

THE SALESIAN BULLETIN

ILLUSTRATED REVIEW.

ORGAN OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF
SALESIAN CO-OPERATORS



«DA MIHI ANIMAS, CAETERA TOLLE»

MARCH-APRIL 1927

OPERA APUD NOS.

DE CENSURIS LATAE SENTENTIAE quae in Codice Juris Canonici continentur commentariolum digessit JOANNES CAVIGLIOLI. — Vol. in-16 pp. 170: L. 3,75. — Apud exteros: L. 4,50.

ELEMENTA GRAMMATICAE HEBRAICAE cum chrestomathia et glossario scripsit ITALUS PIZZI Doctor Philol. linguarum Orient. professor in R. Univers. Taurin. — Vol. in-16 pp. XII-323 L. 8. — Apud exteros: L. 9,60.

FLORILEGIUM HIERONYMIANUM, anno MD a Maximi Doctoris obitu recensuit adnotationibus auxit Angelus Ficarra, prefatus est Felix Ramorinus, curavit Pia Societas a S. Hieronymo nuncupata evangelii italice pervulgandis. — In-16 pp. XII-236: L. 10. — Apud exteros: L. 12.

Continens: Scripta paraenetica - Epitaphia - Scripta historica - Scripta theologica et polemica - Scripta exegetica.

GRAMMATICA HEBRAICA a punctis massorethicis libera qui accedit chrestomathia et glossarium scripsit FERRUTIUS VALENTE M. J. — Vol. in-16 pp. XVI-144: L. 10. — Apud exteros: L. 12.

LIBER PSALMORUM HEBRAICE edidit signisque modernis auxit FERRUTIUS VALENTE M. J. — Vol. in-32 pp. VIII-248 L. 15. — Apud exteros: L. 18.

Editio est elegantissima novissimaque psalmodum, hebraica lingua concinnata.

MANUALE CHRISTIANUM in quo continentur:

- 1) Novum Jesu Christi Testamentum juxta exemplar Vaticanum (pagg. XXVI-670).
- 2) Vademecum clericorum continens: Officium parvum B. Mariae V.; Officium defunctorum, Ordinem totius Missae juxta typicas Missalis ac Breviarii editiones pluribus selectis precibus additis (Pagg. 225).
- 3) De Imitatione Christi libri quatuor (Pagg. 222).

Linteo anglico contextum, sectione foliorum rubra: Libellae 15. — Apud exteros: Lib. 18.

NOVUM JESU CHRISTI TESTAMENTUM juxta vulgatae editionis textum Clementis VII auctoritate cum indice locupletissimo editum divisionibus logicis cum summariis et locis parallelis munitum. Pagg. XXVI-670. Linteo anglico contextum, sectione foliorum rubra: Libellae 11,50. — Apud exteros: Libellae 13,80.

OFFICIUM MAJORIS HEBDOMADAE ED OCTAVAE PASCHAE a Dominica in Palmis usque ad Sabbatum in Albis juxta ordinem Breviarii, Missalis et Pontificalis cum cantu juxta editionem Vaticanam. — Vol. in-16 pp. 630 (altum 17, latum 11). Carta indica, cum lineis rubris in quadrum ductis ad omnes paginas.

Linteo anglico contextum, sectione foliorum rubra: L. 22,50. — Apud exteros: L. 25.

OFFICIUM PARVUM BEATAE MARIAE VIRGINIS ET OFFICIUM DEFUNCTORUM addita commemoratione omnium fidelium defunctorum juxta editionem typicam Breviarii Romani. Pagg. 124 — Linteo anglico contextum, sectionem foliorum rubra: Libellae 5,25. — Apud exteros: Lib. 6,30.

PSALMORUM LIBER I edidit signisque modernis auxit FERRUTIUS VALENTE M. J. — Vol. in-16 pp. VIII-72; L. 3,50. — Apud exteros: L. 4,20.

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SUMMARY: An Apology. — Prize-giving at Battersea. — The Orphanage of St George. — The Second Crucifixion. — Prize-day at Farnborough. — The Salesian World. — A Visit to Copsewood, Ireland. — The House on the Hill. — An Old Boy's note book. — Lest we forget. — Devotion to Our Lady Help of Christians. — Graces and Favours — Obituary.

AN APOLOGY.

The present number is offered to our readers by way of being almost entirely a scholastic number. It affords information as to the present state of things Salesian in England. True all the schools are not mentioned but what is true of one is true of all. The absence of the usual items will thus be overlooked by our indulgent readers. Also we offer the suggestion that a practical means of co-operation would be to recommend our schools wherever and whenever possible. As the various articles will show the education is as sound as the other schools of the same grade. In addition a catholic atmosphere is provided. The education of the boys is in the hands of those whose sole effort is to turn out good christians, good catholics, good citizens and men of character. The terms may be had on application to the Superior of any of our schools. These terms will compare with any school in the United Kingdom and in view of the education afforded prove superior to any of the other secondary schools. This good work then we recommend most heartily to our co-operators. It is not difficult. It is sure to prove a good thing. The boon of a sound catholic education is worth making an effort to obtain either for one's own children or for the children of one's friends or acquaintances. The catholic church of the future depends on the education of the rising generation. Stabilise the Church, promote the conversion of England, lay up treasure in heaven by the simple means of recommending the Salesian system of education as being in conformity at once with the spirit of the catholic church, and as far as possible in conformity with the spirit of the age as well as supplying the personal influence of the family in the formation of the character of the boy.

SALESIAN SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING

W. S. Bishop J. P. on the reliability of Catholic-trained youth.

There was a large attendance of parents and friends at the Salesian School, Surrey-Lane, Battersea, on the occasion of the distribution of prizes by Mr. W. S. Bishop, J. P.

The Very Rev. Michael H. McCarthy, S. C. (rector) presided, and was supported by Mr. W. S. Bishop, Rev. E. Burt (Mortlake), Rev. R. Christall (Epsom), Rev. H. Darby (Edgeware), Rev. T. Lawton (Brixton), Rev. J. Mulcahy (Willesden Messrs. B. McCourt, and D. Dempsey (representing the Salesian Old Boys' Association), Inspector Whiting, and others

The School Report.

The Prefect of Studies, the Rev. William Smith, S. C., in his report, said the school had maintained its good record in every department. The report of the diocesan inspector on religious education was "Excellent in every class. Congratulations to all on the good Catholic spirit in the school". In regard to secular education, the successes obtained in the various public school examinations were a guarantee that the work done in the classes, both by masters and boys, had been of a high standard. There had been many successes in both the junior and senior grades in respect to Oxford Local Examinations. In the senior (school certificate) examinations 11 successes were secured. The juniors obtained four honours, one first class and three third class, in addition to 16 passes. The lower forms had also acquitted themselves well, doing credit to both themselves and their masters. There were 28 junior successes out of 29, with 10 honours; 25 advanced preliminary certificates out of 25, with 21 honours; 30 preliminaries out of 31, with 21 honours;

32 preparatory preliminaries out of 32, with 23 honours; and 20 elementary successes among the very little boys, with their quota of four honours. Altogether 209 boys sat for public examination, and, roughly 85 per cent. were successful. In the school there were 251 boys on the books in July last. In the realm of

Games and Sports.

the school had experienced a successful year, and had set up two good records in the senior and junior half-miles and had surpassed the 1921 long jump record of 16ft. 3in. The senior and junior half-miles were achieved by E. Kay and G. O'Connor respectively, and the senior long jump (16ft. 4in.) by D. Bleach. The interest taken in games throughout the school was keen. The conduct of the boys had been very satisfactory.

"The play's the thing".

There was some good singing by the choir, and a fine performance of a play, entitled "The King's Visit", for which production Father Sullivan was largely responsible. Both acting and staging were excellent. The story was woven round the events which occurred in one of the old Benedictine Choir Schools on the occasion of a visit to the abbey by King Henry the Sixth to take part in the Christmas festivities. It showed how the jealousy of one choir boy, Roger, inadvertently brought about the death of his rival, Gloria, by the latter being frozen to death on the church tower, where he had been enticed and locked out by Roger during the midnight mass. All the characters were sustained by the boys of Form IIIA in

the junior school. During the play the "Alma Redemptoris Mater" was sung in a most exquisite manner by the boys, and D. Roger sang the "Adeste, fideles" ("Come all ye faithful") in a charming manner.

Father McCarthy thanked Mr. Bishop for his kindness in coming to distribute the prizes.

Mr. Bishop was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. He complimented the boys on the performance of their parts in the play. He went on to say that a play of that sort demanded very careful representation, and it did great credit to all concerned.

Films from Battersea.

In the course of his speech Mr. Bishop remarked that it was not the first time he had occupied the same office at a prize distribution, nor was this the first Salesian School where he had performed that function. (Cheers.) He had officiated in that capacity in Salesian schools in the Falkland Islands, where the Salesian Society was doing a great work. Moreover, he had witnessed a cinematograph performance there and the films on that occasion came from their school at Battersea. (Cheers).

The Salesian Work was full of genuine Catholicity and their colleges and institutes were to be found in all parts of the world. He had worshipped in the church that was nearest the South Pole; he had heard mass there, and the church was conducted by the Salesian Fathers.

The Catholic Boy.

He admired the spirit existing among the boys of the present day. They were much more fortunate than in his school days.

Nowadays Catholics were no longer subject to the serious disabilities, especially as in the case of those seeking a position in the world. The Government and governing bodies were slowly, but surely, nevertheless, beginning to realise that Catholic schools trained a more reliable youth, whose religion taught him to respect lawful authority. He had in mind some places in the North of England where whenever it was a question of filling an important position, the man trained in a Catholic school was preferred. He congratulated the masters and boys on their successful year, which, he thought, judging from the number of prizes, must indeed be a record one. In conclusion, Mr. Bishop recommended the boys to persevere in their efforts to do their best while at school, and keep up the high reputation which their school had earned for itself, that they might go on from success to success.

Mr. Bishop is the Deputy Supreme Knight of the Knights of St. Columba. He made, on behalf of this society, a very sporting offer, which will result in three money prizes to be awarded on prize day at the Salesian School next year. He also, in response to a deputation of the senior boys, and after consulting the rector, granted an extension of the Christmas vacation until January 21st.

IMPORTANT. — Will readers, who are kind enough to send offerings for Masses or for the Salesian Bulletin, please take care *that the letters containing the money are registered*. In the event of any letters going astray, as they are apt to do, we will then be in a position to trace the letter in question.



St. George's Institute, Woluwe St. Pierre Belgium. (For War Orphans).

The Orphanage of St George.

Brussels Belgium.

When the War descended upon Europe, Belgium was the first country to feel its merciless effects. The country became desolate, women and children gathering what possessions they could fled they knew not whither in a blind attempt to avoid the on-coming tide of disaster. At this crisis England opened her gates to the hapless refugees and received into her bosom the homeless and the afflicted. The Belgian Consul general at London at this period of his country's history was one M. Pollet. With him there was also his wife, a big-hearted woman whose heart was deeply moved at the sight of her fellow-country-

men's unmerited sufferings. Being unable to do anything for the men who were on the other side of the water dying in defence of their country she conceived the plan of "doing her bit" by helping those who would be the victims of the great war. She realised that the children, many of whom had lost or would lose both father and mother would be the longest sufferers of the scourge of the great war. Hence she entered into the immense field of christian charity and worked might and main for the orphans of the war.

A committee was formed at London. The consul general presided over it but it was due to the indefatigable efforts of his wife that the Belgian Orphan Fund

become so well known and so successful. Day after day she spent in correspondence for her cherished plan. And the result? Great Britain was not found wanting.

At last the war was finished. Belgium began to build on the ruins of her past. No effort was wanting to advance the prosperity of the quondam battlefield of



M. and Mme Pollet with the brother of Gabrielle Petit, the Belgian heroine.

The money came in not only from the British Isles but from the English Colonies of Canada Australia and New Zealand and also from the other English speaking nation, the United States. By this means there was collected the magnificent sum of 7,000,000 francs.

Europe. Consequently M. and Mme. Pollet thought of putting their plan into immediate execution. However almost all the money received was absorbed by the official work of the war orphans at Mont St. Hubert. The remainder of the money was destined to be put to a very excellent

use. At the suggestion of the late Cardinal Mercier it was decided to build an orphanage. An orphanage different in its scope from the others of the same in the country. Other institutions of this kind merely provided for the children up to the age of twelve. After that they had to fend for themselves if they wished to live. The orphanage which the Cardinal proposed was to be a professional school as well, at which not only the orphans of the war but other students as well might learn the means of livelihood. The patron chosen for this building was St. George in honour of England whose money had gone such a long way towards making the work possible. The new committee in Belgium decided to confide the work to the sons of Don Bosco, for professional schools were but a branch of their work, and a very successful one, as was evident from their three great schools at Liege Tournai and Verviers, quite apart from their work-shops in the Belgian Congo.

The foundation-stone was laid by Mgr Lagraive, delegated by Cardinal Mercier on the April 23rd 1923. The building when finished, will be capable of accommodating five hundred boys. Actually there are one hundred and seventy boys in possession. The accompanying picture shows the facade of the building which is completed. The interior and other parts of the building are in course of construction. The cost of the site made away with most of the money that was left after the institute at Mont St. Hubert had been helped. The expenses paid up to date are roughly three million francs. To bring the work to completion seven million francs will be needed. Great Britain and the other English-speaking parts of the globe responded magnificently when called upon. Can the Latin races be less generous? We commend this good work to the charity of our co-operators. "It is better to give than to receive" says the old proverb. The other photograph accompanying this brief sketch shows the consul general M. Pollet

and his wife Mme Pollet. The boy who is standing between them is brother of the Belgian heroine, Gabrielle Petit. The other boys are some of the occupants of the building. The photograph was taken at the entrance to the Orphanage. May God reward all those who help this deserving work and greet them with His own beautiful words "Because ye did it to these my little ones ye did it to Me".

The Second Crucifixion.

*Loud mockers in the roaring street
Say Christ is crucified again;
Twice pierced His gospel bearing feet,
Twice broken His great heart in vain.*

*I hear, and to myself I smile,
For Christ talks with me all the while.*

*No angel now to roll the stone
From off His unawaking sleep,
In vain shall Mary watch alone,
In vain the soldiers vigil keep.*

*Yet while th y deem my Lord is dead
My eyes are on His Shining Head.*

*Ah! never more shall Mary hear
That voice exceeding sweet and low
Within the garden calling clear:
Her Lord is gone and she must go.*

*Yet all the while my Lord I meet
In every London lane and street.*

*Poor Lazarus shall wait in vain
And Bartimaeus still go blind;
The healing hem shall ne'er again
Be touched by suffering human kind.*

*Yet all the while I see them rest,
The poor and outcast, on His breast.*

*No more unto the stubborn heart
With gentle knocking shall He plead,
No more the mystic pity start,
For Christ twice dead is dead indeed*

*So in the street I hear men say,
Yet Christ is with me all the day.*

(RICHARD LE GALLIENNE
(19th. century).)

SALESIAN SCHOOL PRIZE DAY

Bishop's Tribute to Salesian System of Education.

A large gathering of distinguished visitors and parents assembled at the Town Hall, Farnborough, on December 18th for the distribution of prizes and public examination certificates to the students of the Salesian School, Farnborough.

The Bishop of Portsmouth (Rt. Rev. Dr. Cotter) presided, and enhanced the joyfulness of the occasion. The large hall was packed to its utmost capacity, from five to six hundred people witnessing the proceedings.

The Bishop was supported by the Rector, the Very Rev. A. Sutherland, S. C., B. A., Dr. Bindloss, J. P. (chairman of the Farnborough Urban District Council and Mrs. Bindloss, Lady Holt, Rt. Rev. Monsignor Moloney, V. G., D. S. O., M. C., Monsignor Smith, D. S. O., the Prior of Farnborough Abbey and many other distinguished members of the clergy and laity.

The Bishop was received with tremendous cheers on entering the hall, and the programme opened with some really beautiful items from Gilbert and Sullivan by the orchestra, under the capable baton of Mr. Carbury. The school choir, conducted by Fr. Noonan, S. C., followed with some special selections, and then the Junior School, gave excellent recitations. The Seniors were responsible for scenes from Julius Caesar, in which the parts were well sustained.

"Excelsior."

The Prefect of Studies (Father O'Connor) in his report, said: "My Lord,—It is a pleasure to announce that the school has acted up nobly to the motto which you gave it last year. That motto is 'Excelsior—Still Higher!' As far as

material results go, the successes gained in the public examinations are a proof of this. The examination period begins towards the end of June and goes on till the last week of July. First and foremost comes the Religious Knowledge Examination. The Examiner's report for last year is as follows:

"The whole of the religious instruction is thoroughly good. The boys answered intelligently and there is ample evidence of hard and conscientious work on the part of the masters. A written test in apologetics was set to the Sixth Form and to the Upper Fifth, and the results were astonishingly good".

The Religious Knowledge Examination set the pace; and during the next few weeks hundreds of question papers and reams of foolscap were waded through with unflagging energy and undiminished zeal. The results were excellent. Altogether 137 boys were presented for the public examinations; of these 43 gained honours and 81 passed, and there were over 300 distinctions. Thus there were over 90 per cent. successes; that is nearly 10 per cent. higher than last year's result. These successes include six London Matriculation and Oxford School certificates, and 14 Oxford Junior Certificates. Successes were also gained in the Air Force Apprentice Examination, and at the Royal Academy of Music.

The Middle School and the Lower Forms have taken the motto 'Excelsior' in deadly earnest, and they have far surpassed last year's result. From the Upper and Lower Fourth Forms 56 boys were entered for public examinations; there were 31 honours and not a single failure.

In the playing fields the school has enhanced its reputation for sporting and

skilful play. Last season the football team played 17 matches, won 13, drew 2, lost 2; 110 goals were scored for the school and 41 against. The cricket eleven played 10 matches, won 7 and lost 3. Most of these games were played against teams of men, so that these results are particularly creditable.

Feelings of happiness and good-will

our distribution of prizes. For us masters and students the presence of our Bishop is the great event in the school year. His coming amongst us arouses intense enthusiasm, for we all know that in spite of many inconveniences, it is his great heart that prompts him to confer this special kindness upon us.

Each year his Lordship's inspiring



The Salesian School Farnborough.

permeate the school; the relations between masters and boys are cordial; discipline is excellent, and whilst the boys are as high-spirited as boys are expected to be no serious faults in conduct were noticed during the year. All, from the Sixth Form to the lowest, are imbued with that keenness in work and play which is the result of pride and love for the school".

The Rector's Speech.

Father Sutherland, at the end of the prize-giving, said:

"My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I rise with very great pleasure to express our deep gratitude to His Lordship the Bishop of Portsmouth for presiding at

words re-echo through many a weary month, urging both masters and boys to lofty and yet loftier ideals. And so today, in response to this truly helpful encouragement, we are able to place before him a year's hard work accomplished, and also what one might term a bouquet of well-earned successes (applause).

His Lordship's keen interest in education and his grasp of all educational problems are of great consolation to us, and the more so because this appreciation may possibly be wanting in some, who may not understand the difficult work done in the class-room or realise the great patience, restraint, perseverance, tact and concentration that are required on the part of the teacher. The teaching profession is one of great responsibility and it

may be truly said that after the hand that rocks the cradle the teacher exercises the greatest influence in moulding the national character (applause).

The great problem.

The great problem that faces almost every master is the management of the backward and wayward boy. The clever boy might almost be allowed to forage for himself. It is possible that a clever boy's brain power may be equal to, if it does not surpass that of, the master, and in such a case the boy would only lack the experience of the master and require only guidance in his studies and in the development of his character.

By a backward boy is not meant one who is mentally deficient, but a boy who, through no fault of his own, is not up to the average knowledge of boys of his own age. This may happen through a boy being kept away from school for some years through ill-health and other causes.

The wayward boy, on the other hand, is one who is full of life and given more to pleasure than to his studies, and lacks concentration. Sometimes he does not appreciate the efforts of his teachers in his regard, nor even the sacrifices which some parents have to make to keep their children at a secondary school.

I have put these three classes of boys before you in order to point out that *a school should not be judged—especially where there are large numbers—by the brilliant successes of a few clever students. The reputation of a teacher and of a school depends on the success of the backward and wayward boys* (applause).

One who confines his attention to a few clever boys is not a true educator. He debases a noble profession through not understanding its high ideals (hear, hear).

The Secret in Salesian Education.

The founder of the Salesians, the Ven. Don Bosco, took into consideration not only the clever boys, but he made the

teaching of the backward and wayward boys the basic principle of his whole educational system. Those who have read his life know what an extraordinary influence he exercised over these classes of boys. The secret, then, of a Salesian teaching is the bringing of the backward and wayward up to standard (applause).

We prefer to receive boys when they are young—between the ages of ten and twelve or even earlier—so that by receiving the full course of Salesian training they may be able to pass without much difficulty, at the age of sixteen or sixteen and a half, the London Matriculation or the Oxford Senior Local, and thus be able to enter the Universities and the various professions.

On the other hand when boys come to the school at the age of fourteen, without previously having studied mathematics or science, or the elements of a foreign language, it is difficult to bring them up to matriculation standard before the age of seventeen and a half. Parents should not be surprised, therefore, if it is necessary for these boys to remain a year or two longer at school.

This term seven boys are leaving the school, while, on the other hand there are thirty new boys coming after Christmas. This will bring our numbers practically up to 200. We shall have very few vacancies left, perhaps at the most eight or nine.

"Mens sana in corpore sano."

I wish now to turn to a more pleasant subject, namely, the health of the boys. I am glad to say that never has the health of the school been so good (applause). For the past four years—I would go further back and say for the last ten years—there has never been any outbreak of sickness in the school. This is indeed a special blessing from God. Farnborough is acknowledged on all sides to be most healthily situated amongst the renowned Hampshire health-giving pines.

We feel very grateful to Dr. Bindloss, for we are sure that his care and sympathetic manner are in a very large measure responsible for the extraordinary healthy condition of the school (hear, hear). As our doctor, we were all delighted to hear of his election as chairman of the Council, and we offer him our very hearty congratulations (hear, hear).

A recent loss.

In connection with the infirmary, I must express our deep regret at the departure of Fr. Gicquel, a French priest, who was among the first Salesians to come to Farnborough. He has returned to the French Salesian Province. He worked here unostentatiously for twenty-three years—certainly a record well worth mentioning. Besides his priestly work in the parishes around, one of Fr. Gicquel's principal duties was the care and supervision of the sick in the Infirmary, and to see the doctor's instructions carried out. We all know how faithfully and with what kindness he performed these duties. He felt very much leaving Farnborough and the many friends he had made here, but it was his desire to be nearer his mother in her old age. He left almost secretly, but we hope that he may re-visit the scenes of his good work, when we may be able to give him some tangible proof of the esteem in which he is held (applause).

On looking round the hall I see a very welcome visitor in the person of Mr. Collins, a former chairman of the Farnborough Council, and a very old friend of the school. I might mention that as a member of the Farnborough Council I served under Mr. Collins as chairman for three years during part of the war period. The responsibilities and the strain were too much for him and his serious breakdown in health at the end of the war did not come as a surprise. I am glad to see him here to-night with, I hope, renewed health and strength.

My Lord, I wish to express again our deep gratitude to you for so kindly coming here to-day at such great inconvenience.

The Bishop's Speech.

Prolonged and hearty cheers greeted his Lordship when he rose to reply. He denied that it was an inconvenience for him to come to the Salesian School, Farnborough; every other engagement was put aside; it was a very great pleasure for him to come, and the only inconvenience lay in his reluctant departure.

He offered his deepest and most cordial congratulations to the staff and boys on their brilliant successes in the public examinations. A record of 90 per cent. successes was gained by very few schools, and he thought the Salesian School ought to be very proud of it. So far as he could see, the wayward and the backward were not slow in coming forward. Those who had gained prizes were worthy of every praise; but those who were not so fortunate were not to be condemned; they had done their part, for it should be remembered that trophies would never be won if there were not some in the rear to push the others forward.

His Lordship then congratulated the orchestra, the choir and the actors on their splendid performances. It was gratifying to see that such a large number of the actors had received prizes from his hands.

As Bishop of Portsmouth, he was delighted to know that within his diocese there were such fine sportsmen. The exploits of the boys on the playing fields proved that the Salesian School could produce some very "hot stuff".

The satisfactory nature of the doctor's report was no small ground for pleasure and congratulation, since intellectual development depended in a very large measure upon physical fitness. The school was always noted for the healthy and splendid physique of its pupils. Whether it was the air of Farnborough or the

healthy appearance of the boys, or his close proximity to the school-doctor he felt all his ills disappear during his short stay; his cough had vanished, not a twinge was felt in his leg, which had been injured some months before. "Touch wood," said his Lordship proceeding to touch his chair, amidst laughter and applause.

He was a sincere admirer of the Salesian system of education; that system, he knew, was applicable to every branch of education. It was highly praised, at home and abroad, and the demand for Salesians exceeded the supply. The Irish Hierarchy had welcomed the Salesians with open arms, and already, in the Green Isle, there were two flourishing Agricultural Colleges. This was another testimony to the proficiency displayed by the sons of Don Bosco in every sphere of educational work. As for this school, in educational activity it was second to none in the country.

While they rejoiced at the completion of yet another successful scholastic year, this Christmas the "Allelujahs" of all Catholics should be re-doubled. A short time previously His Majesty the King had put his signature to the "Catholic Relief Bill". At long last, as time had proved, it was officially and constitutionally recognised that Catholics were as loyal and efficient citizens as the members of any other religious denomination (cheers).

He thanked all for the hearty and sincere welcome which he had received.

To celebrate the passing of the "Catholic Relief Bill", he would ask the Rector to grant an extension of the Christmas holidays (prolonged applause).

Boys "Too Healthy".

Dr. Bindloss, chairman of the local Council, the popular medical officer of the school, followed his Lordship. He said that from his point of view the boys were too healthy (laughter). Those joys

of doctors, epidemics, never happened at the Salesian School. He found among his patients in general a keen desire to return to work, but he had never yet met a Salesian boy in a hurry to return to his class from the Hermitage, the school infirmary (laughter). He thought it a pity, and he felt sure that the boys also thought so, that that delightful habitation, the Hermitage, should be so often lacking tenants. He thanked Fr. Sutherland for his kind remarks; and said that the only consolation he had for lack of work at the school was the happy spirits and the physical well-being of the boys. The doctor then called for three cheers for his Lordship, the Bishop, and these were given with a hearty good will.

Mr. Collins, a former chairman of the local Council for many years, followed Dr. Bindloss. Speaking with obvious emotion, he said that he felt very deeply Fr. Sutherland's kind words. Year after year he had attended the distribution of prizes; last year, however, illness had prevented his presence. He was deeply gratified to know that he had not been forgotten; and, for his part, his interest in the school had never abated. He felt sure that if the school maintained its present rate of progress, in a short time Farnborough would have a Salesian University (cheers).

The proceedings then terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

Take care that you often examine your heart as to whether it is such with regard to your neighbour as you would wish your neighbour's to be towards you.

ST. FRANCIS OF SALES.

God places greater store on fidelity in the little things which he puts in our power than on great ardour for great and difficult matters which do not depend on us.

ST. FRANCIS OF SALES.

THE SALESIAN WORLD

Farnborough.

In October last the Very Rev. A. Candela visited the Salesian School and received a very warm welcome from the Community and pupils. An Academy was given in his honour in which addresses were read in various languages, and Fr. Candela showed his



His Eminence, Cardinal Gamba.

versatility by responding in six of the languages. The boys were delighted and cheered to the echo.

It was unfortunate that this visit to England was of such short duration; had it lasted up to Christmas Don Candela would have had an opportunity of meeting

the Salesian Old Boys' Association of Farnborough who hold their annual re-union in the beginning of the New Year.

The S. O. B. A. F. has been in existence about ten years and now includes in its membership men of all professions. Among the past pupils of the School there are eight priests, twelve members of religious orders, thirty five students for the priest-hood, some thirty in various universities, a host of officers and ex-officers, two lawyers several auctioneers, a member of the British Optical Association, and several very successful farmers. Many of the former pupils are now scattered all over the world, and frequent correspondence is received from such places as far apart as India, S. Africa, Madeira, Canada, Australia, the United States, Central America, Egypt, Malta, not to mention the various countries of Europe. All the members of the S. O. B. A. F. are very loyal to their old school and from time to time contribute articles to the Salesian School Magazine. One of the greatest consolations the Salesian Fathers receive, is to hear from various sources how their past pupils are constantly giving a good example to their fellow Catholics and helping by their Salesian training to spread the glory of God and promote the good of His Church on earth.



Turin, Italy.

It has seemed good to the Holy See to honour the ancient capital of Savoy in the person of its Archbishop, by conferring on him the "Red Hat". Mgr Gamba was elevated to the sacred purple on the 21st of December

1926. A zealous pastor, a friend of youth, an indefatigable worker, the new cardinal is well fitted for this high honour. His work as priest and bishop is famous. His life is known to all as one of the most laborious and self-sacrificing possible. His keenest interest is however centred in the youth of the present day. He sees as clearly as any the vital importance of guiding the nervous energy of the young generation into a channel which will be able to serve as a life-long course. No dreamer of dreams this man. Practical to the core he uses every means in his power to encourage the various clubs for young men in Turin. His one aim is to save the next generation from inheriting the vices and loose morals generated by the chaotic upheaval of 1914-1918. God grant him success.

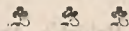
As a boy, his Eminence was under Our Venerable Founder for some time. Ever since, he has entertained a special affection for the Salesian Family but particularly for the Oratory at Valdocco. On January 9th of the current year he honoured the Congregation by performing his first ceremony of ordination as a Cardinal at the Salesian Theological Studentate at Turin.

On this occasion he administered orders to some hundred and sixty Clerics, Deacons, subdeacons and minor orders. After the service, following his usual custom he gave a short discourse on the work of the Congregation and its Founder. He spoke in glowing terms of Don Bosco and made the students realise more and more what an honour it was to belong to such a Congregation. He concluded by bestowing his blessing on all present.

May we take this opportunity of wishing his Eminence many years more to continue his good work for the youth of Italy. May he see the fruit of his energetic labours in the christian spirit of the rising generation. May his example lead many others to take up the work not only of moralising but also of christianizing the sceptical spirit of the present age.

Cape Town *Papal Honours for*
Sth Africa. *Salesian Co-operators.*

It is with great pleasure that we acquaint our readers of the high honour which the Holy Father has been pleased to bestow upon two Salesian Co-operators. The two people in question are Mr. Carroll who has been appointed Commander of St. Gregory the Great and Mrs Carroll who has received the decoration and diploma of *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*. The Commander and Madame have been zealous and generous helpers in every Catholic work. They have trained their children in the love of serving the needs of others. Their connection with the Salesians is of long standing. To their initiative and help much of the success of our Institute in Cape Town is due. They have been not only true Co-operators but also true Salesians. They have tried to be "all things to all men" and their success has been admitted by all sections of the South African community. This crowning of their work by the Holy Father comes as a fitting reward for all their self-sacrificing labour of the past. May we offer, together with our Confrères at the Cape, our heartiest congratulations to the new Commander and Madame Carroll. Ad plurimos Annos.



St. Patrick's, Malta. The Salesian School at Malta has enjoyed as far as the present writer can discern, some twenty-five years of existence. The pioneer of the work in Malta was the Rev. P. J. O' Grady now Superior of the Agricultural School at Warrenstown in Ireland. First Superior of St. Patrick's, this son of Don Bosco worked assiduously for the temporal and spiritual progress of the house confided to his care. To commemorate these years and as it were in token of their success, there stands in the school grounds at Malta a statue to Mary Help of Christians erected by the initiative of the Rev. T. J. Giltinan. S. C. This monument

serves a double purpose. The one already mentioned and the other, the signification of the statue itself, namely, the placing of the school under the patronage of the heavenly Mother. May She, from her throne above, benignly regard the modest monument here erected and in return for this external sign of honour shower down her choicest blessings on the house in which she is honoured as Patroness.

and a representative of His Excellency, the Governor, Gen: Sir Walter Congreve V. C. The blessing of the statues was performed by His Grace, the Archbishop, Dom Maurus Caruana. Commenting on the great pleasure he experienced in performing so pleasant and congenial a task, His Grace went on to say how great his admiration was and is for the work of the Rev: Fr. O' Grady. He had always



St Patrick's, Malta. Inauguration of the Statue to Mary, Help of Christians.

Concomitant with the erection of this statue, there was also erected another monument, to the servant of God, Dominic Savio. The purpose of this last mentioned is to put in tangible form and in a way to perpetuate the gratitude of the Malta House to its great benefactor Comm: Galea, Senator, who was instrumental in introducing the Salesians to Malta and who has ever since their arrival shown himself indefatigable in promoting their progress in every possible manner.

The unveiling of these monuments was carried out in the presence of the leading authorities of the island, both lay and ecclesiastic, including the Chief Justice,

followed with keen and personal interest the progress of St. Patrick's and the knowledge he had thus obtained of the character of the first Rector had filled him with admiration and had made him the personal friend of the same. He did not think it necessary to expatiate on the merits of the other person honoured on this occasion, Comm. Galea, since they were well-known throughout the length and breadth of the island. He then paid a special tribute to the kind thought which had inspired Fr. Giltman in erecting these two statues. Fr. Giltinan replying to the Bishop remarked on the great pleasure it was to them all to have him among them.

He went on to assure His Grace that he would convey to Fr. O' Grady, who was evidently in the impossibility of being present, and to Comm: Galea, who was too modest to put in an appearance, the warm tribute which had been paid them by so distinguished a man as was Dom Maurus Caruana.

mere monuments would be efficacious of much good in promoting devotion to Mary Help of Christians and to the Servant of God, Dominic Savio.

A great favour was then granted by the Archbishop. It was to the effect that each Hail Mary devoutly recited before this statue of Our Lady would be



The Statue commemorative of the work of the Very Rev. P. J. O'Grady, S. C.

V. Rev: Dom Segala, Provincial, in a few choice words spoke of the early years of the Congregation itself. How great was the gratitude of Don Bosco to all his co-operators. How great was his life-long devotion to the Help of Christians. He then drew upon the life of the Ven. Servant of God to illustrate these two points. Going further he pointed out how apt was the present ceremony. The two characteristics of the Founder of the Congregation were here reproduced in concrete form. One statue to the Help of Christians and the other to honour a co-operator. He concluded with the hope that these two statues far from being

endowed with one hundred days indulgence. This favour was much appreciated and goes to show how great is the admiration of the Archbishop for the Salesian work and also how zealous he is in promoting devotion to the Madonna of Don Bosco. The proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of an anthem composed for the occasion. The school band rendered in a pleasing and capable manner several pieces of music, which were well appreciated by all present.

We hope to be able, in the near future, to publish a full account of the Malta House and photographs including one of the statue of Dominic Savio herein mentioned.



A Visit to the Agricultural College of the Salesians at Copewood.

The Salesians, at a great financial sacrifice, secured Copewood, and the expenses were further augmented by the furnishing and necessary equipment which rendered it suitable as an educational establishment. Great importance is also given to commercial subjects, and this year, the students sat for the Public Examinations. But there, is also carried on a work which, perhaps, most of all is very dear to the Irish heart, namely, the maintenance and training of those who courageously give up their lives to the service of God. This noble work, upon which depends the good of Church and Society, is being carried on owing to the support which is given by those generous souls who admire the Salesians and their programme. Don Bosco relied greatly on such as these, whom he called "co-operators". He looked on them as an integral part of his congregation and obtained for them many extraordinary spiritual privileges and favours from the Holy See. It is consoling to know that already two of the first boys who entered the College, are now out in China preaching the Gospel to the Heathens, and more are going through their course of studies

preparatory to taking their place in the world-wide field of Salesian activities.

Surely such a work as this deserves support and encouragement! It is for this reason that the Salesians are calling on their co-operators to help them. It is for this reason now that they call on the multitude to swell the ranks of the co-operators.

Visitors favourably impressed.

At the kind invitation of the Rector, Father McConville, of Copewood Salesian College, members of the Co. Committee of Agriculture and staff visited the College. Amongst the visitors to the College were—Mr. J. McCormack, Chairman, Agricultural Committee; Mr. P. J. Sheahan, Architect; M. M. J. O'Leary, Agricultural Instructor; Mr. J. Malone, and Mr. J. J. Cleary, Horticultural Instructors and the members of the Agricultural Committee, Limerick.

Tour of Inspection.

The party were met by the Rector and made a tour of inspection of the grounds,

visited the farm yards and were much impressed at the renovations of milking barns, which had been carried out in most economical and up-to-date style. They were also impressed by the latest addition of a purebred dairy Shorthorn cow. This cow had been recently purchased at a high figure, and she is expected to lay the foundation of a famous herd at Copsewood. She has already won many first awards at premier shows. The famous young stock bull at the College, "Talbothall Pride", bred by J. M. Roche, Esq., Talbot Hall, New Ross, Co. Wexford, is winner also of several prizes. He was turned out in the pink of condition and very much impressed those present.

There is a large space suitably wired in for poultry. Here are kept, in separate pens, pure-bred White Leghorns, White Wyandottes, and Rhode Island Reds. The Rector is very anxious to have not less than 1,000 of these pure-bred poultry.

The party were next shown over the granary, where this season's crops of oats and wheat were stored. Grain had been grown on an extensive scale this past season, and had been saved in beautiful order. A sample of wheat which was much admired was Yeoman wheat, which is largely grown at the College.

The new building.

The visitors were next shown over the gardens and visited the new building. This building is constructed on the latest scientific engineering style. Its skeleton is of steel pillars and concrete blocks. The floor space is 85ft long and 35ft wide. The ground floor will have three class rooms, a very fine modern chemical laboratory, and student's dormitory to accommodate 65 students overhead. The building is absolutely fireproof having a reinforced concrete floor between the two stories. The roof is of steel and slates. It is a monument of engineering skill. Mr. P. J. Sheahan, Limerick, is the architect.

The visitors were afterwards entertained to luncheon, at which Rev. Father McConville presided.

Importance of the College.

Mr. J. McCormack, M. C. C., in thanking the Rector on behalf of Committee and staff for his kind invitation, said Limerick should be proud to have the Salesian Fathers select this College in Co. Limerick, and from what he had seen that day and on former occasions he was sure of the great benefit they would be in bringing about and maintaining the moral, material, and social uplifting of the young men who would be fortunate enough to pass through their hands. He also referred to the great advancement in farming methods and in the comfort of the students since his last visit, which proved that they were alive to every thing that had for its object the uplifting of the people generally. If Ireland, he said, was to hold her market with other scientifically trained countries she must call into use the aid of science, without which it will be impossible for her to advance. No matter what the past methods may have been, or may have done for farming the future for proper and economical farming must be scientific. The young men trained at Copsewood and such places were the ones who would eventually rule and have the destinies of the country in their hands.

The mould was excellent and they need have no fear as to what the finished article would be. He also referred to the great advancement the Shannon Scheme would mean in reference to the scientific side of farming.

Mr. M. B. O'Donnell, seconding, paid a glowing tribute to the work of Father McConville and the community at Copsewood for their interest in the advancement of education and agriculture, and emphasised the importance of rural science and the great part it will eventually take in the national school programme. This will mean that the students entering such colleges as Copsewood will have a more advanced knowledge of this subject and consequently will be able to take up a more advanced course. He also referred to the great boon to rural life such a course would prove.

The Rector's Reply.

Rev. Father McConville, replying, said it gave him and those associated with him in the college not only the greatest pride, but also the greatest encouragement for the future, to have as his guests that day the Agricultural Committee and their staff. The fact that they had the encourage-

the spiritual, moral, material and social uplifting of the people". The speaker emphasised the words "the people". Father McConville also mentioned the great interest the late Bishop, Dr. Hallinan, took in their Order, when he was a young curate, after his ordination in Rome, and said he would have become a member of their Order only his Bishop wrote that



"The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea" at Pallaskerry

ment of such progressive men would instill further in him the initiative for far greater efforts for the betterment of the community at large. "Our Colleges and our works", he went on, "are not merely national, they are international. In every explored country in the world we have our colleges and are performing our good works in all cases with the co-operation of the Governments of the country". He mentioned one small farm of theirs in Brazil of 12,000 acres! "We are," he said, "carrying out to the letter the words of the famous founder of our Order, the Venerable Don Bosco, who said our duties always will be, and our objects are,

he could not possibly spare or lose Dr. Hallinan from Limerick. "And you see", added Father McConville, "his Bishop was correct, for he could see that Dr. Hallinan would one day be Bishop himself" Their efforts were to develop agriculture scientifically, to train their students scientifically and make them better farmers and better Irishmen, to uplift them in body and mind and to have them to look upon farming not as a drudgery, but as a pleasure. "And remember", he said, "we have to make our farm self-supporting". He again thanked the visitors and assured them a hearty welcome at any time to Copsewood.

THE "HOUSE ON THE HILL"

The Salesians at Cowley, Oxford.

The Salesian Missionary House stands on a hill outside the city of Oxford and in the village of Cowley. Cowley itself is a flourishing village which derives importance and sustenance from the large Motor Works of Morris's which is there situated. It is not however with the industrial aspect of this place that I mean to deal but rather with its catholicity. The city of Oxford is visible from the summit of the hill only as a mass of magnificent spires. These landmarks of the various colleges and chapels stand out well, particularly on a summer's evening, when against the flaming sky of an Oxford sunset they take on an aspect of somewhat ethereal beauty. Oxford is indeed a city of the past rather than of the present. True all the modern conveniences are there—the motor, the bicycle, the theatres and picture palaces—but these do not attract so much attention as they do in the great industrial centres of the world. They are tolerated by the lover of Oxford, but they do not interest him. For him, Oxford is a city of varying aspect with the changing hours of every day. The time of the day most beautiful to behold is that when evening slowly verges into night. Then does Oxford rise out of a blue-grey mist and call up the associations of the past. The twentieth century with its bustle and feverish life recedes into the back ground and the stage is once again occupied by the shades of long-departed scholars: it is no difficult matter to imagine the monks of old with cowled head and sandalled feet, noislessly gliding along the sequestered cloisters. Their ghostly forms seem to pass before the mind as the compline bell slowly and clearly sends forth its evening summons to prayer. Catholic associations insist

upon the visitor to Oxford. To ignore the ancient catholicity of the city would be as if a man should look at a picture and fail to understand its meaning.

Littlemore.

Oxford is indeed redolent of pre-reformation England, that England which was designated the dowry of Mary and the island of Saints. Even today Oxford has many monuments of the ancient faith of the land.

However, past Cowley a short distance there lies the village of Littlemore. Far more unpretentious than its industrial neighbour Littlemore has associations for us Catholics which render it far more important in the historical view of the church. From the summit of the same hill from which we view Oxford but in an opposite direction, there can be seen a solitary spire raising its slenderness into the stillness and coolness of the night. It is the spire of the church in which Newman preached his last sermon in the Anglican persuasion. In the shadow of this church there stands a small house, almost, one might say, shed. This was the "monastery" of the great Cardinal and his followers. Here it was that they spent so many long hours battling with their strong prejudice against the Catholic church. Here it was that they brought all the keenness of their intellects to bear upon the Church's claim to be the one and only true church. Here it was that the child of faith "the Second Spring", which was destined to have such an influence on the religion of the day, was born. To this humble abode Newman by the power of his intellect and personality, attracted many of the keenest and best minds of his day: he influenced them not only by the intellectual appeal of his arguments

but more by his sincerity and solid piety. The end of the strugg'e is well-known to all our readers. The great man took his decisive step homewards, one might even say homewards, and was followed, and will be followed, by many brilliant men. Newman is the link which connects Oxford with Littlemore, and Littlemore is the

Salesians hence have become imbued with the spirit of these two places and live in the promise of the message left by Newman at Littlemore. However traditions of the House itself are not wanting. Centuries back, in the age of chivalry, and gallant knighthood "when the shattering trumpet shrilled high and the hard



Cowley. The Community, 1926-1927.

home of the "Second Spring". The Salesians of Cowley say Mass at Littlemore weekly and thus keep alive the catholic spirit infused into this old-world village by the master-mind of the Romeward movement of the end of the 19th century.

Cowley.

The Salesian Missionary House is thus situated between two places which have many catholic associations.

On the one hand the associations are old and on the other modern. The

brands shivered on the steel", there stood on the site of the present Salesian House a building of a sterner sort. Here it was that the Knights-Templars had their rigorous Preceptory, with its spacious manor-lands which stretched down the hillside to the distant meadows of Magdalen College. Such is the past, remote and proximate. The immediate history is worth recalling. It forms but a chapter in that romance of the faith which began with Newman. It is the chapter dealing with the "Faerie Queene" of the castle. The "Faerie Queene" being Mary, the

potent Help of Christians, the castle being the Missionary House and the places of the Knights of old being filled by the somewhat modern but nevertheless chivalrous body of men, called Salesians, after the most chivalrous and courteous of all Saints—Francis of Sales, Knight and Saint.

Seventeen years ago the House, now occupied by the Salesians, was a protestant college for young students of the "Establishment." Later still the pioneers of Catholicism in Cowley, the Capuchin Friars of St. Francis, occupied the same

is now a centre of catholic activities social and scholastic. The Gospel narrative of the grain of mustard seed is here seen in miniature. The initial community of Cowley consisted of twenty-five including priests, students and novices. These were the pioneers of the Salesian House and from them the work has so developed that the "mustard seed" is now a young tree which has five sturdy branches in the foliage of which many and various "fowl of the air" find welcome and rest. The work was started in poverty and continues in that state, but Divine Providence which



Cowley. The Studentate with University Section.

house. These holy men prepared the field for the Salesians and we are reaping what was sown by them. "There are more things wrought by prayer than this world dreams of" sang the poet, and truly the present catholic movement in Cowley is in no small measure due to the prayers of these Friars. In 1921 the Salesians took over the house. The great change which has been wrought in the few years of their occupation can only be realised by taking the most important of these changes and giving them a brief consideration. The old Protestant College

clothes the birds of the air, also has regard for those who trust in Him. Hence the five branches of the tree, namely the Novitiate, the Philosophical Studentate, the University Section, the Missionary College and the section for the training of the Sons of Mary "Late Vocations". About each of which we will say a few words.

The Novitiate.

In the old days at Burwash the need for a separate house for the novices was felt to

be grievous. However when the novices and students migrated to Cowley the need was not only grievous but absolutely imperative. The numbers of the novices increased yearly and as a necessary consequence so did the number of students. At the end of the field there stood the old Manor House and one time Vicarage. To secure



Newnan's 'Monastery'.

this was the object of the prayers of the community. At length Mary heard her clients and the ground was secured. To adapt this old building so as to render it suitable for a Novitiate was a task of no small moment. The contractors were called in and in a short time the alterations and additions were completed. The initial labour was done by the community. Stables and walls were demolished so that the builders had only to build. The erection of this house on the hillside was a historic event in Cowley. There are still present some who were employed in the demolishing of the old building and their pride in the new building is great enough to influence one with the belief that they built the new one too. This latter fact is true in the sense that their prayers were the means of obtaining the money for this achievement.

The Studentate.

The novitiate is the "house down the hill" or at the bottom of the field, for it is situated half-way up what we will designate for convenience "Cowley Hill". On the top of the hill stands the studentate. Not being an architectural critic I will

make no attempt to describe it. The main thing as far as I can see is that it fulfills its purpose, that is, it is a studentate. Learning progresses under the patronage of the gentle St. Francis of Sales. Up to the present over fifty clerics have completed their philosophical studies and early Salesian training at this house and now have migrated to do good work among the boys of our various schools in England, Ireland, South Africa and Malta. The present community numbers some eighty members. The old community, you will recall, was twenty five. This increase is due in its entirety to the benevolent protection of the Patroness of the Congregation, Mary Help of Christians.

The University Section.

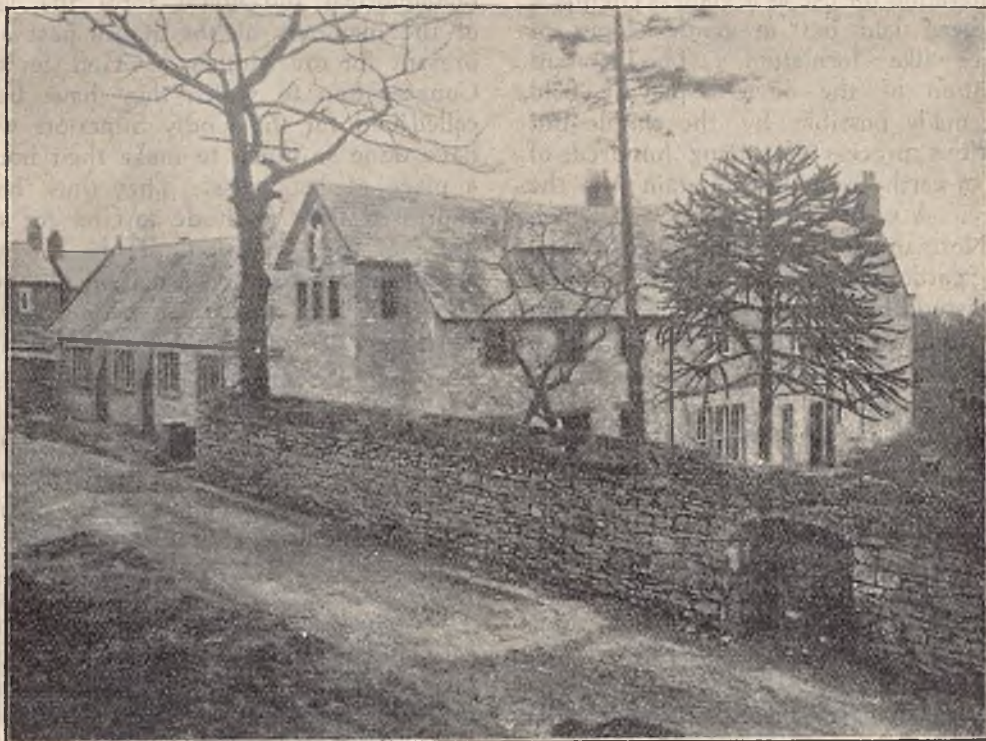
The new educational scheme of England, and the further progress of the same scheme, made it imperative that the Society should be furnished with degreed members. Consequently since the Oxford authorities allow no young men to live in unapproved houses it was necessary for the house to be approved. It was found that an extension of the Studentate would be necessary to meet the requirements of the Oxford authorities. This was put in hand under the personal encouragement of His Eminence, Cardinal Bourne, a great patron of and co-operator in the Salesian work. Up to the present two members have graduated from Oxford and in the coming year it is expected that several others will follow this good example.

The Missionary Section.

The need for English speaking Missionaries is one that is felt in every quarter of the Salesian Missions. English is almost the universal language of commerce and as such has its importance in every clime of the earth. Hence one of the main objects of the Cowley House was to satisfy this long-felt need. Students from this

house are working today in South Africa, South America, China and India. This year two have gone to Assam in the N. E. of India. The need is still felt. Many and many a mission is crying out for an English speaking member. The conversion of England can be most effectively advanced by sending out Missioners to

demand. The work of late vocations is by no means novel. Don Bosco commenced this work in Turin seventy years ago and to it he owed and still owes many of his most zealous members. In England the work of Fr. Lester at Osterley is sufficiently well known to need no comment. Suffice it to say that it was from the Salesians



The Novitiate, Cowley, Oxford.

the uttermost bounds of the earth. God will not let the native land of these brave adventurers, who abandon their country to his guidance, remain for long in the privation of the light of the catholic faith. He will multiply vocations for the sake of these self-sacrificing Missionaries.

Training Section — Late Vocations.

Two years ago, owing to the increasing and constant stream of applications of young men, for admission to the aspirantship of the Salesian Society, it was determined to undertake the section for meeting this

that this zealous priest received the first encouragement in the work of late vocations. This work of late vocations is almost the complement of the need for missioners. Nearly all the present aspirants have applied "for service abroad" in the Missions even before they have been admitted to the membership of the Salesian Society.

"The old order changeth".

It was in a retrospective mood that I stood and visualised the condition of the site of the Salesian House in 1921 and

compared it with what it is in 1927. Truly a wonderful change has taken place! Places which I remember merely as "rubbish dumps", the natural sordidness of which was variegated by the presence of multifarious meat tins, have been converted into velvet lawns; "the field"—by courtesy—which would have needed no alteration for use as a giant switchback has been laid out in gentle slopes of terrace-like formation. The present condition of the novices' playing field was made possible by the simple but laborious process of carting hundreds of tons of earth from the mountain into the valley. A wall now stands, a wall which our Norman ancestors would have viewed with pardonable pride, where formerly there stood but an irregular line of stones interlaced with gaping apertures to admit marauders of every species human and otherwise. Gardening from the prosaic to the poetic, from cabbage growing to flower cultivation, has been undertaken and carried to a high degree of success. The artistic aspect of the grounds has been wonderfully improved. Out of a grey design of stone work and rustic tracery there rises the slim figure of a really beautiful statue of "the Boy Christ". He is gazing with chin well set at the Calvary, fifty yards ahead.....the suggestion is obvious.

The Salesian House could not be without its statue to the Mother of God. Her statue regal, yet tender stands, above a flowering rockery on the lawn, facing the house. Down in the Novices' domain there is a smaller statue that of the Madonna of Lourdes, in a grotto which is a miniature of the famous shrine. Much more has been done but these are the features which struck me after an absence of seven years. It will no doubt strike you as it struck me that these works must have taken up a great deal of time. I consulted the time-table of the students and novices and found that the bulk of their time is occupied by their studies and spiritual exercises. I began to wonder

how they had found time for these great works. Their Rector soon enlightened me. These works were adopted as a recreation. A change of occupation—in fact as hobbies. They worked well, for it is no novel idea that love is the best overseer that ever had charge of workers. These works express in concrete, metaphorical and literal, form the love of the members of the house past and present for the Mother of God, for the Congregation to which they have been called and for the kindly Superiors who have done so much to make their house a place of happiness. They thus have expressed their gratitude to God for the grace of their vocation. Truly He will accept the offer and reward it in His own good time and in His own may. *Servire et Regnare*. Service is the truest kingship.

It is a far greater virtue to eat what is put before us and in the order in which it is presented, whether it be to our taste or not, than to choose the worst dish on the table.

ST. FRANCIS OF SALES.

We should be jealous of our good name, but not idolise it: and as we would not offend the eyes of good men, neither must we wish to please those who are bad. The beard is an ornament to men and long hair to women: if it is all plucked out by the root, it will scarcely grow again, but if it be only cut or shaven, it will soon grow again and be yet stronger and thicker than before: and so if our reputation be cut or even closely shaved by the sharp edge of slander (which David compares to a sharp razor), we need not be disquieted, it will soon rise again, both more lovely than before and more substantial. But if we lose our reputation by our vices, our meanness, or our evil deeds, the root is plucked up and we shall hardly ever recover it. The root of good reputation is goodness and probity, and whilst this root remains in us the honour due to it will ever spring up anew.

ST. FRANCIS OF SALES.



An Old Boy's note book

The Winter Re-Union.

New Year's Day. My thoughts were certainly "*far from the land*". I was, in the common expression, 'wool-gathering'. My dinner had been good and I was sitting pondering, as most of us are apt to do at this time, on the past and now and then on the future. The present was not, for the time being. My reverie was however broken by the advent of a friend I had not seen for some years. His arrival changed the tenor of my thoughts and gradually we got to discussing reunions. He, it happened, was an Old Boy of Farnborough while I was of Battersea. He remarked that the Farnborough Reunion was to be on February 6th. On my part I seized the opportunity of inviting him to come to the Battersea Reunion which was billed for the 9th. He consented and after discussing the changes which time and money had effected on the world we parted for the night and agreed to meet on the morning of the 9th.

To tell the truth I was somewhat perturbed when the 9th. did arrive in case the number attending the re-union should not be up to expectations. My fears however proved groundless. Since the war the numbers had been steadily increasing but this year, much to my gratification, the record so far was reached. There were present more than one hundred and forty past pupils among them being members of almost every decade of the school's history. They had eagerly responded to the invitation of Very Rev.

M. H. Mc Carthy S. C. Rector of the School and President of the Association.

The Football Match. — From as long as I can remember these functions, and that is some years back, the afternoon of the Reunion Day has been devoted to a football match between the Past and the Present. Of course the Past have usually had the better of these encounters but the games have usually proved fast and clean. This year was no exception to the general rule. The past added yet another victory to their list but the score was low, due chiefly to the enterprising and vigorous play of the defence of the present. The Old Boys showed evident traces of the benefits of the formation of their football club. The Present were unfortunate in as much as the game took place while the boys were on holiday. Still the spectators were far more numerous than in days of yore. In the Spartan days there were few spectators beyond the present boys. "*But now the times have altered*" and distinguished visitors on Prize-Day show their admiration for the hard work performed by the boys by having the holidays extended an extra week. In my time... but I must forego my reminiscences.

The General Meeting.

The match over, the players refreshed themselves by imbibing large quantities of tea to prepare against the general meeting. Before this great event, however, we were invited to attend Benediction

in the School Chapel. The ministers and servers, on this occasion, were all Battersea Old Boys... a fitting and pleasing sight. In memory I travelled back along the years to the days when as a boy I tried to sing those same *Tantum Ergos*. In fond memory I recalled the benefits that had accrued to me from my Salesian education. Sad also were my thoughts of those of my fellow-students who had been called away by the Lord of All. Some on the battle field, some by disease, they have preceded me to the realms above where I hope they remember their companions of other days.

The General Meeting was held in the studies near the playground commonly known as the Lower-Forms. This assembly, enthusiastic and cheerful, as it is, might aptly be designated the "Old Boys' Parliament" (except for the fact that the members are polite to one another). The Speaker on the occasion was Mr. Bernard Mc. Court well-known to old boys as an old boy and to recent boys as a master. The business of electing the new officers for the year was put through resulting in the reappointment of Bro Vincent as Secretary and the election of Fr. Smith, Messrs D. Dempsey, J. Kenny, G. Grosse, C. Julliard and T. Clancy as active committee. Fr. Smith, the energetic secretary of the Old Boys' F. C. gave a brief account of the progress of that venture. The Old Boys are second in their league section and hope to be first. The success of the club is in no small measure due to the excellent spirit prevailing among the players... that same spirit which has won and will win so many games for the old school.

Programme for 1927.

A new departure which I recorded in my last notes was the contemplation of a spiritual retreat for the Old Boys to be held at the School during August Bank Holiday time. Hence the first and most important item on this year's programme is really,

A call to prayer.

Aptly comes this measure at the present day. The feverish search for happiness, the ephemeral enjoyments of the present day, the glamour of the world, have all contrived to rob man of his spiritual sense. "With desolation is all the land made desolate because there is none that considereth in his heart". The root of all the evil—the lack of introspection. Hence the Salesians as vigilant as of old of the true welfare of their pupils have put forward this measure as a remedy for some of the evils afflicting us and our loved ones at the present day. The reverend President then offers to all a hearty welcome for the few days apart. The days fixed are from Friday evening July 29th to Monday August 1st. It is to be hoped that a goodly number will avail themselves of this inestimable boon. The value of these days cannot be over-estimated. The world is seated in wickedness and the people sit down to eat and to drink and rise up to play. No thought of God or eternity. I hope then that this splendored offer will be accepted by many. The individual cost is little, a mere ten shillings. Any other incidental expenses will be paid by the Association.

A Re-union en passant.

The above sub-title appositely defines the second important event in this year's programme. It has been mooted before but was at this meeting proposed for consideration the possibility of arranging in the summer a tour of the Salesian Houses in the north of England and in Ireland. The Superiors and confrères of these houses are nearly all in some way connected with Battersea and will welcome the opportunity of seeing some of their old friends once again. The estimated cost is twelve pounds per head. This is by no means too great considering that three houses widely apart will be visited, namely, Bolton in Lancashire,

Warrenstown in northern Ireland and Pallaskenry further south at Limerick. If this trip were of no other avail but to renew many of "the friendships made in youth at boyhood's home" it would be well worth the money. But beyond this it will give us the chance to see the other parts of the British Isles, and the Salesian work which was inaugurated at Battersea spreading and flourishing and becoming so many centres for the christianization of the people.

The Re-union dinner.

The dinner was served at seven o'clock. The Very Rev. President presided and was supported by W. S. Bishop, J. P. Deputy Supreme Knight of St. Columba and G. Graham D'Arcy, past president of the London circle of the Catenian Association. Many other distinguished guests were present, some having travelled far to be able to renew their attachment to the School and the Association. The President proposed the loyalest of toasts "*The Pope and the King*". This was accorded musical honours and was followed by that of the Old Boys' Association proposed by W. S. Bishop. In a neat speech Mr. Bishop congratulated the Association on the progress made since the war. Recalling to mind the recent statistics the speaker pointed out that progress in all things Catholic was noticeable since the devastating upheaval of 1914-1918. He went on to say that the practising catholics of England were in the ascendancy and could not only bear comparison with, but show better figures than the practising numbers of the Church of England. The time had past when Catholics hid themselves. The time had come to show themselves, to take active parts in the social and municipal life of the great cities, to show that they were of the same stock as the men who gave their lives for their faith. The time had come when the catholic was a man to be looked up to, a man who was not afraid

of his religion, a man who in the midst of the pagan tendency of the present day, has the courage to say that he, at least, owes a duty to his God and that that duty will be performed at the cost of any sacrifice. The chief means of keeping catholics together as one body was the formation or preservation of Catholic clubs or Associations. In this regard the Salesian Old Boys' Association was well to the fore. The Salesian Old Boys concluded the speaker, had every reason to be proud of their Association and of the School that made such a thing possible.

Bro Vincent then outlined the work performed up to date. The result was indeed gratifying, nevertheless the future was still a little obscure. The Association was still in its infancy and great care and trouble was still necessary if it was to become a sturdy child and healthy man. The chief means, said the Secretary, of achieving this much desired end was to imitate the example of such men as Mr. Bishop and Mr. D'Arcy, both of whom were such brilliant members of their respective bodies. No effort should be spared to make the Association increase during the current year. Its influence could be immense but naturally this influence would be in proportion to its importance and size. The duty of each and every member was to lend his aid at any time to promote the welfare of the Association but particularly by so ruling his life towards his fellow men that it would become easy to point out a Salesian Old Boy. All success to the Association. May 1927 see it well on the way to permanency and success.

The Visitors.

Very Rev. M. H. Mc. Carthy in proposing "*The Visitors*" said that the members of the S. O. B. A. greatly appreciated the honour of having two such distinguished laymen as Mr. Bishop and Mr. D'Arcy at their annual function. The reverend speaker went on to say that the present

flourishing condition of the Association was in no small measure due to the indefatigable efforts of the Rev. Secretary, Bro Vincent. It had been remarked, falsely, that the S. O. B. A. died during the war, but this was rather hyperbolic. The S. O. B. A. slept indeed but death had not fallen upon it. The infancy stage was still on the venture so we were told, but the number of the old boys present testified significantly to the lustiness of the infant. It had to be taken into consideration that many of the past pupils were in foreign lands and were in the impossibility of being present. Commenting on the troubled state of religion in England at the present time, Fr. McCarthy, pointed out that the guests of honour were men who had done and would do much for the catholic cause. He would advise the Old Boys to take a leaf out of the book of the Knights of St. Columba and the Catenians in the matter of developing their own organisation. He exhorted them to be a shining example of the Catholic faith and be ready at any time to help in the conversion of England in union with those two great catholic bodies of which there were present two illustrious members.

Mr. G. Graham d'Arcy responded to the toast, and in course of an interesting speech full of anecdotes and records of personal experience, he said it was over 50 years since the Salesian Society, founded by the Venerable Don Bosco, gained the approval of the church. During that period the growth of the society was so extensive that in South America, Italy, Spain, in fact in almost every country, there were Salesian Schools for the training and education of boys. Old Boys could help the Salesians by making their work known. Mr. d'Arcy closed by urging them to remember their old school, and whatever they might do or whatever they might be, to hold on to their faith with courage and conviction.

Mr. Bernard McCourt submitted the next toast, "The School". He said every

old boy was indebted to the school. He thanked Father McCarthy and proposed a vote of thanks to the Procurator Father Cressey and the Reverend Mother Superior and her good nuns, upon whom had fallen the heavy task of catering for the large assembly. As a small token of their regard the old boys were making these good sisters a present, which he would ask Brother Vincent to give them.

The "School Song" was sung with enthusiasm.

Father Couche, replying for the school, thanked Mr. McCourt who knew the school both as a pupil and as a master. In both capacities he made many sincere friends, and it was to their great regret that he left them. They were all proud of the Old Boys' Association. A gathering such as they had there that night would do credit to any Catholic college.

The Old Boys were helping to make the name of the Salesian School known far and wide. The other day, at St. Thomas's Hospital, when one of the doctors inquired about the Salesian School, an old boy, Dr. Byrne-Quinn, was at hand to tell him all about it. Father Couche congratulated the football team. The school song ended with a sentiment the old boys have never forgotten—"And may thy sons hereafter bring honour to thy name". Battersea Salesian Old Boys had brought honour and credit to their school.

Fr. McCarthy then read a telegram from the headquarters of the Salesian Old Boys' Association in Italy wishing the re-union every success. Commenting upon this fraternal act Father McCarthy explained that their gathering was quite small compared with the confederation of Salesian Old Boys abroad especially in Italy, Spain, and South America.

The day's festivities were concluded by a smoking concert which was enjoyed by all present.

"The day is done" once again have I renewed my boyhood's days. Once again have I visited these well known and

beloved paths. Once again have I been able to greet my old companions and teachers. Once again have I been able to give my thanks to God for the grace of a Salesian education. Life is very weary sometimes. The years fly by as one approaches the fiftieth year. The compensations are few but potent and this reunion one of the most heartening of all. The will to act, the power to carry on, the grace to persevere are inspired by these re-unions of the past and present states of existence.

"And whilst we thus should make our sorrow= one,

This happy harmony would make them none".

A. F. G.

Study to be neat, and let nothing about you be slovenly or disorderly. It is an affront to those with whom you associate to be unsuitably dressed, but avoid all conceits, vanities, finery and affectation. Adhere as far as possible to modesty and simplicity, which doubtless are the best ornaments of beauty and the best atonement for its deficiency. St. Peter admonishes women not to adorn themselves with plaiting the hair (I St. Peter III 3.) and putting on of apparel, and such follies in men are purely disgusting. We are apt to suppose that vain women are but weak in virtue, at any rate it is smothered in their finery. They excuse themselves, saying they see no harm; but I say, that the devil rejoices in such things. I would have my spiritual children always suitably attired but without show or affectation. Theirs should be the incorruptible ornament of a meek and quiet spirit (I Peter III, 4). St. Louis summed up all in saying that everyone should dress according to his station, so that wise men may not say you are too fine nor the young that you are too homely. But if the latter are not content with what is suitable, you must adhere to the counsel of the wise.

ST. FRANCIS OF SALES.

LEST WE FORGET

Salesian Cooperators who, after having been to confession and communion, visit any church or public chapel, as also those, who living in community, visit their private chapel, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father, can gain—:

A Plenary Indulgence.

Every month—

- 1) On any one day in the month at their choice.
- 2) On the day on which they make the Exercises for a Happy Death.
- 3) On the day on which they assist at a Salesian Cooperators' meeting.

On each of the following days—

April 8th	Seven Dolours of Our Lady.
April 10th	Palm Sunday.
April 17th	Easter Sunday.
May 3rd	Finding of the Holy Cross
May 8th	Apparition of St. Michael
May 17th	Anniversary of the coronation of Mary Help of Christians (Turin 1903).
May 24th	Mary, Help of Christians.
May 26th	The Ascension.
June 5th	Whit Sunday.
June 12th	Trinity Sunday.
June 16th	Corpus Christi.
June 24th	Nativity of John the Baptist.

It is also worth remembrance.

That, on the sole condition of being in the state of grace the Cooperators, who, in the midst of their daily work, unite their hearts to God by a short ejaculation, can gain each day—:

- 1) For any one of these ejaculations a plenary indulgence. The choice of the particular ejaculation is left to each one's discretion.
- 2) For each of the others 400 days indulgence each time.

NB. - Those Cooperators who, on account of sickness, cannot go to visit a church can gain the above indulgences by reciting at home, Five Our Fathers, Five Hail Marys, and Five Glory be to the Fathers, according to the intentions of the Holy Father.



DEVOTION TO OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

*"Men say that loving thee I dim
The glory of Thy Son Divine,
But otherwise I learn of Him,
And call thee His, and find thee mine."*

Mother of Sorrows - Help of Christians.

At the beginning of his Apostolate Don Bosco was beset with many difficulties. His friends deserted him. His means of livelihood was taken away. He became as it were a pariah among men. His projects were treated, not only with scorn, but as the fantastic offspring of a fevered intellect. Time after time his Oratory was, to put it mildly, "moved on". He was not wanted. His boys were "ragamuffins" and as such could do no good. They were expected to do harm and if people saw them doing good the immediate conclusion was that they were actuated by an evil motive. And this continued. Wherein then lay the secret of Don Bosco's patience and perseverance. In the trust he reposed in the Mother of Sorrows whom he invoked under the title of Help of Christians. Being conversant with the history of the church he knew that Mary had had more than her share of trials. She had suffered and wept and hence was the best refuge for a sufferer, for it is an acknowledged fact that those who have suffered are the only ones who can give real solid consolation. Hence with confidence Don Bosco appealed to her protection and was not left unconsolated. This then was the secret of Don Bosco's success and herein we too will find the way to real success not only in this life which lasts but a moment but in that other life which will last throughout the aeons of eternity.

This then is our present state—an expectancy of trials together with the strength to bear them. "The sorrows

of this life are not to be compared with the glory to come". Some narrow-minded people take sorrow as an evil. It is only an evil when it is borne without hope. Thus to tell a man suffering from incurable cancer that sickness cannot be the will of God (as the Anglican Bishop of St. Albans is eager to assure us) will bring him to a state bordering upon despair. What consolation can he get out of this saying? None at all. But if, on the contrary, he is able to refer his sufferings to the Providence of God and bear them in view of a reward immeasurably greater than his present pain, surely his sufferings, if not actually alleviated, will at least be morally bearable?

In the life of man, suffering plays a great and important part. The Jews of old attributed all bodily or mental infirmities either to personal sin or parental misdoings. Thus we find them interrogating the Saviour of Mankind "Master who hath sinned this man (i. e. a man born blind) or his parents?" and in memorable words the Christ replied "Neither this man sinned nor his parents but that the works of God should be made manifest in him". Oh glorious words pregnant with hope for the afflicted! This man hath not sinned, no indeed, suffering is not always the result of sin but the instrument by which the Almighty renders man fit for his celestial home. Sin never for an instant touched Our Blessed Lady yet we find Her admirably designated as the Mother of Sorrows. Turning to us She says in accents tender and appeal-



"Attend all ye who pass by, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow".

ing "Attend, all ye who pass by, and see if there be any sorrow, like unto my sorrow" No indeed, dear mother, never before or since has mother been called upon to endure what you must have endured during the lifetime of your beloved Son and especially during the time of His agonising Passion. And this suffering of yours inspires us with confidence. For consolation is best given by one who has endured and who has endured more than you? Hence it is that the title of Help of Christians is most appealing. In this vale of tears suffering is our lot and being human we need consolation. Hence we can turn to Mary and invoke her aid confident that she will understand and help us in our trials. "Mother behold thy Son". The legacy of the dying Christ to the human race, the thing He held dearest on earth, His Mother. Surely we will not hesitate to avail ourselves of this gift?

"Consoler of the afflicted, pray for us",—in admirable juxtaposition in the litany there comes the invocation "Help of Christians pray for us". The two invocations are one. The Christians is

necessarily an afflicted one in some way or another but only "so that the works of God may be made manifest in him". Mary then is our model. Let us strive to imitate her admirable resignation to the will of God in the midst of sufferings, the like of which have been inflicted on no other creature either before or since, just as the great privilege of sinlessness has been bestowed on no other creature. Let us suffer for a while confident that the reward will far outweigh the discomfort, provided we bear up in the right spirit. Let us view suffering not as a necessary evil but as a part of that plan of the universe of which we know so little. Our puny intellect cannot grasp the whole plan, we know, but let us not display our imbecility by condemning what we do not understand. Let us rather admit our shortcomings and view suffering (which may naturally appear to us as unnecessary and evil) as a part of that greater plan the perfection of which we will realise only when we have "shuffled off this mortal coil" and with unbiased minds can view things in their proper light.

GRACES AND FAVOURS

SHANGHAI (*China*). — Many thanks to Our Lady Help of Christians for benefits received after promise of publication in the *Bulletin*. May all who call upon Her be as beneficently answered as I have been.
H. D. F.

CO WEXFORD (*Ireland*). — Enclosed please find a small offering in grateful thanksgiving to Mary Help of Christians and Don Bosco for a long desired favour received after prayer to the Mother of God.
A humble client.

DUBLIN (*Ireland*). — In all my difficulties and trials I have had recourse to the Help of Christians and have never been left unconsolated. My family have also received many blessings for which to thank the intercession of Our Lady. Gladly do I fulfill my promise of publication and hope that the clients of this powerful Patroness will increase daily.
S. M.

OBITUARY

Death of the Rev. Canon Davidson.

No death within recent years—in the Roman Catholic community—has occasioned the widespread, deep, and sincere sorrow that was manifested at the passing of the Rev. Canon William Davidson, Rector of St. Mary's, Paisley. For close on a quarter of a century Canon Davidson had ministered to his flock as parish priest in the west-end of the town, and it would be impossible to estimate the full extent of his zealous and faithful labours during that period.

By his death there is removed one who did much to foster the Catholic faith, and one who will be remembered for his many estimable qualities in which his fine Christian spirit and kindly personality predominated, and the excellence of his work will live after him.

The late Canon and the Salesians.

The church at Paisley here mentioned is dedicated to Mary Help of Christians. The late Canon being a zealous co-operator was consequently aware that the Blessed Virgin, under this august title, is Patroness of the Salesian Congregation. Hence was it that for many years a Salesian from London was invited yearly to preach a special sermon on May 24th the patronal feast of the Church. For many years the late Fr Kelly of Battersea discharged this pleasant task. We recommend to our co-operators the soul of the late Canon Davidson confident that by their prayers he will be received into the realms of bliss by Her to whom he showed such tender devotion while still amongst us.

Our Co-operators and Readers are asked to pray for the eternal repose of the souls of the following Salesian Brethren and Co-operators who have died recently.

- Very Rev. M. Canon Shinkwin P. P. V. E.
Cork (*Ireland*).
Rt. Rev. Mgr. M. Mc Manus P. P., *Dublin*
(*Ireland*).
Very Rev. Canon Hawkins, *Derbyshire*
(*England*).
Rev. W. Coen P. P. *Co Mayo* (*Ireland*).
Rev. A. Ma Dos Santos, *Kobe* (*Japan*).
Rev. H. Conway P. P., *Co Mayo* (*Ireland*).
Rev. A. D. Granger, *Kankakee* (*S. U.*
America).
Rev. J. Heaney P. P., *Co Galway* (*Ireland*).
Rev. G. A. Rainville, *Mass* (*U. S. A.*).
Rev. R. Barry, *Lancashire* (*England*).
Mr. J. Jordan, *Co Sligo* (*Ireland*).
Mr. D. Coakley, *Co Cork* (*Ireland*).
Mr. C. Ryan, *Limerick* (*Ireland*).
Mrs. M. Denis, *Co Cork* (*Ireland*).
Mrs. J. Twomey, *Co Cork* (*Ireland*).
Mrs. Clarke, *Hants* (*England*).
Mrs. E. Mc. Atamney *Co Derry* (*Ireland*).



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VOLUMEN SEXTUM: *De Ordine et de Matrimonio.*

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THE SALESIAN BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE SALESIAN FATHERS: VIA COTTOLENGO, 32 - TURIN 109 (ITALY)

Volume XIX.

MARCH-APRIL 1927

Number 2.