

head, causing her to appear not unlike an animated caduceus. Such is said to be the origin of this strange looking cap. So far as is known to the writer there are no nuns of this order in Canada.

Details of Vincent's other works would require volumes ; their number almost exceeds belief ; the Hotel Dieu and Foundling Hospital at Paris ; Hospital for old men and Hospital for Galley Slaves at Marseilles may be named among the most important ; all his establishments were under excellent discipline, and abundantly furnished with everything necessary. During the war in Lorraine, when that territory was ravaged by Austrian, French, Swedish and Spanish troops, and a scene of horror presented, exceeding, if we may believe an eye-witness, the calamities which befell Jerusalem when besieged by Titus, Vincent caused to be distributed among the sufferers, as was ascertained by a calculation made soon after his death, a sum considerably exceeding £100,000 sterling, and he did the same on other similar occasions. We may well wonder that so many and so great things should have been effected by one man, destitute as Vincent was of all advantages of birth or fortune, and without any of those shining qualities which usually draw admiration and esteem. Anne of Austria, mother of Louis XIV., and Regent of France during the minority of her son, established what was called a "Council of Conscience" for the regulation of ecclesiastical affairs. This Council was composed of the famous Cardinal Mazarin, Seguier, Charton and Vincent. The latter was named president, and filled that office for ten years. Flechier, Bishop of Nismes, in one of his letters says that the high renown of the French clergy during the reign of Louis XIV. was owing to Vincent. The last years of his life were years of constant physical suffering ; nevertheless he guided the affairs of his congregation, with its many missions, and the various works of piety, of which he had always been the moving spirit. Unassisted, he conducted a large correspondence ; sent confidential agents to places where he himself could not go, maintained a strict watch over his own household, and