

## CHAPTER XVIII.

Dr. Nelson—His visits to the Nunnery sick-room—A night visit to the vaults—An alarm at night.

THE following chapter has been written since the preceding was in the printer's hands. The contents were brought to my mind by certain recent circumstances. I have occasionally thought of them before, but did not think of writing them.

I have remarked more than once, I was employed, for several of the last months which I spent in the nunnery, in attendance on the nuns in the sick-room. This is numbered 3 in my plan of the second story, given in my first volume. I have now to mention some circumstances which occurred in the course of that time, previously to which I may state a few things in relation to the practices there.

Dr. Nelson commonly paid his morning visit at about nine o'clock, and after he was gone, the office of the Virgin Mary was performed, which occupied a long time, and consisted of many prayers, &c., attended with various and tiresome postures, which often quite exhausted my strength. We would have to sit, stand, kneel, bend, &c., till, at the close, I have been obliged to throw myself upon the floor from extreme fatigue. After the conclusion of the office, the sick nuns were supplied with their luncheon.