

doing her work cheerfully, to gain more than by hearing a dozen sermons.

St Zita, in her old age, used frequently to say, that no servant is truly devout, who is not laborious; and that a lazy piety, in persons of their condition, is a false piety. She practised it herself up to the letter. Not a single moment of her time was unoccupied. She was always ready, when her own work was done, to help others; and as long as she saw anything left undone about the house, she never considered her task over. — That was the way. Every bit of her work was a prayer to God. It gave her no uneasiness that she could not retire to pray on her knees, or in the Church, as long as work was to be done. Her readiness, her cheerfulness, her fidelity in work were all so many sacrifices of sweet odor to God, so many prayers proceeding from such an humble child-like faith. It was in this way that she brought down on herself those streams of grace that made her finally a Saint, to be held in love and veneration throughout the Church for all ages.

A. M. BILLIAU, C. SS R.

(Read St Alph. on the IV Comm. (the Golden Book p. 154.)

The sacred wounds

Lord, thou dost give to me five talents rare,
In giving me those precious wounds of Thine
That in Thy hands, and feet, and pierced side shine,
As oft as to my soul Thou dost repair
With too great love to make Thy dwelling there;
Refusing not within me to recline
Beneath the lowly forms of bread and wine,
Though bleak that lodging as some dismal lair.
Yet I have trafficked with these talents five;
Here are five other talents gained for Thee,
Souls captivated by such treasures bright.
Oh! that I might with these each moment strive
To win more souls whose joy should ever be
To walk with fervor in thy blessed sight.

P. SHERMAN, C. SS. R.