

had received great relief in spiritual trials through his simple devotion to the Infant Jesus. He did not forget this fact. He found the little statue, almost buried in dust, the story says, and he uplifted it, and went earnestly to work in its honor, until once again, and far more widely than before, the devotion flourished.

God's favors rewarded the faith of the people. So many cures were wrought that the Divine Infant became known as "The Heavenly Physician." Marvelous instances of these miraculous cures are on record, not only in earlier days, but in this very decade of our own century. It is not alone the prioress of a Carmelite convent in Prague itself, a century and a half ago, who is cured of a great difficulty in breathing that has troubled her for years, so that rapid walking always brought on complete exhaustion, and to whom a complication of diseases foretold approaching death, who invokes the gracious Infant and wakes next morning after a quiet night, all pain gone, and "as though entering upon a new existence." But it is also a nun, in the year 1890, who is completely cured without need of an imperative and threatened operation; it is a French nobleman in 1891, cured of an abscess of the liver without knife or wound; it is a lady in 1892, recovering when at the point of death from an acute attack of peritonitis. In each case recourse was had to the Divine Infant of Prague by means of novenas in His honor.

Naturally the Holy Child's special favors are for children, whose Christian mothers have specially recommended them to His tender care. Sometimes His medal is laid upon a child sick with croup or fever, or suffering from the after-effects of smallpox or meningitis;

novenas are made, Mass is said, the children recover. On the medal are the words, "Holy Infant Jesus, bless us!" and He certainly hears and answers the simple invocation.

It is most touching and beautiful to find that in many cases poor workmen have applied, in their hours of destitution and difficulty, to the Holy Child, Whose foster-father was a poor workman like themselves, and they have been relieved. What a delightful thought this is, and how we ought to try very earnestly to spread this simple devotion in our Catholic homes! But there is a more wonderful beauty in the following very striking fact, that the devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague is sincerely practiced by the negro children in Africa, who lay before Him their wants and cares! "In the interior of western Africa, amidst fierce and hostile cannibals, the Little King has established His rule amongst the newly converted Congo people. His palace is nothing but a rude hut with a straw roof, but He has many devout worshippers, and the Fathers of the Holy Ghost relate many cases where prayers are immediately heard."

We see how truly, then, the devotion is spreading over the world. Beginning in a Carmelite monastery in Bohemia, where the miraculous image is given by a Spanish lady who brought it from Spain, it has been taken up by the Visitation nuns, the Sisters of the Assumption, the Sisters of the Christian Doctrine, the Dominican nuns, and the Sisters of Charity. In 1892, the Franciscan nuns brought the tiny statues to distant Norway; in 1893 they were sent to Brazil, Japan, China, and they came to Boston and New Orleans. The missionaries have them in Australia; while, as we can readily understand, it has been ordained that in all Carmelite