

Charity speaks thus of what he saw, and as the rule is practically the same in every house of the Order, to speak of one is to speak of all.

"The first class which we visited was that of the *Preservation*, composed of young girls, who had not given open scandal, but whose position had been such as to expose them to great danger. They are completely separated from the penitents, and are divided into classes according to their age.

"The second division of the establishment is set apart for women who had forsaken the path of virtue, and who have entered the house by their own free will, if of age, or have been sent there by their relations, if minors.

"They are called Penitents, and are divided into different classes, according to the greater or less guilt of their previous life and their conduct after admission. The remedies in the case of these wounded souls consist for prayer, silence and frequent confession, and above all, gentle guidance and supervision. These poor creatures, who have often previously been treated with great harshness, find themselves all at once surrounded with a care and consideration quite new to them, and many are filled with grief when the moment comes for leaving this place of protection.

"The Sisters who have care of the classes are the only ones who hold communication with the penitents. They never leave them alone by day or night; their cells commanding a complete view of the dormitory of the Penitents.

"A number of the rescued women, fearful of their own weakness, beg to remain for ever in the Asylum. These form the class of *Perseverance* or Magdalens. They are all clothed in black, and wear a crucifix on the breast; and a rosary at their side. Their calm, and peaceful countenances bespeak the grace of Christ which reigns in their hearts and their heavenly lives are the blessed fruits of the fourth vow imposed by Father Eudes.

"Many, we were told, are highly favoured by God, their souls, like those of Magdalen and Thais, are flooded by torrents of grace.