

months of the other, and his brothers and sisters were left orphans on his hands. It thus became necessary for him to quit the Seminary to assume the guardianship of the little ones entrusted to his care; and though he longed for that day to come when he would be consecrated a minister of the Most High, though it cost a bitter pang to quit the peaceful home of his choice and once more take his place in the busy world, yet he accepted the trial and blessed the Hand of God for sending it.

God was silently directing all. The experience forced upon him in directing the affairs of his natural family may have proven of value in the control of that spiritual family he was destined one day to give the church.

The delay in his studies was of short duration and in due course of time he graduated from the Seminary with the highest degrees it could bestow, and was consecrated priest. It would take too long, good reader, to give a thorough notion of the saintly life led by the young priest in the prime of his life and the early enjoyment of his high ecclesiastical dignities. He was a profound scholar, an able doctor in the church well versed in the most intricated questions of theology, and as a pulpit orator he threatened to rival some of the ablest men of France.

*(To be continued.)*



The still form of a little boy lay in a coffin surrounded by mourning friends. A mason came into the room and asked to see the lovely face. « You wonder why I care so much, » he said, as the tears ran down his cheeks, « but your boy was a messenger of God to me. One time I was coming down by a long ladder from a very high roof, and found your little boy close behind me when I reached the ground. He looked up in my face with a childish wonder and asked frankly, 'Weren't you afraid of falling when you were up so high?' And before I had time to answer, he said, 'Ah, I know why you were not afraid. You had said your prayers this morning before you went to work.' I had not prayed, but I never forgot to pray from that time to this, and by God's blessing, I never will. »