

WORK IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

THE RESULTS OF FATHER DAMIEN'S WORK FOR LEPERS.

Though the remains of Father Damien, the Lepor Priest, have rested for more than eleven years under the puka tree in the cemetery, surrounded by so many of his spiritual children, yet his example has not been forgotten, and on that sad island of Molokai other devoted apostolic workers are carrying on his labors among the sorely afflicted lepers. The settlement is much in the shape of a triangle, two sides of which are bounded by the ocean, while the base is formed by the "pale" or precipitous volcanic cliffs, more than 2,000 feet high. Here the path communicating with the other parts of Molokai is so steep that independently of the very stringently-enforced prohibition, few of the lepers could have the strength to climb to the top of the ascent. In the settlement there are now the Baldwin Home for men and boys, and the Bishop's Home for girls; the former founded by Senator Henry Baldwin, is under the special supervision of Brother Joseph Dutton and his assistants from the Damien Institute; the latter under the care of the devoted Franciscan nuns, who have made it, indeed, a very real home to many helpless girls and women struck down by leprosy. The Baldwin Home, which is not far from the church built by Father Damien, stands in an enclosure of two acres and a half. The dormitories, schoolhouse, laboratories, and bathrooms are on three sides, and the fourth side is the residence of the infirmarian Brothers. The grounds are very well kept, and a fine lawn surrounds a rocky and fountain. As occupation is good for the lepers, they are employed, as far as their malady will permit, in various household duties, as well as in other little industries. Brother Joseph Dutton's old military habits have been of great use since he was appointed head of the Home, where the utmost order and cleanliness reign. "We are told he would not accept any money for his labors from the Hawaiian Government, and that he has changed into a garden the bare and rocky ground around and inside the Baldwin Home. The kitchen garden, under the care of Brother Van Lil, was most successful, and it produces abundant vegetables for the Home. Brother Dominic, from the English branch of the Damien Institute, was over the tailoring department; where his boys made their clothes, for which the Government paid them a small sum, which was devoted to the purchase of little additions to the Government rations. The boys, who have their own band, which, indeed, was first established by Father Damien, who displayed wonderful ingenuity in making some of the instruments. Now they have a fine set, presented by a benefactor, and the band is a great source of pleasure to the music-loving Hawaiian lepers. The inmates of the Home are as contented and as happy as they can be under their affliction, and the children are cheerful and much attached to the kind Brothers, who do all they possibly can to alleviate suffering. Besides, the Baldwin Home, the hospital and dispensary, the resident physician's house, and other buildings belonging to Government are also at Kalawao, the village where many lepers reside. Though supported with the greatest generosity, and every care bestowed on them, still few of these poor people live very long; though of late years, owing to admission in an early stage, and the more improved methods of treating the disease, the death-rate has diminished among the Molokai lepers. The Bishop's Home for girls and women at Kalanpapa is kept with the same scrupulous cleanliness and order as the Baldwin Home by the good Franciscan Sisters. It seems to come to them naturally, as it were, this devotion to the lepers as part of their spiritual inheritance from their great Father, St. Francis of Assisi, who was ever zealous in his attempt to relieve the poor lepers, who in his days were treated like pariahs. As we have said before, the excellent Sisters volunteered readily for the Molokai Mission when the call came to their convent at Syracuse, in the State of New York. At Honolulu these nuns have their schools and the charge of the Kapiolani Home, on the island of Oahu until the eighteenth year, when they are given their liberty if quite free from all taint of leprosy. As it is, there have been very few cases among these children. A similar Home is much needed for non-leprosy boys, in order to give them a chance of escaping the malady. At Molokai the Sisters' service is invaluable, and besides their chapel they have a schoolhouse and the fourteen roomy cottages which form the Bishop's Home, near which is the fine granite monument erected to Father Damien's memory by the English people. Before we go further, we must tell our readers about this chapel we have just mentioned. It is a pretty Gothic edifice, built for the Sisters by a wealthy Honolulu citizen to testify

his admiration of the humble nuns who have devoted their lives to the lepers. But although it does belong to the Sisters for their own use, they have established here a regular service of adoration for the women and girls who are anxious to honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus by their prayers and acts of homage, in reparation for the ingratitude of men. These poor sufferers also derive from this service of love a greater resignation under their heavy cross, and are the better able to pray for their benefactors. Ever since the opening of this chapel there has been every day a regular guard of honor from eight o'clock in the morning till six at night; the leper girls and women constantly relieve each other. During their hour they are wrapped in a large red cloak. What a consoling spectacle. What a complete change from the horrors of that life which these unfortunate people led before dear Father Damien came among them. (Damien Institute Magazine.) In the Bishop's Home the Sisters do all that lies in their power to make life less unbearable to their afflicted charges, even teaching music to the girls and showing them how to play with their crippled fingers, which is a great pleasure to these very musical islanders. When the semi-annual visit is paid by members of the Board of Health a concert is given in the large hall of the Bishop's Home that is a real source of enjoyment to the lepers. The grounds are very neatly kept, and also the leper village of Kalanpapa, with storehouses and other buildings all in excellent condition. In 1895 Father Damien's brother, Father Pamphile Devener, left Europe with the Vicar Apostolic of the Sandwich Islands, Mgr. Roper, and a number of other missionaries, and four Sisters for Honolulu. Then Father Pamphile and four Brothers of the Order were escorted by the Bishop of Molokai, where a warm reception awaited them all, especially Father Pamphile, brother of much-beloved Father Damien. Thirty-two years had elapsed since the day when illness having prostrated him, his place as Missionary to the Sandwich Islands had been taken by his younger brother. Now no longer young, he quietly and humbly, at the call of his superiors, started for Molokai to continue his dead brother's labors among the lepers. It was a great change in the life of a learned and studious man in his sixtieth year, to put aside the books and studies among which had been passed the best years of his existence, but a true religious, he never hesitated in obeying the call, merely telling his friends that it was his duty to obey, and that he was departing with the desire to do all the good he could to the poor lepers. Father Pamphile had the advantage of being more learned than Father Damien. He knew Hebrew, Greek and Latin; spoke English extremely well, and also some other modern languages, and with his facility for acquiring languages, he was not long at Molokai before he was able to preach in the Kanaka tongue to his people. So far has been the result of Father Damien's work on the island of Molokai, showing to the world the great charity of the Catholic Church, who never has the least difficulty in finding among her children zealous apostolic laborers, only too willing to bring the blessings of our holy religion to their most afflicted brethren. In Europe, while great meetings are being held and statues erected, and speeches made, and newspaper articles written in honor of Father Damien, the Catholic Church, by means of a former colleague of the holy priest, commemorated him in her own silent and practical, and, one might say, almost obscure fashion, by the erection at Aerschot, near his native village, of an apostolic school now known as the Damien Institute, where boys are trained for the Missions. It was begun in great poverty, and simplicity, and there were many to prophesy its failure, but, like the grain of mustard seed, and under the protection of St. Joseph it threw in a very quiet, unobtrusive manner, and now there are six branches of the Institute comprising four apostolic schools, with 220 pupils, if not more, and two novitiates. There is also a schoolhouse at the central house at Louvain, and in England a branch has been established since 1894, which is doing good work in training apostolic students, though it has to struggle with poverty and other difficulties in its efforts to second the other houses of the Institute that is answering the appeal uttered by the noble missionary whose name it bears, "Induce others to come and join us in the work, but train them for a Missionary life."—Irish Catholic.

SLEEPLESSNESS—When the nerves are unstrung and the whole body given up to wretchedness, when the mind is filled with gloom and dismal forebodings, the result of derangement of the digestive organs, sleeplessness comes to add to the distress. If only the subject could sleep, there would be relief for a while and temporary relief. Paracel's Vegetable Pills will not only induce sleep, but will act so beneficially that the subject will wake refreshed and restored to happiness.

SECULAR APPRECIATION.

The Hamilton Herald on the Good Work Done by the Sisters.

The Great Father of all alone knows the sorrow of an orphan's lot. "Ah, for the happy days of childhood!" sigh those who have been protected by parental arms in babyhood days. It is a happy dream to them. How different for the fatherless! No tragedies in life are so real, so great, as the childish sorrows of those who, unsupported by the experience of themselves or others, know not of the healing power of time. No work is so blessed as that of caring for the otherwise uncared-for children. This is the work of the good Sisters of St. Joseph. Their headquarters are on Park Street north, adjoining St. Joseph's Convent. Here, in an airy, cheerful building, surrounded by delightful playgrounds, is the home of over one hundred friendless little ones. Here a visitor from the Herald found the children yesterday afternoon, their radiant, happy faces reflecting the sweet, placid countenance of the sisters. "From where did you collect such a bright, pretty lot of children?" would be your first exclamation of astonishment. Mother Antoinette led the way into the nursery first. Here are the tots, too small for school. Here are indeed some even in the cradle. From that they ranged to three and four years. One was a half-breed babe, rescued at Owen Sound. "Edna; Margaret!" called the mother superior. Two little girls toddled forth, proffering their hands shyly to the visitor. "Kiss a baby," lisped they. The visitor was puzzled, and tried hard to find what the little ones meant. The sister in charge wasn't so dull. "You may," she smiled to them. They caught each other gleefully and went through a pretty dance as they sang, "If a Body Meet a Body." "We can do something, too," echoed a chorus from the other children. In their childish way they sang as they went through a pretty calisthenic exercise. Next, the older girls in the school-room were visited. They sang and performed a graceful calisthenic exercise, too. But they have more serious work, also. In graded classes they are given all the advantages of any other school. Into still another branch of the work the way was shown. Little two-year-old Mona was on the stairway, busy with her childish broom. "I'm not through," she cried warningly at the visitors, just for the world-like a housewife, who wards off intruders that would track through her unfinished sweeping. After making peace with her, admission was gained to a room where the older girls were busy with thimble and needle on some aprons and other sewing. "There's not one of them but could prepare a dinner," explained the Mother Superior, proudly. Up into the dormitory, with its snowy little cuts, down through the dining-rooms with their shining tables and along into the well-furnished kitchen, with its big range, the visitor was taken. Everything was delightful, clean, and well ordered. On the north is the chapel where the little ones lip their prayers, and are told of the Great Father, the Father of the Fatherless. Bright and early at half-past six the children are called from their beds. Prayers follow, and afterwards breakfast. Then comes the work of the day in school. Dinner is set at half-past eleven, and supper at five. The youngest are tucked away for their slumbers then, and everybody is in child's dreamland by eight. Just as soon as they are fitted, they are farmed out into good homes. Many a prosperous man, many a happy, bustling wife has been cared for in this institution since it was started in 1852, soon after Hamilton had attained the dignity of a city. Two young ladies are now in the Toronto hospitals fitting themselves for nurses. Only the other day the sisters were surprised by a visit from a wealthy farmer of Caladonia who had spent his boyhood days there. The first superior was Mother Martha. Her place is now well filled by Mother Antoinette, who is in charge of the girls, and Mother Irene, who looks after the boys. For some years the boys have been cared for in the House of Providence, Dundas. Until that can be rebuilt, they are being cared for here. They are fed at the orphanage, and housed in rooms adjoining St. Mary's Hall. Just now, they are being taught in the separate schools. The Herald prints to-day a front view of the Orphanage, with pictures of Bishop Farrell, in whose time the institution was founded, and the present bishop, Right Rev. Dr. Dowling. Mother Superior Antoinette kindly wrote the following interesting history of the Orphanage for the Herald; The Sisters of St. Joseph came to Hamilton from Toronto in 1852. The first community consisted of only three sisters. Their first undertaking

was the establishment of St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, adjoining the convent on the corner of Macnaab and Cannon streets. The duties devolving on them were many, yet their courage and zeal were equal to every emergency. Their expectations were more than realized, and in a short time they were obliged to solicit additional help from Toronto, and two more sisters were sent to assist them. The first festival in aid of the asylum was held in 1853 in the Town Hall, and was well patronized by all classes of citizens. Among the most liberal benefactors of the institution at that time were; D. Murphy, L. Devany, R. Chervier, P. Chervier, W. Harris, K. Fitzpatrick, and D. Smith. These gentlemen were always ready to render active services for the progress of the good work, and were mainly instrumental each year in making the festival a success. Sir Allan MacNaab and his family at Dundurn were also kind benefactors. The orphans had free access to the beautiful grounds, where they enjoyed their occasional little picnics. It was through the influence of Sir Allan MacNaab that the first Government grant, amounting to \$900, was given to the orphanage in 1856. During the five years that had elapsed since the foundation of the community in Hamilton, its members had increased to such an extent that it was found necessary to make provision for a more commodious dwelling. Accordingly, with what could be spared after the maintenance of the community and the orphans, together with the amount realized from collections through the city at different times, the sisters found themselves in possession of a moderate sum with which to begin, and a suitable lot on Park St. was purchased. At the laying of the corner-stone, by Right Rev. Dr. Farrell, there were present many of the benefactors of the institution. Among them were the daughters of Sir Allan MacNaab, his sister-in-law, Mrs. Sophie MacNaab, Mrs. Wm. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. D. Smith. Much kindness to the orphans was bestowed by the ladies of St. Mary's congregation, especially Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Logan, Mrs. D. Stewart and Mrs. Harris. Since the establishment of the Orphan Asylum, in 1852, many children had been admitted. The number at the beginning of 1859 was 63. Some of those were adopted by good families, and others who were old enough were provided with suitable employment. The number of orphans continued to increase; consequently it was necessary to provide further accommodation. For the purpose a roughcast house near by was purchased and moved onto the present site, in rear of St. Joseph's Convent. After some alterations and necessary repairs, it was ready for the reception of the little ones. At the beginning of the year 1862, the children in the orphanage numbered 100. The citizens of Hamilton continued their liberality to the institution. Their generous donations, together with the annual government grant and the proceeds of the festival, enables the sisters to provide comfortable maintenance for the many orphans committed to their care; but, as yet, they had not all the accommodation necessary for sleeping and sitting rooms. But, with the continued and increased assistance of kind benefactors, these wants were soon supplied. As early as the year 1854, the sisters began their annual collecting tours through the diocese for the support of the orphans. This is an annual work of the sisters, and one which, especially during the winter season, is attended with much hardship. Dr. Martin J. O'Dea, for many years gave his medical attendance gratuitously to the institution. Messrs. J. F. Egan, G. M. Barton, Dundas; T. Filgiano and family, N. Fower, and the members of St. Mary's choir always interested themselves in making the orphans' annual festival a success. The first grant, amounting to \$200, from the City Council, was given to the Orphanage in 1868. Improvements followed quickly after this. A spacious recreation ground has been provided for the unfortunate boys and girls. The coffin was still locked and sealed; after the arrival of the governor the document drawn up in 1890, at the last exposition, was read, and the highest representatives of the ecclesiastical and secular authority together opened the coffin. To judge from the description which I had read and heard about the condition of the body at the time of

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At a recent great Eucharistic Congress in Goa, Ceylon, there were present nearly the whole Roman Catholic hierarchy of India, including the Patriarch of Goa, the archbishops of Bombay and Verapoly, eleven bishops, and three Syrian bishops of the Malabar rite. The ceremonies relating to the body of St. Francis Xavier, which had not been exposed since 1890, were interesting, the devotion to the saint's body bearing some resemblance to that shown by the primitive Christians to St. Paul.—Acts. xix, 12. Says the London Tablet;—All the prelates prepared about 10 a.m. to the assembly of Dom Jesu, to which, by the direction of the patriarch, the coffin in which the precious relics rest had pre-

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