

populations. It radiated from numerous churches, and some of these sanctuaries, as those of Cracow and of the neighborhood of Vienna, by the graces continually received there, attracted numberless pilgrims. Belgium also had its own; Flanders especially was distinguished for its piety towards St. Anne. The history of each of these sanctuaries would offer details interesting in many respects; but a sketch like ours must not exceed certain limits. We cannot, however, in this nomenclature, omit the Ecclesiastical Province of Cologne, now Rhenish Prussia. Its inhabitants were surpassed by no other Northern people in their filial love towards St. Anne; no other, in these countries, honored her so universally and so perseveringly. On her part, that good Mother did not leave their piety go unrewarded; she has preserved to them the priceless gift of Faith; the populations of the Rhineland are still the most Catholic of Germany. According to informations whose trustworthiness we cannot suspect, it is not rare to find in that region families, and even whole villages, which by their fervor recall to mind the early Christians. Therefore, the worship of St. Anne has not grown cold, far from it; after having resisted for ages against the action of heresies and revolutions, it seems, on the contrary, in the years, to regain its primitive splendor.

Of this let us judge by the following extract from a letter addressed to us by a missionary in that country.

Paderborn, July 25, 1863.

"The Dean of the magnificent church of Düren might send you relations of a great number of graces due to the Saint's intercession. I beg to send you the observations gathered by our Fathers relating to the precise points on which you desire to be informed.

"The devotion to St. Anne is very wide-spread and very popular among Catholics of this country. Düren especially is the centre of it, and contributes to