OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

forsook all to follow Him and asked where He lived, Jesus answered : "The foxes have their lairs, and the birds their nests, but the Son of man has not wherewith to lay His head. This Jesus so full of mercy whose own, according to St. John, refused to receive, who was rudely repulsed by the Bethlemites, who went through Galilee and Judea like a poor traveller, who lodged in the house of Lazarus and eat with sinners, who mysteriously fed the great crowd assembled to hear Him in the desert—is now the Host of the Tabernacle.

He knows that man is a traveller on earth, that his journey is long and weary and full of danger, that often he has not wherewith to strengthen his body or comfort his soul, and knowing this, He, merciful and tender as of yore has raised His little tent in the immense desert of life.

This same Jesus who overcome by the weariness of the journey and the burden of the day, sought rest and refreshment near Jacob's well, now, from His mystical tent watches the traveller who goes by and dispenses rest and refreshment to those who heed His loving invitation to enter and partake of a food that imparts new vigour. Oh !' hearken to His voice ! How sweet and consoling it is ! "Come to Me, you who labour, you whom the burden of life presses sorely ;" Come and I will give you new strength and courage. "Trust Me I will not forsake you or fail you." "Do not fear to take upon you my spiritual yoke," He whispers tenderly to the faint-hearted, the wavering, the suffering, the afflicted, the despondent: "You will see that I am meek and humble of heart and you will find peace for your soul."

Poor souls, devoured herebelow by the thirst of divine justice, of love, of truth, of justice, of eternal beauty; poor souls that nothing earthly satisfies, that drink and still thirst, that eat and still hunger; poor souls tormented by sensuality and an insatiable desire of happiness, listen to His invitation. Come and He will give you water to quench that ardent thirst, mysterious bread to appease that hunger forever.

Trusting His tender love and infinite mercy let us go to Him and in all confidence implore with the Jews enamoured of His heavenly doctrine : "Lord give us always of this bread."

185