for i ebb and for i torage turough caverns low. Frited roce, o'er pebbly strand, y beache of nated sand.

and fro! to and fro! anting ever and chacting slow, y harp is swept by liquid hands d thy voice is breathing of distant la and low! sweet and low!
golden echoes I surely know;
pe are rich with the lasy south
ne tuneful iceperge have touc

ome and go ! come and go ! he sun may snine, and the winds may blow, at thou will forever sing. O dea! ,ud I never, ah ! never, shall sing like thee!

THE CROSS IN THE DESERT.

Some few years ago a pilgrim sailed across the blue waters of the Mediterranean, smitten with the love of the cross, and bearing in his hand "the banner with the strange device."

It was a lovely summer's evening. The fierce African sun was sinking to his rest behind the hill on which the ruins of the old city of Hippo stand; and as the pilgrim, who had climbed to its summit, stood gazing around him, the glow of the western sky bathed his dusty garments in a golden light, touching the ruins with a splendor of its own, and lighting up the sea, that heaved gently down below, with the brightness of smber and gold.

This, then, was all that remained of the proud old city whose name Augustine had made famous to the end of time!

the proud old city whose name Augustine had made famous to the end of time!

These crumbling walls were once the school where he taught, the halls where his youthful eloquence fired the hearts of the great scholars of the day; here were the baths where he lounged in his idle hours with pleasure loving companions; here the streets where every day he came and went from Monica's quiet home to the busy haunts of learning, of sophistry, and science; here was the place where she had wept so bitterly over nim, the spot where that salutary over nim, the spot where that salutary over nim, the spot where that source; here he had sinned; hence he had gone forth in search of truth, and, having found it, hither he had come back, transformed into a confessor and a doctor of the church; here, fically, he died, full of years, leaving behind him a name great amongst the greatest saints whom the church has raised to her altars.

And what now remained to Africa of this light which had shed such glory on her church? Where did his memory live? And the faith that he had practised—whither had he fied?

The pilgrim sat down upon a stone, and, after indulging in reflections such as these for some time, he rose and descended slowly towards the plain.

Was it a fancy born of recent musings, or did he hear a voice issuing from the massive fragment of a wall which still supported a majestic dome, once probably the therms of the luxurious and wealthy citizens of Hippo? Did he really see a light burning, or was it an hallucination born of the mystic hour and the suggestive surroundings? He drew closer, looked in, and beheld two white bearded Arabs placing each a light on the highest point of the wall. Was it some idolatrous rite, a spell, or an incan tation they were performing?

ago—a hope that Augustine was still watching for the resurrection of the cross in the land of his birth, and hastening its advent by his intercession at the throne of Him whom he describes as "patient because he is eternal."

It is a fact, as striking as it is consoling, that within the last few years the faith has been making rapid conquests amidst the barbarous nations, where in the days of St. Augustine, and long after, it flourished so magnificently. Perhaps it is more surprising that this result should not have been universal after nearly half a century of the rule of a should not have been universal after nearly half a century of the rule of a Catholic power; but the mistaken policy of the French government, and, alas! we must add, the evil example of the French themselves, instead of breaking down existing barriers, have raised new and insurmountable ones against the spread of Christianity amorgst the conquered tribes. France proclaimed her intention of not alone tolerating, but protecting, Islamism throughout her African dominion. She carried this policy so far for many years that it was made punishable by French law to convert a Mussulman to the Catholic faith, whilst, on the other hand, it was perfectly lawful for any to the Catholic faith, whilst, on the other hand, it was perfectly lawful for any number of Catholics to turn Mussul mans. The priests who went out as missionaries were thwarted at every step by the French authorities. 'Our adversaries, the men who worry us and stand in the way of our making converts, are not the Arabs or even their mara bouts," said one of these devoted men to us only a few days ago; "it is our own countrymen, Frenchmen calling them selves Catholics, whom we have chiefly to contend against." And he went ou to describe how, during the famine of 1867, when the Arabs were dying like files all over the country, the French authorities over the country, the French authorities were constantly on the alert to prevent the missionaries baptizing them, even in extremis. They actually sent detachments of spanees to the various places where the poor famine-stricken creatures con gregated in greater numbers to die; and when the prior transfer. when the priest was seen approaching them, as they lay gasping in their agony, the soldiers rushed torward to stop him from administering the sacrament of regeneration. One little missionary father contrived to outwit the authorities how ever, and in spite of the lynx-eyes that were fixed on him, he managed to bap tise numbers from a little bottle of water

hid under his burnose.

No wonder the Arabs make small

where the burning sun of Africa, added to material privations, that are absolutely incredible, makes the life of the mest fortunate missionary a slow and daily markyrdom. His first task, in preparation for becoming a missionary, is to master the language and to acquire some knowledge of the healing art, of herbanded of the Arabs, which, conforming in all things to their customs, he does not quit even at night, but sleeps in it on the ground; he builds himself a tent like theirs, and, in order to disarm suspicion, lives for some time in their midst without making the least attempt at converting them; it does not even court their acquaintance, but waits patiently for an opportunity to draw them towards him; it is generally comes in the form of a sick person whom the stranger offers to the pand very frequently cures, or at least alleviates, cleanliness and the only reaser; the follows some such dialogue as this: "What I you refuse my thank-offering?" Who, then, pays you?"

"God, the true God of the Christians." "God, th action of pure water often proving the only remedy required. The patient, in his gratitude, offers some present, either in money, stuffs, or eatables, which the stranger with gentle indignation refuses. Then follows some such dialogue as this: "What! you refuse my thank-offering? Who, then, pays you?"

"God, the true God of the Christians."

I have left country and family and home, and all my heart loves best, for His sake and for His service; do you think you or any man living can pay me for this?"

"What are you, then?" demands the

astonished Arab,
"I am a marabout of Jesus Christ,"
And the Mussulman retires in great
wonder as to what sort of a religion it
can be whose marabouts take neither money nor goods for their services. He tells the story to the neighbors, and by degrees all the sick and maimed of the district come trooping to the mission ary's door. He tends them with untiring charity. Nothing disgusts him; the more loathsome the ulcers, the more wretched the suffer, the more tenderness

he lavishes on them. Soon his hut is the rendezvous of all Soon his nut is the rendezvous of air those who have ailments or wounds for miles round; and though they entreat him, sometimes on their knees, to accept some token of thanks for his services, he remains inexorable, returning always the same answer: "I serve the God of heaven and earth; the kings of this world are too poor to pay me."

He leads this life for fifteen months before taking his vows as a missionary. When he has bound himself to the

THE CATHOLIC RECORD.

THE CATHOLIC RECORD. was it a fance born of record musings, or dish bears a voice issuing from the master fragment of a wall which still supported it measure fragment of a wall which still supported its supported its fragment of a wall which still supported its fragment of a

> would take charge of him on sucn a long journey? His grace's carriage (a private conveyance dignified by that name) was at the door. "Put him in; I will take him," he said, looking kindly at the small face with the great dark eyes that were staring wistfully up at him. But the priest and every one present exclaimed at the idea of this. The Arabs are proverbial for the amount of light infantry which they carry about with them in their hair and their rags; and the fact of their presence in myriads on the person which they carry about with them in their hair and their rags; and the fact of their presence in myriads on the person of this little believer was evident to the naked eye. The archbishop, however, nothing daunted, ordered nim to be placed in the carriage; then, finding no one would obey him, he caught up the little tellow in his arms, embraced him tenderly amidst the horrified protestations of the priest and others, carried him to the carriage, seated him comfortably, and then got in himself and away they drove. A large crowd had assembled to see the great marabout depart, and stood looking on the extraordinary scene in amazement. A few days later several of them came to see the priest, and asked to be instructed in the religion which works such miracles in the hearts of men, and to offer their children to be brought up Christians.
>
> This Orphanage of St. Charles is the most precious institution which Catholic

is the sufferings never once provoked in ear sufferings never once provoked and as gentle as a lamby her only long, and in the sum of three hundred france. He is the country of the sum of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the country of the sum of the sum of three hundred frances. He is the sum of three hundred frances. He is the sum of three hundred frances in the sum of three hundred frances. He is the sum of three hundred frances in the sum of three hundred frances. He is the sum of three hundred frances in the sum of three hundred frances. He is the sum of three hundred frances in the sum of three hundred frances. He is the sum of three hundred frances in the sum of three hundred frances. He is the sum of three hundred frances in the sum of three hundred frances. He is the sum of three hundred frances in the sum of three hund

side the maidens gathered up the branches and bound them into bundles. As they went they sang hymns and canticles to lighten their labors; and when the day's task was done, they left the vineyard in two distinct bands, as they had come, and returned to their separate

convents.

"Well," said Mgr. de la Vigerie to the presiding father next day, "have the young men chosen each his maides, and is the choice approved?" choice approved ?"

young men chosen each his maiden, and is the choice approved?"

"Alas! monseigneur, they did not even look at each other," replied the disconsolate matchmaker, "They never raised their eyes from their work. Sister C—— and I watched them like lynxes."

"You have brought up the children too well, my good father," cried the archbishop in despair. "What is to be done with them now?"

"Have a little patience, my lord, and it will come in good time," replied the father encouragingly.

Next day the two bands of maidens and youths sallied forth again to the vineyard, and so every day for a week.

Then the father came in triumph to the archbishop to announce the success ful issue of the scheme. One by one the youths had plucked up courage and peeped through the tendrits of the vine, and, thanks to some magnetic sympathy, two dark eyes had been simultaneously raised to meet theirs, and they smiled

Caristendom owes a debt that can only be paid in heaven—comes nobly to the assistance of Mgr. de la Vigerie. He supplies the rest himself out of the resources of his apostolic heart, so inexhaustible in its ingenious devices of charity; he prays and begs, and sends his missionaries all over the world beg-

One of them has lately come over to Paris on that most heroic of Christian enterprises—a begging tour—and has brought with him a little black boy from Timbuctoo, who had been bought and sold seven times before falling into the hands of these new masters for the sum of three hundred francs. He is not yet ten years old—a mild-faced little fellow, who, when you ask him in French if he likes the father, answers by a grin too significant to need further comment, as he turns his ebony face up to Pere B—and wriggles a little closer to him. Pere B—told us the child belonged to a man eating tribe, and turned up the corner of his lip to show some particular formation of the teeth peculiar to that amiable race of sowmands. He says that the same charming docility which marks the young Arabs is observable in most of the avagatibes; they are far more inceptive and easily moulded and impressed than the children of the civilized races.

The capture and purchase of these One of them has lately come over to

could go to Ameround of the States band. They are a beg of. Somehow thetic to the Catholic thetic to the Catholic in begging for our lall the sting out of what a bitter cud it is We hope the good did not represent the latter point, but it is the generous sponts can tellow. Catholics have "held out the name of our blesses of charity! how it together, casting drawing all hearts matters not wheth from a near country of blood or clanshit tant clime where the scarce that of a bro mize; he comes in t mon Lord, and ask saving of souls th saving of souls the random as ours. I times all the nighbut the dawn con Jesus in the person souls who love him ests at heart, and betriend him; and into deep waters, plentitul Can we i to stimulate our divine Mendicant

FEB 11, 18

A gathering of huts, if you like-of garden round whose spire, poin to the skies, tells and destination. sundown; the be of the desert ai tongue calls the v entire population their work and summons; the c and troop on 10g tollow with grav kneeling before lamp of the san the Sacred Hear sheds its solemn The father begin pardon is asked tings of the day for its helps and invoked on the sesisted at this i that when he he call down the b on "all those de do not know, h and charitable repeating the bursting with i was included this blessing w

hands to us for a which at this mon of these faithful a

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