

St.-Radegundes' tomb prepared for the Holy Sacrifice. I hastened to vest myself in the priestly robes and deemed myself fortunate in being able to celebrate the first mass of our pilgrimage within this holy sanctuary, close to the venerable remains of that illustrious Queen of France who had laid down her earthly crown in order to gain and beautify a heavenly one, I also deemed myself fortunate in being able to pray for those dear to me, in this holy spot where the soul feels penetrated *through and through with the fervor which is inspired* in it, and whence the voice of supplication seems to rise straight to God's throne, thence to bring down the most abundant blessings. Before remounting to the nave I admired the marble tomb in which St.-Radegundes reposes, the very one in which she was laid after her death. Innumerable tapers burn before this monument, bearing witness to the marvels wrought by the powerful intercession of the Saint. In the upper nave, on the Epistle side, there is a niche let into the wall, where there is a stone or slab surmounted by two statues which represent Our Saviour's apparition to St.-Radegundes. This stone belonged to a former chapel and is called "*le Pas de Dieu*" (God's Foot-print). According to an authentic tradition, there can be distinguished the print of a human, or rather of a divine foot, since it was Jesus Christ Himself who trod this stone which is now so justly venerated and of which we may well say as of the mountain of the Ascension. *Adorabimus cum in loco ubi steterunt pedes ejus*: "We will adore Him in the place where He hath set His foot."

At ten o'clock the High Mass was sung and the Bishop of Poitiers preached the Saint's panegyric. In the interval before Vespers, a great number of pilgrims directed their steps in the direction of Notre Dame des Dunes (Our Lady of the Dunes or Sands) on the other shore of the river Clain. To arrive there, they had to mount several flights of steps leading to the reading and recreation-rooms of the Patronage, an