

CHAPTER XXXII.

“ECCE QUAM BONUM.”

But who can describe the celestial rapture of the lovely bride of Jesus standing at the convent chapel grating, and answering the celebrant in sweet timid tones.

Then, on the silence, rises once more that voice, thrilling and powerful to move hearts, and the happy girl devoting her life to Christ sings her sweet rejoicing hymn, in the language of the church! As her pure entrancing notes die away in the nuns' mysterious sanctuary, a glad cry of praise and thanks to God bursts forth from the youthful invisible choir, and continues while the richly attired and graceful Margaret is conducted to the adjoining hall, beneath the "*Chapelle des Saints*," and disappears beyond the doors that close upon her.

Again the choir renews its canticle of praise, and Margaret reappears at the grating. Gone are all the bright trappings which a short time before so elegantly and brilliantly draped her perfect figure. She stands in the imposing garb of an Ursuline