

## FAVORS OF ST. JOSEPH



OME twenty years or so ago, at the evening recreation of a religious community in the Province of New Brunswick, the Mother Superior was lamenting to her daughters that the class-rooms and dormitories of the academy were not more numerous and more spacious for the comfort of the pupils entrusted to their care.

"Why not appeal to St. Joseph, Mother!" suggested the pious sacristan. "Give me an alms to distribute in his honor; and if we make a novena to our protector, I am sure you will be gratified with the result."

The Mother Superior left the room for a moment, and returning, handed her confident daughter a silver dollar. "Let us begin the novena after Mass to-morrow morning," she said.

All present accepted with pious enthusiasm the proposed devotion.

"Excite your faith, dear Sisters; for I want to be sure of a thousand dollars, independent of any of our present resources," remarked the worthy Superior, as the bell called the religious to Office.

When the Sister sacristan withdrew to make the customary preparations for the Mass to be celebrated on the following morning, she knelt before the shrine of St. Joseph, and, after a short prayer, slipped the silver coin under the pedestral of the statue, saying "I do not think of any need just now, dear Saint; keep it for me until I do."

Next morning, after assisting devoutly at Mass in honor of their holy patron, the religious recited the Litany of St. Joseph, and it was said at the same hour during nine consecutive days. On the fourth day of the novena, the Sister portress summoned the Mother Superior to the parlor, to meet a lady whose card bore the name of a former pupil of their academy. After the usual exchange