THE SENTINEL

to an absolute forgetfulness of His holy Majesty. He brings Himself to our notice by the magnificent signs and symbols in His creation, and keeps us awake to the reality of His presence by mysterious lights. Why did He stud the firmament with myriad stars which twinkle out over the slumbering earth if not that they might reveal to intelligent and loving souls the beauty of His divinity? The Royal Prophet could not resist this appeal of the heavens—" I rose at midnight to give praise to Thee " Ps. CXVIII., and attuning his lyre to the songs of his heart he cried out : "Cœli enarrant gloriam Dei."

If the God of the heavens loved the heart that praised Him in the midnight hour, will not the God of the Tabernacle lean to those who come " to watch one hour"?? His passion began in the night and His love for us is as strong by night as by day, then why should our note of grateful praise not extend to the night hours?

He accepts the flame of the little Sanctuary Lamp rising and falling and pulsing like the heart-beats of the living sleepers in the great world without ; but oh ! how He longs for human hearts flickering with faith, ardent love and the sweet emotions of hope. There are some dear Lord, if only a few, but they are sincere, those night watchers who leave all to come for that one hour with Thee. We thank God that there are souls like those to fall back upon when all else is cold, and we know that Jesus will stay on to the " consummation " for the sake of those dear souls who love Him enough to sacrifice a part of their rest " to watch and pray."

We are not chary in our praises of the perpetual adorers of Jesus, but why do we not enter the list and "watch one little hour" ourselves? If we have neither the time nor the courage to enlist in the sacred batallion and to consecrate, as they do, long hours to the daily or nightly visit, let us make an effort to do some little thing for our Eucharistic Saviour.

Can we not forego a little pleasure ; curtail one of our social visits ; hurry a little with our daily round of duties, in order to economize a few moments for the dear Prisoner of Love who has a welcome for us all. Surely we would feel "at home" there if the heart is aright, for the church is our Father's house.

176