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more insidious promise of emolu- with large stones), some in leveling ment and bigh reward-all were in- a hill on which Siemaszko intended effectual with these devoted and to erect a palace. During the sumheroic Pules. There are a few instances, of perished by various accidents, all of course, of people and prelates who which could have been prevented forsook their loyalty. These rene- by the heartless superintendents. In

HELP.

Words of sympathy, deeds of truth,

fast fall.

warm,

deep-

keep.

Hearts that melt where the tears

These are a part of the golden truth;

A kind good will is a help to all.

Duty is cold, though the heart be

Life is a flame, and the soul lies

A purpose to bloom when the spring.

Or a sword, that leaps to the sound

Dark ! and the dew falls soft on the

Day ! and the sun creeps down to

Health and strength in the rolling

So we help each other by hope and

The time will come to do and

If the lowly helper say, as he must,

Ob, patient toiler, rise and live !

Nuns in Siberia.

If Czar Nicholas is sincere in his

ed for their faith is as inspiring as

-Charles W. Stevenson

A feeling, like love, that awaits its

time comes l

of rhyme.

the seed.

flood

trust.

give-

bud.

less and cruel than the Russians nuns died under the knout. News themselves. The following story of of these infamies had reached the the treatment of the nuns of Minek ears of a Polish lady, wife of a geneby an apostate bishop, is but one in- ral in command of the garrison at stance of thousands that occurred Pollock, and through her influence during six centuries of barbarous the scourgings ceased. Siemszsko, persecutions. however, resolved on a terribe re-

maszko, the apostate Bishop of krout stopped.

Minek, especially distinguished himself in a series of brutalities that al- Siemaszko's attemp:: "He ordered most surpass belief. At the time of all the men to outrage us in the the apoetacy of Siemaszko nearly all most infamous manner, promising the Catholic convents of the Domin- the grade of protopope to all who ion belonged to the Basilian Order consummate the crime. Terrible and one of the most flourishing was thought-it was a true hell. The that of Minsk, in Lithuanis. Under aid which was received from our the direction of their Superior, Mc- Divine Spouse enraged them; they ther Makrens, they employed them- tore us with their nails, they bit us, selves in the instruction of children and the poison was inundated with and the relief of the poor of the our blood. Two of our Sisters were town of Minsk. Siemaszko knew trampled to death, eight had their of the love which the town held for eves torn out and their faces otherthese good nuns and he determined wise mutilated. Finally the monto gain their apostacy at any cost. sters fatigued (and foiled) retired." He had given the community three The martyrs were, in the summer months' time in which to decide of 1843, compelled to march, chained whether they would foreswear the as before to Miadzioly, a twelve days faith, but in his impatience he ap- journey. Torture upon tortures were plied at the convent after three days | again tried to effect the perversion of accompanied by a troop of soldiers the heroines during the next two to demand their immediate submis- years until all but four of them were sion. With one voice they refused to either dead or perfectly helpless. obey. "Hard labor and a hundred In March, 1845, the abbess discov-Siberias rather than dissertion from | ered an opportunity to escape to the Jesus Christ and His Vicar," repli- frontier, which was hundreds of miles ed the heroic abbess to his importun- away, and in the heart of a bleak ings. The apostate then ordered and hostile land. Accompanied by the solliers to eject the nuns from the Sisters who were able to travel the convent. Mother Makrena she succeeded in leaving their prison begged the civil governor to allow while the keepers were carousing her to bring a heavy precessional and they then separated in the hope cross which she carried on her shoul that at least one of them might during the ensuing march of reach the feet of Christ's Vicar to seven days to the place of exile. lay their story of the cruel sufferings Chained two and two together these in Siberia. After three months

weak women were compelled to wandering in the forests of Lithwalk nearly forty-five miles a day until they arrived at Witebsk, where they were doomed to live two years. At Witebsk they were lodged in a shed adjoining a stable of the house of so-called "black nuns." These were mosily widows of Russian soldiers and women of abandoned character. In the "Narrative of Mother Makrens, or a History of a Persecution of Seven Years Suffered for the Faith," the Abbess tels us that their daily life at Witebsk was in this fash ion:-" B fore six o'clock in the morning they had to sweep the hou-e light the fires, and prepare the wood and water for the hous; then for six hours they had to break stones and wheel them away in barrows, to which they were chained; from

when they were required to attend favor of health. to the cattle and finish the household work.

The Sisters especially mourned sion is. because they could not frequent the sacraments, and one day they were rejoiced to recognize in a visitor their late elmoner, Michalewicz, whom they had not seen since they lef. Minsk. But, alas, he tor, had

apostaiz d and had come to persu-





