

ry various circumstance of either his earthly life, or sacred death or heavenly glory. His passion and death are set before them in their most solemn services, and his life as man on earth is constantly set before them for their rule and example in their daily life. Even the most trifling actions are in some way used to bring Christ before them, and are made a subject of prayer or ejaculation. I hope I shall have an opportunity of describing to you some of our beautiful festival days, which will show you how true is what I have here said, that Christ with Roman Catholics is all in all. But why should I wait to describe festival days? for all our days would interest you to hear about. So I will tell you exactly how we pass our ordinary days first, and then try to amuse you by telling you about grand gay days. But I fear my letter is growing long enough to tire your poor old eyes; and I think by this time you have laid down your spectacles, and have asked Harry to read it to you, or perhaps Mrs. Williamson, if Harry cannot yet read writing. I had better, therefore, defer my description of a Roman Catholic day, to my next letter. I shall send this in a parcel to Mrs. Werner, and ask her to carry the letter to you; and then she will write me word all you say about it, which I know will be something droll, as you always love a little fun.

Thursday.—I find I cannot send my letters and parcel this week, I shall, therefore, add a little more before they go.

To be continued.

A FEAST IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The holy festival of Corpus Christi was celebrated yesterday with a degree of pomp, of which I had not entertained the smallest idea. The morning was ushered in by the ringing of bells and other similar demonstrations of joy. At ten o'clock, upon a signal given at the governor's house, the community prepared to join in the general cavalcade, and now, for the first time, I was to see the outside of the convent. We were arranged in order, in a large square, within the gates; first, the young choristers were divided into four bands, twelve in each; these are the children under the tuition of the fathers. The first division was to precede the whole singing a particular service appropriate to the day. On either side these children walked lay brothers, bearing ensigns, or pictures representing the different achievements of their patron saint. Then followed the novices, every one bearing some precious relic or another, enclosed in boxes of ebony and ivory, curiously wrought.

To us succeeded another band of music, accompanied by all the visitors of distinction, of which there were not a few from the distant plantations.

Next came the elder fathers of the convent, two and two, each carrying something relative to the festival, and after them the superior, drest in all the regalia of his office, surrounded by the young students going to Cordova and six lay brothers, bearing banners. The remainder of the community, choristers, and several newly-baptized Indians, brought up the rear; every one in this procession being arrayed in their richest and gayest attire. The cavalcade, having cleared the convent-gate, entered a large handsome square; on one side of which stands the cathedral, a very fine well-finished edifice, crowned with a cupola, and open on all sides to the view. Round this square were assembled the societies of several other orders, all dressed in paraphernalia; and a more curious scene I never witnessed. It seemed as if people from all nations of the earth were collected together, presenting every different shade of the complexion, from the silver-haired inhabitant of Denmark to the sable-hued native of Guinea.

Among the crowd some Indian caciques held a very conspicuous place. They wore party-colored cotton habits, prettily decorated with a variety of feathers, arranged in a very judicious and elegant manner. Bands of wood, red, purple, and yellow, encircled their heads, and supported some of the most beautiful plumes I ever beheld. Several of the caciques wore glittering ornaments on their chins; others on their necks, arms, and legs. But if these Indians pleased by the gaiety of their attire, another tribe interested me no less by their simplicity. These were clad in white cotton vestments, with no other ornaments than large full white feathers, rising one above another round the head. This dress, contrasted with the dark copper colour of their skins, was peculiarly striking, and gave a most singular, though extremely pleasing appearance to the whole.

The outsides of the houses round the square were hung with festoons of flowers, and live birds, tied with strings, to prevent their escape, but long enough to admit of their fluttering sufficiently to expand their beautiful plumage: a contrivance which I must confess had a very picturesque effect. The portico of the church, was decorated with an uncommon quantity of real and artificial flowers, in the disposal of which a great share of taste had been displayed. Under the principal arch was a band of musicians, who sung and played most enchantingly. Indeed there is not a place in the world, not even Italy, where sacred music is more studiously attended to. Upon a volley being fired by some of the soldiers, who were all drawn up on one side of the square, the procession commenced by the military, fully accoutred, two and two, to the sound of drums, trumpets, and other martial music, at intervals calling to discharge their pie-