

companions two distinguished Oblates very well known to many readers of THE OWL. These venerable priests are Rev. Father Paillier, O.M.I. of the University, and Rev. Father Tortel, O. M. I. of Lowell, Massachusetts. At the scholasticate, Rev. Brother Soullier's practical and deeply rooted piety, joined with talents the most brilliant, soon won him the love and confidence of his superiors. On the twenty-fifth of May, 1850, he was promoted to the priesthood, a favor for which his zealous heart had long and ardently yearned.

Having now reached the goal of his holy ambition, it was not long before Father Soullier gained renown in his new sphere of action. His remarkable administrative abilities marked him out as well suited for even the most difficult positions of trust in his Congregation. It is greatly owing to his Superior tact, prudence and unflinching firmness at this period that Lorraine can boast its magnificent sanctuary called Our Lady of Sion. About the time of Father Soullier's ordination this holy shrine was administered by three unworthy priests who had become infected with a pernicious heresy. Allured by the specious covering given to the new doctrine, nearly the whole neighboring population had blindly followed their unsubmitive pastors on the way of error. This lamentable state of affairs grieved very sorely the holy Bishop of Nancy, in whose diocese the violated sanctuary was situated. He requested the Superior General of the Oblates to send him some zealous missionaries, suited to take charge of the Shrine, and capable of leading back again to the true fold the wandering members of his flock. His Lordship's desire

was soon acceded to, and Rev. Father Soullier was chosen to accompany Rev. Father Conrard on that difficult and even dangerous mission. Upon arriving at the scene of action, the two Fathers soon discovered that they had to contend with overwhelming difficulties. They had to hire a small house in the neighborhood, because the heretical priests had possession of the presbytery. Such open hostility was encountered on every side that the food necessary for their sustenance could hardly be procured. For some time two scanty meals a day was all the indulgence they could afford. They persevered courageously however, and finally succeeded in triumphing over the combined forces of error and obstinacy. The shrine of Our Lady of Sion, which is still in charge of the Oblates, is now the glory of Lorraine and one of the most popular sanctuaries in Catholic France.

Rev. Father Soullier was also, for some time, Superior of the Oblate house in Nancy, and, during many years, Pro-director of the Holy Family Nuns. This latter charge was one of considerable importance, and Father Soullier performed with undeniable ability the onerous duties it imposed. Under his able direction the Sisterhood of the Holy Family advanced rapidly in prosperity.

In the year 1867, Father Soullier was raised by election to the dignity of Assistant General, and for twenty six years afterward, was first Counselor and most active helper of Very Rev. Father Fabre in the general administration of the Oblate Order. In this important position there rested upon his shoulders a vast responsibility, especially during Father Fabre's long and painful illness.