

The seed left by our forefathers in the heart of devout Spain, and which by persecution and suppression had remained dormant for so many years, is now fructifying with a much more impetuous growth since it was so long restrained. However, it is not only in Catholic Spain that we are progressing.

In Holland our province of the Netherlands has opened a new monastery at Osch. A large body of religious resides there now, to the great joy of a good and sincere Catholic population.

In Bavaria two new foundations are under way, one in Mainberg and the other in Absberg.

Even in Prussia, from which our fathers were expelled during the *Kulturkampf*, negotiations have been opened with the view of establishing a house in the diocese of Paderborn.

In Austrian-Poland our province has recovered the convent of Tremblovia.

The province of Malta has opened a monastery overlooking the beautiful bay of St. Julian in the fashionable watering-place of the island.

Even in our own unfortunate Italy, which at one time counted its Carmelite convents by the hundreds, even here, in the midst of the sad conditions which seem to preclude all idea of a speedy resurrection of contemplative religious life, we can rejoice in indications of a steady and healthy progress.

In Montecatini we have actually regained possession of our ancient convent, suppressed as far back as the last century by Leopold I, Grand Duke of Tuscany. A goodly number of students for the province of Florence are there now.

New cloisters have been opened in Palermo, in Torre S. Susanna, in Nardo, in Scrottaglie (Apulia) in the neighborhood of Naples, and we are just coming into possession of a house in the city of Nocera Umbra, which is to serve as a college. And we hope to be able to open our

new house in Rome before the end of the year. It will be open to our students of philosophy and theology from all the provinces throughout the world.

Thus, in spite of these calamitous times, our holy Order is steadily advancing, to the great joy and consolation of all lovers of Carmel. But I must not forget our Third Order which is flourishing everywhere in Europe, especially in Spain, in Ireland and in Malta. In this latter island, although restricted to its own narrow limits, the Third Order has such a strong hold upon the faithful that there is hardly a distinguished family on the island which has not some member in the Third Order.

It will please you and those among your readers who have visited our magnificent mother church in Rome, St. Maria in Transpontina, to hear that our present General has undertaken its complete restoration and decoration in harmony with its splendid architecture. The work is to be completed in time for the great annual celebration of the 16th of July. Of course, all this entails labors and sacrifices, but so much the more pleasing our success will appear to all those who share our sentiments with regard to Mount Carmel.

In a future letter I shall give you some details about a holy sister of our Order, Blessed Joanna, of Toulouse, who is, as we hope, shortly to be beatified by the Holy See.

ANASTASIUS M. RONCI, O.C.C.  
Rome, Feb. 1st, 1893.

### THE SCAPULAR AS A PROTECTION.

BY MRS. M. A. SADLIER.

For the Carmelite Review.

THE gray twilight was fading into night one summer evening of last year when the writer heard in the pro-cathedral of this, our ancient City of Mary, a beautiful and touching sermon, in the language of old France, on devotion to the holy Scapular. It was one of a series of valuable instruc-