## ST. ALPHONSUS AND THE LABORER

respect in all cases; to feel as much interest as you can, as a member of the family; and as much affection and love as is possible, considering their character and life. The Holy Scripture clearly lays down this doctrine. « Let servants be subject to their masters, pleasing them in all things, not contradicting, not defrauding, but in all things showing good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things. » (Tit. 2-9.)

What does the Holy Ghost say to servants who have Catholic masters? Pay attention to the words, they are full of meaning. « But they who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren; but serve them rather. because they are faithful and beloved. » (1 Tim. 6-2.) -- It seems to be very strange advice to give a servant, to tell him not to despise his master because he is good and amiable towards him. We are apt to think that the master despises the servant, because he is below him ; but here we see the Holy Ghost warning the Catholic servant not to despise his Catholic master. What can be the meaning of it? I will tell you. If the good, kind master or mistress, in wishing to make you happy, and out of Christian love and interest in you, does not treat you as a mere servant, but as a friend and a child, do not take this all wrong and grow impudent and disagreeable to them. Sometimes the very reason why a servant is dissatisfied and seeks another place, is because a real interest is felt in having her well cared for in all respects, and in seeing her lead a good life.

• I declare, there is no living in this house, where you can't do anything without being brought up for it. What business is it to the madam whether I go to mass or not? I wish she'd let me aloñe. I tell you, I will never live in a Catholic family again. I'll go among Protestants, where I shan't always be bothered about going to Church and going to confession, and keeping fast days, and keeping abstinence, and this and that. I wish fo'ks would mind their own business. » Such is the language of many a servant who calls herself a Catholic, but who shows little of the spirit of one.

The same remark applies to every kind and loving employer, whether he belong to the " household of faith, " or not. There-