

"THY WILL BE DONE."

For the Carmelite Review.

A flood of happiness flows o'er my soul,
That fills it with a sweet surprise,
All life seems fair, and fortune true,
While glowing hopes around me rise.

All life seems fair, aye, e'en death too,
Content supreme rests over all.
With gratitude, and love and faith
No future darkness can appall.

We thank Thee, Lord, for days as these,
Sweet rest in Thee to last away.
They strengthen up our wandering feet
To guide us to eternal day.

JOSEPHINE LEWIS.

Buffalo, N. Y.

OUR ROMAN LETTER.

Editor Carmelite Review—Dear Father:

IT was a happy thought to find a periodical in America under the auspices of our Order, not only to spread devotion and piety, but, also to give the clients of Our Lady of Mount Carmel who are so numerous in America, as indeed they are everywhere throughout the church, a chance to become better acquainted with our holy institute.

Therefore allow me, before I enter upon the work which I was commissioned to do by our very Rev. Father General, to congratulate you most heartily upon the beginning of an enterprise which will without doubt become more useful and successful day by day for the welfare of the church at large, as well as for the particular interests of our Carmelite family.

In my first letter I may be pardoned if I dwell exclusively upon our own affairs. I shall not neglect other news in the course of my correspondence. It must be of interest to you and to your readers to know something of the progress of our Order in Europe.

Although the Order of Mount Carmel, on account of the baneful vicissitudes of fortune which it underwent during the revolutionary period at the close of the last century, followed by the Napoleonic wars and the later suppressions during this century, more than any other religious body suffered terrible losses, still with the help of Providence and the signal protection of its most powerful Mother and Queen, it is gradually recovering its ancient vitality, and developing new strength.

In Catholic Spain, at one time the most fertile soil of Carmel which brought forth to the church such glorious heroes, a few years ago only a few dispersed religious were left of our Order, without a single convent, strictly speaking.

In the last few years houses have been opened in Xerez, in Onda and in Candeto, each of which has its full complement of religious. New foundations have been undertaken, with great success in Hinoyosa, Ossuna and Olot and only a few days ago a house was opened in Cordova.

This wonderful progress is no doubt owing to the traditional love for Our Lady, which is such a characteristic of the Spanish faithful. Requests to found new houses are pouring in upon our fathers from all parts of Spain, and the number of vocations is so great, that a house is no sooner opened than it is filled.