

its beneficent work, as man succeeds man ! The calculation would, in truth, be vast, the enumeration endless.

A glance at any one of the monthly reports of the society will afford a slight idea of the truth. Among the thousand facts therein related, and supported by unquestionable testimonies, you will read of men, of whole families saved from destitution ; of several associates uniting to repair with the labour of their own hands the ruined dwelling of the poor, a spectacle which has several times been witnessed in Quebec ; of appeals made to the rich, in periods of distress ; of innocence snatched from the countless snares the demon is ever setting for its destruction. I shall cite but a single incident taken at random from the bulletin of the society.

A family in Dunkerque had been visited by a conference during three years or there about. Not a single encouraging symptom had resulted. The father would continually, by an adroit diversion, exclude all reference to matters of religion. The mother even, exhibited that indifference of which Jesus Christ seems to despair of in the Gospel. Many a time, when leaving the cellar that held this wretched family, the visitors despaired of ever succeeding in their benevolent efforts. However, the father who was suffering from a cancer in the foot, had for some time been in the habit of invoking the intercession of the Blessed Virgin in the hope of being restored to health. A physician, who was an honorary member of the association, conceived the happy thought of making him a few visits. On one of these occasions he said to the sufferer ; " My good friend, God is merciful, and I feel convinced, that if you were to return to him with a sincere heart, he would cure you. Be it so, then," exclaimed the patient in a tone of energetic determination, " I will go to confession." He kept his word, and thanks to the special mercy Almighty God affords even to our very weakness, the remedies which had for so many years been administered fruitlessly, now produced their effect, and the father of this unfortunate household was restored to perfect health. The whole family, as was naturally to be expected, soon followed the edifying example of its head.