by home life, the Ven. Don Bosco saw clearly how important it was that the mothers should be guided by the holy fear of God, and should have an education based on solid piety; accordingly by the institute of the "*Daughters of Mary Help of Christians*," he provided for this need, so that they may inspire with sentiments of religion and piety those who will afterwards be mothers and mistresses themselves; he exhorted the Sisters to maintain the spirit of their Founder, and the children to piety and obedience.

✠ Pasquale Guerini,
Archbishop.

Malta. The *Daily Malta Chronicle*, *Developments*, and the *Malta Herald* of April 27th last, both take occasion of the prospective opening of the new Institute under the care of the Salesians, to make some very kindly and appreciative remarks. By the time these lines are in print the ceremony of the opening will be an accomplished fact, but for the present our readers must be content with learning the announcement of it as a forthcoming event.

Under the heading of *Juventutis Domus*, and *Salesian Festive Oratories* the Herald says among other things that *Servite Dominum in laetitia*, Serve the Lord in gladness, is apparently the motto of the Salesian Society; and it goes on to remark that the same motto has guided Mr. and Mrs. Galea in again extending their liberality and allotting such a large sum of money for the building of that superb edifice, which has risen within barely twelve months, in Don Bosco St. opposite the Salesian Institute. It is intended to give further scope to the regenerating mission of the Salesian Fathers in Malta, to whose care and direction the new Institute will be committed.

"*Juventutis Domus*" is the name that has been assigned to this new Institution, and the most prominent feature of the building is a very fine theatre covering most part of the ground between Howard St. and Alexandra Avenue. It can accommodate some six or seven hundred persons, and its interior is most artistically decorated with stuccos by Cardona, sculptural works by Sciortio, and will eventually be ornamented with paintings by Call.

Adjoining the theatre is a spacious house destined for a club. It might at first sight seem strange that a theatre should be committed to the care and direction of a Religious Order. But

though, on the stage of that theatre the "Sock" as well as the "Cothurnus" will be displayed, it is not for mockery or censure or improper and demoralising performances that they will be worn. That stage will be a school of morals and a source of improvement, religious and social, for both actors and audience.

The club will be a school of literature and art—the seat of a debating society, a choral troupe, and an Amateur Dramatic Company. No gambling, no gossiping, scandal or intemperance. It will have a library, but this will contain good, moral and instructive literature, and will be purged of all that can demoralize.

It will be an ideal Institute, one which should appeal to all young gentlemen as well as to University and other students, as a place where they can acquire much useful knowledge in various directions, which they will appreciate later on. The *Juventutis domus* is intended to afford agreeable but useful and improving pastime for the youth of the better classes.

But lower down the street, just beyond the Alexandra Avenue, another building with a large play-ground is dedicated to the sons of the people. Here the Festive Oratories will be held. On Sundays and feast-days games will be organised for the boys of Sliema, affording them healthy and innocent amusement, and at the same time moral and religious instruction. His Excellency the Governor has kindly consented to honour Mr. Mrs. Galea by presiding at the inauguration. His Grace the Archbishop has also promised to be present."

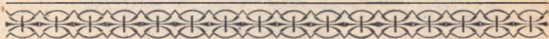
To this account by the local paper we have little to add. The new Institute will afford opportunity for a great work among the young men, especially in the direction of higher religious education which the Holy Father has so urgently recommended; and that particularly for the class of young men for whom this new Institute is intended, we heartily concur in the good wishes of the above papers and hope the project will prove eminently successful.

Personal. The attention of Readers is especially called to the pages in this issue dealing with the Salesian School, and other works being carried on in London. The full page insertion concerning the Salesian School Battersea is especially for the guidance of those, who, as the experience of past years has taught us, have been on the look-out for a suitable boarding school in the metropolis. The school course will be re-opened early in September.

For others who may prefer, or whose convenience draws them to the provinces, a Salesian

School conducted on lines similar to the above, has been opened at Farnboro' Hampshire; while the position of the preparatory school for younger children, and Boarding school for girls at Chertsey on Thames, at a convenient distance from London, recommends itself.

Information concerning any of the above may be had from the Salesian School, Battersea, S.W.



For the information and assurance of many Co-operators and of the supporters of Don Bosco's work, who showed such deep sympathy with us during the regrettable incidents of last August, we had all along intended to communicate the final result; the lengthy inquiries of the judicial authorities must be our excuse for the delay.

Now that the investigation is complete we are able to declare formally that:

1st in accordance with the report of the Minister of Public Affairs, the Council of the Tribunal of Savona announced, on April 11th last, that the case will not be proceeded with on account of the non existence of any offence on the part of the two Salesians of the School at Varazze, who had been for a short time under arrest;

2nd as regards the other Salesians, the nuns, Priests and religious of the city of Varazze, who were involved in the accusations of the Besson Diary, the Minister of Public Affairs, in agreement with the investigations, has no imputation whatever to record against them, it being established that the accusations were without any foundation.





Four months with the Coroados-Bororos.

(Letter from Father Antony Malan).

II.

Meeting with the Bororos of Rio S. Lorenzo.— 2600 Indians ready for civilization.

Very Reverend Don Rua,

According to the promise given in my last, I am able now to send you some news, which I feel sure you will find most gratifying, namely the account of our much desired meeting with the savages of the dense forests near the source of the *San Lorenzo*.

The meeting.—Presentation by the ambassadors. Interesting conversation.

The 9th of August, anniversary of the coronation of our Holy Father Pius X, was the day chosen by Divine Providence for the much desired meeting. On the summit of the sandy bank on the left shore of the *Pogubo*, a deep and rapid river and the first point of junction with the stream *S. Lorenzo*, we beheld, as I told you, a large band of powerful *Bororos*.

It is true, that we have now grown accustomed to these meetings with the children of the forests, still I must say we experienced an indescribable impression in seeing at a distance of a quarter of a mile from our tents those rude athletic forms with copper coloured skins painted a dark red with *urucú*, naked, armed with bows and arrows, and accompanied by several women carrying their cradles by means of small cords made of wood fibre fastened round their foreheads and hanging over their shoulders.

Preceded by our ambassadors extraordinary, who had acquainted them with the object of

our meeting and our present prospects, they descended the bank and came up the rising ground on this side of the river, then walking in single file, they approached to offer us their greetings with unusual ceremony. Even the women approached us for the same object, but they were evidently forced to do so by the command of the caciques, for all of them, trembling, tried to hide their faces, a sign of their timidity and confusion.

Captain *Joaquim* introduced us to the caciques of this numerous deputation, who in their turn, presented us to their terrible companions and brethren.

This ceremony being over they laid down their arms and their *baquetés* or cradles and with surprising rapidity hastened to cut leaves of the *oacuri*, of the palm-tree, etc., which they brought near our temporary huts, in order to erect their own beside ours, each family constructing one for itself.

Having heard from our guides that our provisions were nearly exhausted, they gave us a quantity of cocoa-nuts and some fish which, although cooked in a primitive manner, in our famished condition seemed the most delicious ragoût in the world. In return for so much kindness, we presented each of them with a handful of corn-flour and a slice of *rapadura* and for our part we gladly satisfied our hunger giving thanks to God for our repast.

Meantime night had fallen. The moon shed her silvery rays over the picturesque forests, whilst we pondered on the infinite goodness of God, who was visibly assisting us to spread the first rays of the light of the Gospel over these unhappy savage tribes, when, suddenly, Captain *Joaquim* stood up and began a long discourse on the result of his embassy.

He said that the Indians had abandoned their villages for fear of being attacked by the civilized inhabitants or by the troops: that they no longer dared to drink the waters of the *S. Lorenzo* or its tributaries, because their *bgaires* (priest-prophets) had told them they had been poisoned by the whites; that they were making ready their bows and arrows to attack them not only in their own defence, but also for the purpose of waging war; that they wished well to the missionaries because these in their turn were well disposed towards them; lastly, that for their

own safety and for their own benefit, they wished us to start a Colony in their midst.

When the cacique had finished, I was invited to speak. I entrusted this duty to Fr. Balzola, as he was better acquainted with their language.

Fr. Balzola assured them of our sincere love for the *Bororos*, recalling the labours we had undertaken for their benefit; he affirmed that they alone were the object of our pacific work of regeneration and detailed the reasons why they deserved our protection. Then he showed how false was the prophecy of the *bari*: that the waters of the *S. Lorenzo* were certainly not poisoned, that the Government was not animated by a thirst for vengeance upon them, but desired simply that the author of Melchior's assassination should be punished and not the others, in order to give to all a great lesson of civil morality: and lastly, he promised that he would speak to His Excellency Signor Generoso Paes Ponce, Governor of the Province, reminding him of the promises previously made by him to the *Bororos*.

At each sentence which met with their approval these bronze figures gave the customary token of assent, giving out deep breaths, followed by loud *hum! hum! hum!... hu! hu! hu!...*

It was already ten o'clock and they insisted on the orator continuing his discourse. It was necessary to satisfy them. The subject was then changed to the explanation of the great act to be performed the following morning, namely, the celebration of Holy Mass, during which the King of all nations, including the savages, would be immolated on the altar of Redemption. And whilst the orator gave forth to his attentive hearers the thoughts which he judged most suitable, our two caciques were also employed in answering questions on the more difficult points. Thus passed another hour and the voice of Fr. Balzola was growing hoarse and weak. Then I also began to speak, giving in the form of a dialogue, with Fr. Balzola, the description of my last journey to Europe, accompanied by the boy *Miguel*, the allusions to whom gave great joy to his old father, proud of the attentions shown to his son.

**A brief rest.—Celebration of the Holy Sacrifice—
—A meal in common—Distribution of presents
—10 villages, 52 caciques, and 2600 Indians
ready for civilization.**

Towards midnight we thought it well to retire; leaving the *Bororos* to spend the rest of the night in feasting, we subsided into the arms of Morpheus, satisfied that everything had gone so well.

At early dawn, on the Feast of the Titular Saint of the river by whose waters we had

pitched our camp, we prepared an altar at the foot of a cross, raised on a small pedestal formed of stones; and, in thanksgiving, we offered the Holy Sacrifice in honour of the holy Martyr St. Laurence, the savages assisting with wonderful attention.

After Mass, in company with the Indians we had a grand banquet with an excellent *jacuba*. Then, taking advantage of the opportunity of having them all together, we distributed the



The Very Rev. Don Rua at the Salesian Festive Oratory at Smyrna in Asia Minor.

objects we had brought with us to provide gifts for each of them, such as knives, scissors, fish hooks, mirrors, etc., etc. To each cacique we gave half a blanket or a shawl, to each woman three yards of stuff and to every one a handkerchief. At the close of the distribution, a pleasant smile illuminated each countenance. Poor creatures! probably they had never before felt so rich!.. Truly, instead of being reckoned unworthy, from every point of view they are deserving of the care and assistance of civilized peoples, more especially of those whom God has blessed with the goods of this world. Let but the light of religion and civilization penetrate amongst them and we shall behold, as I said before, new bands of fervent Christians in the

bosom of the Church, and useful and industrious citizens in civilized society.

We were most fortunate in meeting the principal cacique, who has under him 52 inferior caciques, who are captains of a similar number of villages or towns. Each of these has, on an average, fifty followers, so one may calculate there are about 2600 Indians under the authority of the above named cacique, residing in an area of about a hundred miles. The names of their villages were all given to us. They are situated on the banks of the *S. Lorenzo* or its tributaries to all of which the Indians give the same name.

**Enthusiastic congratulations—For the fourth Colony
—12 new missionaries needed.**

Having taken care to telegraph the news of our successful expedition to the chief authorities of the State and of the Confederation, knowing their practical sympathy and the interest they take in this Mission of ours, I received the most kindly and affectionate replies. Allow me to copy a few of them.

Petropolis.—Congratulating the Salesian Missions, their apostolate and fresh conquests, I send my blessing.—*Apostolic Nuncio.*

Cuyabá.—Thanks for plan of new native Colony; joyous congratulations on successful exploration of Coroados Bororos tribe, excellent reception; expect happiest results from great work of evangelization, so advantageous to the State.—*Generoso Ponce* (President of the State of Matto Grosso).

Rio de Janeiro.—Grateful acknowledgment of labours undertaken for glory of Matto Grosso and of Christianity.—*Joaquino Murtinho* (Senator of the Confederation).

Rio de Janeiro.—Grateful acknowledgment of news of successful exploration Coroados Bororos, approve idea new foundation native colony amongst populous villages and so many caciques desiring civilization. Hearty congratulations.—*Ignazio Fosta* (Deputy of the Confederation).

Cuyabá.—Acknowledging your communication I rejoice in new triumph for humanity and our aborigines. Hearty congratulations.—*Pietro Celestino* (Vice-President of the State of Matto Grosso).

Goyaz.—Congratulaton on happy discovery Bororo villages, news communicated to President.—*Elesbão* (Deputy of the State of Goyaz).

Cuyabá.—I rejoice at welcome news of successful exploration. Greetings. *Enrico Vieira* (Del. of Matto Grosso and Director General of the Indians).

This cordial and united display of interest from the principal authorities, was a source of

great consolation to us, because it is a pledge of their moral support and of the means which their generosity may furnish us, of which we have the most urgent need to establish the new Colony and prosecute the great work of the evangelization of these tribes, confided to us by Divine Providence.

This then, very Reverend Father, is a brief report of our latest expedition amidst people chiefly savage, but who, thanks to the intervention of their brethren residing in Colonies already flourishing, recognize in us true and sincere friends and hold us in high estimation, conditions indispensable for enabling us to labour for their evangelization as well as for their civilization.

These fortunate circumstances, such good dispositions on the part of the savages beginning with their chiefs, the splendid appearance of these enchanting regions, than which nothing better could be desired both as to fertility and situation, the ardent desire of our brave missionaries to obey the command of our Divine Master: "*Ite et docete: Go and teach all nations*", such excellent conditions have induced me to promise the foundation of a fourth colony near the sources of the *S. Lorenzo*, as early as possible.

The transport of goods for the present will be far more difficult than for the other colonies, but that does not signify; we are sustained and encouraged both by the Federal and the Provincial Government, as well as by our excellent benefactors, who as they have hitherts helped us by their generous contributions, will doubtless provide for us still more generously in the future.

Passing on now to requirements for another order, I must state that we need twelve more missionaries ready for every kind of sacrifice and filled with enthusiasm for the divine mandate already quoted: *Go and teach all nations!* And this help can be obtained only from you, our venerated Superior, therefore I now implore your assistance, in the name of and for the love of so many thousands of poor savages plunged in the darkness of superstitions and idolatry, but who are now desirous of something better which neither Religion, nor patriotism can refuse them.

I will send you shortly a report of the state of our Colonies of the *S. Heart*, of the *Immaculate Conception* and of *S. Joseph*; whither I hope to direct my steps during this month of January.

I conclude, very Reverend Father, this brief account asking your blessing and begging you to recommend me to the prayers and the charity of our dear Co-operators.

Your devoted son in J. C.

D. ANTONY MALAN.

Another interesting communication.

Towards the end of February, Don Rua received a telegram from the telegraph office of *General Carneiro*, in which Fr. Malan announced the celebration of the first Christian marriages amongst the Bororos.

We profit of this opportunity to recommend most earnestly to the prayers of our readers our Missions of Matto Grosso in general, and in particular these missionaries especially their Su-

The visit of Fr. Malan.—Indian holidays—The boys are left at the Mission.—Methods of education.

Last July we had a visit from our Inspector Fr. Malan who will, doubtless, have written you his impressions of this land of savages. All the Indians, men, women and children received several presents from him and were much delighted with them. Fr. Malan himself went away well satisfied, leaving to all the most pleasant



Clerical Students of the Salesian Institute at Radna in Austria.

perior *Fr. Antony Malan*, so zealous for the evangelization and civilization of the poor savages. Fr. Malan is still in the prime of life, scarcely more than 45 years of age, having been born on December 16th 1862. May Almighty God give him length of days to labour for the numerous and widely spread tribes of the Coroados-Bororos.

From the Colony of the S. Heart

During the annual excursion of the Indians.

(Letter from *Fr. Antony Colbacchini*).

Colony of the S. Heart of Jesus (Matto Grosso).

Very Rev. Don Rua,

You will, I am sure, be pleased to receive some news, from this distant Mission, of your sons and of the poor savages. Thanks to the S. Heart of Jesus who blesses us everything is going on well.

recollection of his visit and hopes of his speedy return.

Soon after his departure, almost all the Indians, following their custom of previous years, dispersed some in one direction, some in another, for their annual holiday, as one may term it, in search of an abundant supply of game and fish. Only one or two families remained at the Colony and, what we had not dared to hope, all the boys stayed. We feared that the parents, as in past years, would again oblige their children to follow them, or take them away by force, to our great regret, but our influence has since apparently increased even over the parents, for they made no difficulty about leaving their sons with us.

But our joy was not unmingled with sorrow, caused by the disappearance of a certain *Julius*, a boy of excellent dispositions. He was a most intelligent lad and having already made his First Communion and approaching the Holy Sacraments weekly he fulfilled our best hopes. A

search was made through: out the aldea, but fruitlessly; we were told that his mother had taken him with her by force to the forest; and probably the poor boy, to save us greater unpleasantness and to avoid greater pain to himself, had followed her without our knowledge.

So the Indians went away and we remained with eighteen of the older boys, our hope and consolation, because we trust that the seed, sown in this field at so great a cost, will at least bring forth abundant fruit in them and in their descendants. The adult savage, proud and indomitable, casts off the yoke of any law that happens to be in opposition to his habits and diabolical superstitions; and so far one must say that only an extraordinary grace could tame him. For the present we must be satisfied with very little; we require them to observe only a few simple disciplinary regulations, absolutely necessary for the good order of the Colony, and that they should leave us perfectly free to give their sons a suitable education. Perhaps, in course of time, even the adults will be brought to entertain more humane feelings and will finally despise and abhor their diabolical feticism; but the future is in the hands of God.

So we remained at home, as before, with these poor children, and, having nothing else to attend to, we determined to devote ourselves with greater earnestness, during this interval, to their education.

They correspond satisfactorily to our care, conform to our wishes and though, at times, one may show that savage blood still flows in his veins, we must admit that all have a large share of good will and manage to be good and obedient. In fact they both respect and love us and they conform fairly well to the rule imposed on them,

But what a price one must pay for all this!.. what patience! how many sacrifices.

It is a pleasing sight to behold them, in orderly ranks and silent, obeying the sound of the bell that calls them to prayer or to work, and sometimes, in the very midst of an exciting game, leave off suddenly and hasten cheerfully to listen to the voice of the Missionary who calls them. But it is not force, violence, or fear that has wrought this change; they resist anything of this kind; we can only put it down to Don Bosco's methods of education.

The method, which he left to us, is the only means by which we attain these consoling results. These poor children of the forest also desire to be loved, pitied, and forgiven, and only when treated thus, do they conform to our wishes. A punishment, a somewhat humiliating reproof, is enough to make us lose the fruit of the labours and sacrifices of many days or even months.

They are still untamed savages, but they possess a sensitive heart; and a word or a look is more than enough to make them understand they are not doing right; their self love, their fiery character, their savage nature will not bear punishment or reproof without revolt. Patience, charity, kindness; such is the method to employ, if we desire to conquer these poor souls, to free them from Satan's claws and place them in the arms of Jesus Christ.

Illness of the boy Julius.—An expedition to Rio das Garças.—A savage scene.—Emotion of the little invalid.

It was already nearly a month since the Indians had started on their hunting expeditions, when we descried, against the sky line of the hill behind our Colony, an Indian accompanied by his family. Without delay I went forward to meet him in order to obtain news of his companions and I learnt that they were all assembled on the banks of the *Rio das Garças*, where they had found much game and plenty of fish. I asked him how much longer they would remain there, and he replied: "*For another morn!*" that is to say a month. I asked him further if they were all well, and he answered: — "Yes, all, except one little boy!"

—"Who is that?" I asked him; "and what is the matter with him?... Is he a small boy or a big one?"

—"He is a big boy", he replied; "before he joined the hunting party he lived in your house".

—"What is his name?"

—"I no not know".

—"Julius," I suggested.

—"Yes, Julius."

I was distressed by this news and said to myself: "All the children who were left with us are well and happy, and this poor boy has fallen ill in the depths of the forest, through his Mother's fault, perhaps without any comfort or medicine, a victim of the diabolical superstitions of some *bari*."

I was so much distressed at this news, that I decided to go and find him.

I recalled the Indian who had brought the news and I learnt from him that Julius was *very far away*; that starting at sunrise they would arrive there only at sunset, but I could ride there.

The following morning, accompanied by the Indian and our *Miguel*, whom you saw in Italy, having saddled the horses, we began our journey, full of the usual incidents common to all journeys through the forest,. We followed a line nearly direct South-South-East, from the Colony. We came upon several streams, one of

which gave us some trouble to ford. At midday we had not yet reached our destination; but having ascended some rising ground. I saw at a short distance the clear waters of the *Rio das Garças* shining through the trees. So after another quarter of an hour's march through the thickest part of the forest the Indian, leading the way, stopped, and pointing with his finger, said: "That is the place."

In the centre of the forest the huts were neatly arranged in a circle, under the shade of lofty trees which gave an impression of dark and mysterious sadness like the haughty savage in whose

The sorcerer accompanied my speech with the usual exclamations, showing himself exceedingly pleased and satisfied, and asked me to follow him to the sick boy's hut.

In the temporary aldeaments there were only two or three Indians; all the others were engaged in hunting. But the women were all there and were standing outside their huts, with a certain praiseworthy modesty, awaiting my greeting. The boy having been informed of my arrival, as soon as he heard my voice, began to weep bitterly... Entering the lowly hut, I found him thin, pale, lying on a wretched mat on the ground.



St. Joseph's Artizans' Football Club at the Salesian School, Battersea, London.

kingdom I found myself. Near his own hut, standing before a great fire, with a piece of raw meat in his hand, was the *bari*, the dreaded priest, the interpreter of the will of *Marebba* and *Bope*, calling on *Marebba* with the whole strength of his lungs to banish *Bope* from the flesh of the animal which the savages had killed and which they were about to eat. When he saw me, he interrupted the ceremony, placed the piece of meat on a palm leaf with other bits, and came joyfully to meet me, giving me his hand covered with blood and greeting me in the most approved savage fashion.

I also saluted him, asking how he was, adding that I had come to see him and all the others in order to hear whether they were well and to visit the boy Julius, who I had been told was very ill.

The poor boy wept and looked at me with great longing.

I succeeded in soothing him, saying I had come on purpose to see him. I reminded him that he had been baptized, exhorted him to think sometimes of Our Lord and Our Lady, and recite devoutly a Pater and Ave morning and evening, as well as frequently during the day; then I gave him a medal of Mary Help of Christians. He kissed it and placed it round his neck. Then I gave him a new shirt, for the one he was wearing was torn to rags and I made him take some coffee which I had brought. Then I told the *bari* and the two caciques who were present that they must send the invalid to me at the Colony where, in our house, we could give him suitable remedies which would cure him quickly,

They promised to do so. I then enquired how much longer they would remain there and the *bari* gave me to understand that in that place were many *ante*, many wild boars and a quantity of fish. I saw that they only wanted to put me off, and I insisted that they should come back soon. I got our *Miguel* to repeat the same recommendation and they promised me that in three weeks they would return.

Satisfied with my visit, with the promise given, with finding the Indians still well disposed towards us and above all with having seen and comforted the sick boy whose confession I heard, after bidding farewell to the poor savages I mounted my horse and once more entered the woods *en route* for the Colony. Scarcely had I left them, when I heard again echoing through the wood the cry of the *bari* who was resuming his incantations.

**Return of the savages.—Julius does not come back.
—A venomous bite.—Providential cure.**

According to their promise I had expected they would bring us the sick boy, but eight, ten, fifteen days passed without seeing any of them. Finally one evening, towards sunset, our boys began to shout with joy; they had caught sight of Indians on the top of the ridge. These were two families returning to the colony. At once I asked for news of the sick lad and they replied that he was still very bad, that they wished to bring him, but that his mother would not allow them, saying that he would soon get well and would return with her to the colony.

I fear this Indian woman is animated with a satanic spirit, for she detests us, our ways and especially everything connected with religion; and as she forced her son to follow her, now that he is ill, she would rather see him suffer and die, than allow him to be brought back to our house. In fact, all the others have now returned, except the sick boy, his mother and another family related to them, who, they say, are waiting till the boy recovers.

All the others, as soon as they returned, asked at once for agricultural tools to prepare the ground and sow Indian corn and they continue to work willingly under our supervision, quite satisfied if they have a good dish of boiled manioc, rice, beans with a slice of meat which they did in a second. It is consoling to see those countenances, usually sullen, assuming a serene and joyful aspect; at times their untamed fierceness disappears and their good will and kindness of heart manifests itself.

One Saturday night lately, they held a great *bacururú* to obtain from the good Spirit a large quantity of game from their next day's hunting.

Actually the following morning, whilst their sons were hearing Holy Mass, they went out hunting, but towards two o'clock in the afternoon we heard, all at once, from the aldea, the cries and groans which with the Indians is a sign that some accident has happened. I went out in haste to see what was the matter and saw an Indian running to call me because a horrible venomous serpent had bitten a man who was already near death. I ran to the hut of the unfortunate Indian the father of one of the boys living in our house. The man was lying on the ground, livid, rolling his eyes, blood flowing from his mouth and his foot and leg as far as the knee were much swollen from the snake's bite. His wife and four or five Indian women, his relations were screaming and weeping over him, tearing their hair and cutting their flesh so that the blood flowed copiously. Horrified at this savage spectacle, I sent the women away; I saw the case was serious; human remedies gave but little hope, the Indian having been bitten about three hours before in the forest. We recommended him to Our Blessed Lady and St. Joseph, and trusting to their help, a slight incision was made where he was bitten so that the blood should flow more freely and permanganate of potash was injected. The patient was prostrate, continued to lose blood through his mouth and his breathing was intermittent. What was to be done? We made use of other remedies and left him under the protection of Our Lady and St. Joseph. You can understand, how earnestly we prayed and made all pray hard, because we were most anxious that the poor savage should be cured, so that all might recognize that our remedies are more efficacious than the superstitious practices of their *bari*; the more so, as all said their *bari* had no power over the poison of the serpent which had bitten him. The poor Indian remained very ill, blood continuing to flow from his mouth all the night, but in the morning I found him somewhat better and the improvement continued till the evening; afterwards, thank God, he recovered completely and now, contented and cheerful, he goes to work with the others.

This brief account, showing once more how Providence blesses this Colony, is also a proof that the devil labours indefatigably to keep his dominion amidst these forests.

I commend, therefore, this promising mission to your charitable prayers and those of our good cooperators, begging a blessing for

Your obedient and devoted Son

ANTONY COLBACCHINI
Priest.

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.

Those who are keeping the 24th of each month, as a day of special devotion to Our Lady Help of Christians are recommended to add to their private intentions, the promotion of the cause of the beatification of the Ven. Don Bosco.

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In another page we have referred to the celebrations of last month's festival. The solemnities accompanying that event as carried out in the Sanctuary at Turin, are to some extent emulated in all parts of the world, wherever, in fact, there is a Church or chapel dedicated to Our Lady Help of Christians. No matter whether in the great cities of the old world, or in the rapidly growing centres of population in the new, or whether, again, amid the scattered dwellings of the settlements in the Southern Argentine and Patagonia, or in the clearings of the Brazilian forests, there takes place in all of them some imitation of the celebrations in the Sanctuary itself. In all of these places are found some to discourse on the glories of Mary, and on the devotion to the Help of Christians, and processions wend their way as well around the piazza and along the fine streets, as through the shady avenues of the forest or between the huts of early settlers. The missionaries will have at least one claim on the maternal goodness of Our Lady, that of having carried her name to distant lands and taught the new converts to honour her and foster her devotion.

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Even Valparaiso, away in Chili, has followed the lead of other centres which have inaugurated a periodical, having as its object the promotion of whatever concerns the devotion to Our Lady Help of Christians. Its latest issue contains the report of a celebrated torch-light procession, the outcome of the initiative of the Saleian Institute, in thanksgiving for the protection accorded to it in the last earthquake. The whole course had

been decorated, and triumphal arches erected. The religious associations of the city formed the first part of the procession, being followed by the boys of the school bearing lighted torches; these again were followed by the band and the Statue of Our Lady Help of Christians surrounded by lights. After the procession the Very Rev. Father Inspector gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

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Continuing his subject the Ven. Don Bosco says: Although the Blessed Virgin has shown herself to be the Help of Christians at all times and in all the necessities of life, it appears that she has made her power most conspicuous when the Church was attacked in the truths of faith, by heresiarchs or hostile arms. There are given here some of the most glorious events which have concurred in realising the words of Holy Scripture: "Thou art as the tower of David, which is built with bulwarks: a thousand bucklers hang upon it, all the armour of valiant men" (1). The history of the Church gives a verification of these words.

About the middle of the third century flourished St. Gregory, who was called the Thaumaturgus on account of the innumerable miracles worked by him. When the Bishop of Neocæsarea died, the metropolitan wished to raise Gregory to that See; but he, deeming himself unworthy, hid himself away in the desert, and in order not to be discovered traversed one solitude after another; however, inspired by God, the Archbishop nominated Gregory to the vacant see although he was still absent.

At that time idolatry was rife throughout the land, and the diocese did not contain more than a handful of Christians. Gregory's dismay was great when he found that no excuse could save

(1) Cant., IV.

him from the elevation, but it was greater when he realised the low state of Christianity within his borders, for the idolatry and pagan festivals of the gentiles were still in vogue. He therefore applied to the Metropolitan for some delay so that he might give himself up to prayer and study and preparation for his task and he passed whole nights in solitude recommending his cause to Our Lady the Seat of Wisdom. While he was at prayer there appeared to him a venerable old man, whose countenance shone with heavenly beauty and majesty. Gregory was surprised and asked what was the object of his visit. The old man told him not to be alarmed but that he had been sent by God to clear up his doubts and difficulties, and as Gregory looked on in wonder, he beheld another apparition, that of a noble lady surpassing any human creature in dignity and grace. He then heard this lady who was none other than the Blessed Virgin, call the old man by his name, John the Evangelist, and invited him to explain to Gregory the mysteries of the true religion. St. John replied that he was quite ready to do so since it pleased Our Lady to command it and he at once commenced to explain the catholic doctrines which were at that time the object of much controversy in the Church. When various points concerning the Blessed Trinity and the procession of the Holy Ghost had been explained the vision disappeared and Gregory immediately put in writing what he had heard and afterwards taught it to his flock, nor did he ever cease to thank the Blessed Virgin who had so miraculously enlightened him (1). Thus again did she prove herself in those early times the protectress of the church and the Help of Christians.

GRACES and FAVOURS

West Hartlepool (England). I had promised a thankoffering and publication in the *Bulletin*, if a great favour was granted to me. I now beg to enclose the offering and ask the Co-operators to join with me in thanksgiving.

A Client of Mary Help of Christians.

April, 1908.

(1) V. Ruffino. S. Gregorio Nisseno, in his life of the Thaumaturgus.

Edgeworthstown (Ireland).—I wish to fulfil my promise of publication of a favour obtained through Our Lady's intercession.

M. F.

April, 1908.

Dublin.—I enclose a thank-offering for the recovery of a relative from a dangerous illness through the intercession of Our Lady Help of Christians.

A Grateful Client.

April, 1908.

Tunis (North Africa).—Please accept the enclosed offering for a Mass in thanksgiving for a favour received through Our Lady Help of Christians. I would ask you to publish the favour.

C. C.

April, 1908.

Liverpool—I beg to publish thanksgiving for many favours received through the intercession of Mary Help of Christians.

A Grateful Child.

May, 1908.

Belfast (Ireland).—Anonymous wishes to return heartfelt thanks to Our Lady Help of Christians for favours received. She encloses a thankoffering and requests to have the same published in the *Salesian Bulletin*.

April, 1908.

Bradford (England).—I return public thanks to Our Lady Help of Christians for the recovery of a sister from a dangerous illness, after a promise of publication and a Mass in thanksgiving.

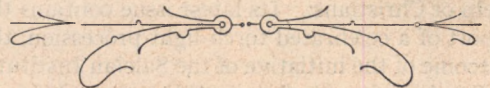
J.

May, 1908.

Belfast (Ireland).—Please accept the enclosed offering for Masses in thanksgiving for a great favour received through the intercession of Our Lady Help of Christians. Kindly publish the favour in the *Bulletin*.

May 5th, 1908.

Anon.





LIFE OF MONSIGNOR LASAGNA

SALESIAN MISSIONARY

TITULAR BISHOP OF TRIPOLI

CHAPTER XL (*Continued*).

The Bishop, having related this incident, concluded: "With a heart full of grief, I blessed the rough cross planted on the fatal spot and implored the mercy of God on the innocent victims and their thoughtless murderers".

But here we must take a step backward in our narrative. On the 15th June, towards evening, we passed in front of a country house, where a courtier was waiting with his horse ready saddled having come from the capital by order of the President of the State to ascertain whether the missionaries were on the steamer. As soon as he received the answer in the affirmative he mounted his horse and disappeared on the narrow track winding through the dense forests. This was a sign that our journey was coming to an end. But, a little farther on, the stream widens considerably, and the current being weakened, the sand-banks increase and impede navigation. The Captain transferred to a boat, all the baggage, and weighty articles, so as to lighten the steamer and thus he was able to pass through the channel safely. Our travellers, therefore, hoped to reach Cuyabà in the evening of the following day: but their hopes were frustrated. Early next morning, when preparing for Mass, as it was Sunday, the vessel vibrated with a terrible shock, running on to a sand bank for the second time. Again the Captain made every effort to overcome the difficulty, transferring the passengers and a quantity of stores to the boat, so that this makeshift of a steamer floated once more. He sounded the bed of the river, sending sailors into the water up to their waist, who with poles tested the depth at various points, then he reversed the engines, afterwards trying to go forward first to the right, then to the left, then in the middle, seeking in a hundred

different ways to steam through this difficult channel but all in vain. The passage was effectually barred by the sand-banks. Then he cast anchor under the trees on the neighbouring bank, so that the passengers might be protected in their shade from the burning rays of the sun and summoned them on board for the last time to dine.

Here we finally said good-bye to the *Coxipó* and were packed, like herrings in a barrel, in the flat bottomed boat".

This last stage of their journey was the most painful of all. The Bishop, huddled up in the middle of the boat, or leaning on the gunwale, wrapped in a blanket to protect him from the heavy dews and ceaselessly tormented by the gnats, could not snatch even a few moments' sleep, from which besides, he was aroused by the movements of the tired sailors and still more by the strokes of the oars. It was a curious sight to behold the Bishop of Tripoli, seated in the midst of all the passengers, taking his meal; a biscuit with a slice of salt pork, washed down with a glass of water from the river.

After much trouble, they were, fortunately, able at last to resume their journey towards Cuyabà, where they arrived on the 18th June precisely at twelve o'clock. His Lordship with his companions was greeted by the ringing of bells, the strains of music and the discharge of crackers: welcomed by the Bishop of the Diocese, Mgr. Charles Louis d'Amour, by the President of the State, the Generals and magistrates and the whole population which crowded round him and accompanied him through clouds of dust to the little church of S. Gonçalo, where a solemn *Te Deum* was sung. After the Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament, Mgr. Lasagna addressed a few words of heartfelt thanks to the Bishop, the President and to all the people for their affectionate welcome: he explained the design of the missionaries in coming and expressed the hope that the Salesians might be able to do much for the good of souls, the chief end for which, through many difficulties, they had come to Matto Grosso.



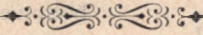
PERMISSU SUPERIORUM

Gerent, GIUSEPPE GAMBINO—Salesian Press, Turin, 1908

To Readers and Co-operators.

The Salesian Schools, Battersea, London, S. W.

commence their next Scholastic Course
early in September



Arrangements should therefore be made as soon as possible.

From the upper Forms a considerable number of the students are taking the Oxford Local Examinations in July. The results last year showed ninety per cent of passes.

* *

The principal object of the School is to provide, at a moderate charge, a classical education for those boys who desire to study for the priesthood. Those boys, however, who have no intention of entering the ecclesiastical state, are prepared for any other career their parents or guardians deem suitable. The School Curriculum embraces the usual subjects of study essential to a general and commercial education, the usual extras being taught.

* *

At the end of each term, a report on the conduct of each student, together with the terminal examination is sent to parents or guardians.

* *

The Chamber of Commerce Examinations in Book-keeping and Shorthand, and the Civil Service examinations are included in the commercial course.

* *

The religious instruction receives very careful attention and the Diocesan Inspector holds an annual examination. Last year's report needs no comment :

"It was a pleasure to examine the boys of this Schools. They are taught so thoroughly and evidently very much appreciate their religious instructions".

* *

Being in close proximity to the Park (not to mention the Schools' own extensive playground) there is every facility for, and encouragement of the usual outdoor games.



Communicate with: The Rev. Principal.

Salesian Schools.

Surrey Lane.

Battersea, S. W.

Telephone: 2590 Western (G. P. O.).

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

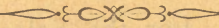
BATTERSEA, LONDON, S. W.



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.*