

The Sacred Hosts.

Saved by a brave child and an heroic Nun.

IT happened on Ascension day and during the Commune in Paris.

While one of the early masses at which a great number received holy Communion was being celebrated in St. Augustine's church insurgents tumultuously invaded the sacred edifice. They came to take an inventory of ornaments and sacred vessels ; but when they saw the priest at the altar they had the consideration to delay their task until mass was over.

Judging by what had already happened in other churches, the priest trembled at the awful prospect of the profanation likely to befall the consecrated Hosts that filled two large ciboriums. When he left the altar he secretly and quickly carried them into the sacristy ; holy women intuitively divining his intention followed and surrounded him in such a way as kept the insurgents at bay for a few moments. Turning to a little acolyte he knew he could trust he whispered :

" Take these two Ciboriums, my child, and carry them in all haste to the Bon Secours Sisters."

Some one threw a black cape over his shoulders and the brave lad who fully understood his noble mission traversed the streets like another Tarcissus, but, without meeting any obstacle and safely deposited the precious treasure under the good sister's care.

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Great was the joy of the Sisters at Bon Secours to be able to harbor their divine Master and save Him from outrage. If our Lord had found a devoted champion in the little acolyte, the devil in the person of a vile miscreant had nevertheless an ally who notified the Commune that the sacred vessels belonging to St. Augustine's church had been secretly carried to the Bon Secours Convent. Acting upon the information, that very night four