

Editorial Notes.

The Wonders of St. Theresa's Heart.

On the day preceding the Feast of the Most Pure Heart of Mary, the Carmelites commemorate the Transverberation of the Heart of St. Theresa of Jesus. At Alba de Tormes in Spain. In the monastery where St. Theresa died, her holy heart has been venerated during the past three centuries. It is preserved in a crystal urn, through which may be plainly seen the wound made by the seraph when he transpierced her heart with a flaming dart. Many wonderful things have been noticed at different periods in connection with this holy heart. At times the glass of the reliquary broke, without any apparent cause, and thorns were discovered growing out of the heart. Transverberation is the name we call the wound in the heart of St. Theresa, both because the Church in her liturgy uses this word, and also because we find it the most suitable expression. In her biography the saint tells us of the angel whom she saw before her, and how he held in his hand the long spear of gold at the point of which there seemed to be a little fire. The angel appeared to be thrusting the spear into the heart of the saint, causing her excessive pain and joy. The pain was great, but of a spiritual kind. This suffering was—to quote St. Theresa's words: "A caressing of love so sweet between the soul and God, that I pray God in His goodness to make him experience it who may think I am lying." God, indeed, has chosen the human heart as the principal field of the operations of His grace. Wishing to give men a sensible proof of His action upon the hearts of some saints, He has made

these hearts after death the scene of marvels apparent to the senses. There is no doubt that if God's grace wrought wonders in St. Theresa, her heart was the scene of these wonders. The fire of charity consumed her living heart for sixty-seven years, and it may be piously believed that the phenomenon of this organ after death is a testimony of the flame of ardent love existing therein even before the seraph pierced it with his fiery dart.

The Boston Carmel.

The new Carmelite monastery in Boston has lately been opened to public inspection and, like the Niagara Hospice, what is much admired are the beautiful windows picturing the saints of our Order. Among the many windows, one, to which it is in season to refer this month, is that of St. Albert holding in his arms the Infant Jesus, a marvellous favor accorded the saint. St. Albert was born of noble parents at Trepani, in Sicily. He was consecrated before his birth to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and when very young entered her Order at Messina, where he was distinguished for his great devotion to the Blessed Virgin and his angelic purity. After a life full of virtues and extraordinary miracles, he died near Messina, August 7, 1306. At his funeral two angels appeared to all who were present in the church and intoned the Mass, "Os Justi" of Confessors, instead of the Requiem about to be chanted. The use of water blessed with a relic of the saint, for the cure of the sick, and particularly in cases of fever, is well established in the Order of Carmel, and is justified by innumerable miracles, which continue to the present