#### S. Laurence Giustiniani

AURENCE from a child longed to be a Saint; and when he was pineteen years of age there was when he was nineteen years of age there was Ogranted to him a vision of the Eternal Wisdom. All earthly things paled in his eyes before the ineffable beauty of this sight, and as it faded away a void was leit in his heart which none but God could fill. Urged to make a brilliant marriage, he refused, and fled secretly from his home at Venice, and joined the Canons Regular of S. George. One by one he crushed every natural instinct which could bar his union with his Love. In the incessant combat which he now waged with himself he measured his sufferings with the crucifix, their duration with the eternity for which he sighed. In sickness he bore unflivehingly wounds which the surgeon trembled to inflict. He begged alms of his brother nobles, and stood their scorn unmoved. As Superior and as General he enlarged and strengthened his Order, and as Bishop of his Diocese, in spite of slander and insult, thoroughly reformed his See. His zeal led to his being appointed the first Patriarch of Venice, but he remained ever in heart and soul a humble priest thirsting for the sight of heaven. At length the eternal vision began to dawn. "Are you preparing a bed of feathers for me?" he said. "Not so; my Lord was stretched on a hard and painful tree." Laid upon the straw, he exclaimed in rapture, "Good Jesus, behold I come." He died 1435, aged seventy-four,

When Laurence first entered religion, one of his friends attempted to dissuade him from the folly of thus sacrificing all earthly prospects. The young monk listened patiently to his friend, whether he spoke affectionately, in scorn, or with violent abuse, but pointed out the shortness of life, its uncertainty, and the incomparable happiness to which he aspired.

His noble friend felt the truth of his defence, and realized that Lawrence was wise and he the fool. He left the world, became a fellow-novice with the saint, and his holy death bore every mark that he, too, had secured the treasures which never

The CATHOLIC CHRONICLE..

DEVOTED FOREIGN

#### PRANCE

M. COMBES AND THE CHURCH The French Republic stands forever disgraced before the civilized world owing to the infamous orders issued by M. Combes, which led to the scenes enacted last week at Ploudainiel and Sain Meen in Brittany. The forces of the Republic were drawn up before two or three small Conwents for the purpose of expelling about half a dozen nuns. When offibers of the regiments of the live protest against being called upon to asnist in the expulsions, the riff-raffil of ports who compose the Colonial regiments were carefully chosen to assist the Sub-Prefect of Finisterre and his police officials in beating down women and children, in trampling upon helpless beings, in breaking convent doors and in amashing the tabernacies in the chapels containing the Blessed Sucrement. It is no wondor that the press of the world is now ringing with denunciations of the politicians who have brought France to this depiorable pass. The Paris correspondents of the foreign newspapers have, with one or two lamentable exceptions, sent true statements as to the religious perseoution to their editors. Hence Liberals, abroad, as well as in France, have condemned the Lyrannical tactics of M. Combes and the subordinates who had had to obey him.

The attempts of M. Combes to turn the Catholic agitation in Brittany into a Royalist plot is laughed to seem by everbody except the out-andout backers of the present Cabinet There are sterling Republicans on side of the Catholics, and even M Gabriel Monod, the great Protestant champion, and one of the earliest and most energetic delenders of ex-Captain Dreytus, has taken up his pen to condemn the violations of liberty whereof M. Combes and his myrmidone have been guilty. At the same time, it has to be remarked that some of M. Monod's co-religionists are absolutely wrong in their elaborate endeavors to dissociate M. Waldeck-Rousseau from the disgraceful events now happening in a Republican orming. M. Combes is carrying out the decrees of the infamous Associations Law, which M. Waldeck-Rousseen was instrumental in passing. It is expected that the opening of Parliament in October will see some tremendous notices in the Chamber of Deputies, where Catholics, Liberals and Nationalists will join in facing the Sectorions.

NEVER IS TIME more precious than when some member of the family is attached by colin dysentery or any bowel trouble. The doctor is distent but if Frent Days! Palakiller is

## Sealing the Convent

Graphic Description of the Injustice and Brutulity of the French Law Against Teaching Nuns

The Courier des Etats Unis publishes this graphic description of the forcible closing of the convent ; of St. Julien in Finistere under the Law of Associations:

The convent of Saint-Julien in Landerneau, Finistere, is sealed up. At 2 o'clock in the morning everybody was aroused. The news of the coming of the troops had already reached the little town. Lights appeared in the windows. The houses, so to say, awoke, and the entire population began to move toward the square leading to the convent, The square soon became crowded For a considerable time the throng remained silent, but gradually a growl of anger arose, until it assumed rather threatening tones, That is always the queer rumbling sound of popular indignation peasant women with whom with whom were mingled many aristocratic ladies was massed in front of the convent door, determined to defend it

At 4 o'clock the troops arrived, headed by fifteen mounted gendarmes On the left and right, framing the crowd in lines that marked genuine soldiers trained for future victories. the infantry took their position. Two men wearing tricolor scarfs stood in front. They were police commissioners, one of them a red-headed fellow from Brest, named Moerdes, the other a dark-complexioned man from Landerneau They were all walting for the appointed time The existing law fixes a time for this sort of work. The commissioners were waiting for the legal moment At 4 45 o'clock the commissioners advanced mont of the troops

PROTESTED IN VAIN Suddenly they were haited by M Villiers, the deputy of the district In the name of an indignant people," he said, "I protest against the odious act which you are about to commit, To your face I want here to tell you that the contemptible act which is imposed upon you by your masters will lower you in the eyes of all honest men. You are now about to fling into the streets the women who are guilty of the Minitterial crime of teaching the children of the poor. The people is here to defend the sisters. You cannot enter this convent except by force.16

Commissioner Moerdes besitated. tering physics. If the passes we noticed on the grounds: Pr.

he fully appreciated the protest. "But," said he, "conciliation is impossible. For my part, I would wish

"Do your duty," shouted M Villiers, Then in a trembling voice camo the command, "Give the warnings!" A little pale-faced soldier appeared with a drum which he rolled in a somewhat awkward or melancholy manner such as one riight hear at a funeral That was the first warning

"Get away from hero, or force will be used," cried Commissioner Moerdes, not daring to follow the legal formula, "Let all good citizens retire!"

EXCITING INCIDENTS

At that moment I expected to see the crowd move back. Not a man not a woman moved. The only effect of this first order was to make the crowd rush forward and become massed in front of the convent door Then came the second summons, and the second roll of the drum, longer this time than the first The defenders of the sisters, especially the women, replied to it by closing up their ranks until they became one compact block of passion and devotion, a rampart of feeble unities which proved strong enough to check the military force for three-quarters of an hour The third and last summons was given, followed by a very long roll of the drum. "The troops are about to charge! Retire, I say!" cried M Moerdes.

The answer came back from the crowd "Vive la liberte! Vive les socurs!"

"Charge!" The mounted police advanced slowly, evidently without any excessive zeal When they reached within ten yards of the defenders of the sisters, a young priest bounded in front of them, and, seizing the horse of an officer by the bridle, cried out. "You cannot lay hands upon these holy sisters until you ride mo iown first!"

The entire troop fell back.

"Charge!" Now the troops, moving at a more rapid pace, turned upon the crowd In the front ranks of the latter the men resisted, using their canes. The horses fell back upon their haunches and became unmanageable. One gendarme was almost thrown from his horse In a rage he drew his sword, but recovering himself he quickly sheathed it Another charge failed to break that mass of human beings The gendarmes were again repulsed.

WARRING UPON WOMEN.

"Chargei" Once more they made diees, as most of them were, allowed the horsemen to advance, and then closed in behind them, in front of them and on their flank's The gendarmes were prisoners. The infantry next took a hand in the game. They advanced on the double-quick. The officers in command cried out, "Clear away those women!" A fearful melee then occurred. The men used the butts of their guns mercilessly One could easily hear the sound of the blows mingled with the rattle of canes upon the barrels No doubt the soldiers were obliged to obey orders. but their extreme brutality was disgusting. For example, a quartermaster knocked down a young girl with the butt of his gun, and another soldier tore a handful of hair from the headof an old woman

ONE GIRL'S BRAVE ACT At last the convent gate was cleared, but one young girl stood in front of it with folded arms The crowd shouted to her to get away Her answer was, "No!" Then with her little white hands she clasped the bars of the gate The soldiers halted in front of her for a moment, but at last one of them approached and tore her hands from the bars Then she was thrust aside

Leaving the window, we went down to the hallway. The commissioners were outside knocking at the door In a room off the vestibule stood the members of the society to whom the estate belonged, and in the vestibule proper there were three chairs occupied by the mother superior and her two assistants. Your correspondent asked permission to stand beside them The request was granted. Notioing me through the window. Commissioner Moerdes said, "Open the door, or if you don't, I will give the order to batter it down!"

"Answer No!" said the mother superior. I obeyed.

Then a man, who was evidently selected from one of the worst socialistic nests of the amenal of Brest, advanced with a crowbar and began to hatter down the door. For ten min-

rage the fellow struck the window with his crowbar and sent a shower of broken glass among the sisters. "Open the door," shouted Meerdes, "we are unable to open it!"

"You find it more difficult than to knock down women with the butts of guns," was the answer which he recolved. Then the work was resumed, and at last the door was broken down. The commissioners entered and were brought into the parlor. One of them sat down at a table while the other read the decree. On the right stood the members of the council, on the left a company of gendarmes and in the centre the mother superior and her two assistants Then the decree was read The superfor handed me a sheet of paper and asked me to give it to Moerdes

"SEALING" THE CONVENT, "The mother superior," said I to him, refuses to, sign your proces verbal, unless you attach to it her protest in extenso " The protest was attached to the document, and then the old sister in a trembling hand and in large letters such as one might find, in the copy books of the children whom she taught, signed "Marie-Leontine Jestin"

"Sister," said the commissioner, will you promise not to bring any more convent teachers into this establishment?" "No."

Then addressing the members of the administration, he said "Gentlemen, will you engage not to let your property to any congregational teachers?"

"No." "Well, sisters," said Moerdos, "I must proceed with the expulsion and scal up the place."

The other sisters were sent for. They all came down weeping like children and carrying with them the poor little relics which were the only ornaments of their cells. When they entered the parlor the scene was dramatic. In a semi-circle they all knelt down in front of the mother super-

"Before bidding you farewell," said the old sister, "I wish to pray with you all for the last time and to give you my blessing."

There was dead silence in that convent parlor. But when the emaciated white hand of the sister was raised for the benediction the stillness was broken by & deep sob. I looked around and noticed a non-commissioned officer sit in tears. He was utterly unable to master his emotion. "My God! My God!" he murmured as he rubbed his eyes.

"Where do you wish to go, my sisthe attempt, but this time the crowd ters?" asked Commissioner Moerdes. | did not show power and strong will pened their ranks like trained sol- "I have orders to place myself at for work, nor one who was ever unyour disposal for the execution whatever decision you may take."

The mother superior looked at him for an instant straight in the eyes. We are going to our proper place, to the church," she said.

Then all the nuns slowly moved out and went to the church. The convent was sealed

A DECIDED SUCCESS

The Burlington Gazette of Sept. 3 says: Rev. Father O'Reilly's garden party in aid of St. John's Church at the Hotel Brant grounds on Wednesday evening last, proved to be very successful affair in every particular. It has been anything but favorable weather for outside gatherings, but Wednesday evening was all that could be desired.

About eight hundred people from Hamilton, Dundas, Oakville, Milton, Burlington and surrounding country made a merry gathering and pronounced it the most enjoyable event of the season Many complimentary remarks are heard of P. C. Patriarche, secretary, and the committee, upon the able manner in which they handled the affair. The centre of attraction was the pavillion which was beautifully decorated and fixed up inside with flowers and tables, where ice cream and cake was served by the ladies

Out on the lawn the XIIIth Band furnished a first class programme of music, as follows: March, New Colonial; waitz, Cymfibia; Anglo-American selections, march, Harlequin; selection, Twilight in the Mountains, and the Badajos.

The fishing pond, managed by Miss Katie Campbell, was a good drawing card, and afforded much amusement The flower booth and cigar stand were ably looked after by the Misses Campbell, Patriarche and Siebert, while the tables in the pavillion received excellent attention at the hands of Mrs. J. C. Campbell, the Misses McGrath and Campbell.

Besides Father O'Rellly, the pas-

Coty, of St. Patrick's, Hamilton, Fr. Doyle, of Freelton, Fr Crotton, of Dundas, Fr Donovan and Fr Walters, D D., of Hamilton

Father O'Reilly deserves to be congratulated upon the success of the evening, both socially and financially

A GREAT MAN'S MOTHER. Set in the mostacs or interwoven with the decorations of the various corridors and gatteries of the Library of Congress at Washington are 'he names of those who have been the world's leaders in thought and deed Among the visitors on a certain day were two ladies who were particular ly interested in tracing these names Presently one turned to the other with a sudden, indignant question.

"Have you seen the name of a single woman in the whole building?" she asked

"Yes, one," her companion returned, laughingly. "I've just discovered Sappho." There was a moment's silence, then

the questioner disposed of the subject half-seriously, half-whimsically. "Well, at any rate," she declared, "there's one comfort! These men all had mothers!"

Probably few women are conscious that they need comfort upon this score, but the remark receives wivid illustration in the tribute paid to his mother by Sir James Paget, the eminent surgeon.

Mrs Paget was a handsome woman, well-educated for her day, resolute and strong of will and of speech. She was the mother of seventeen children, nine of whom lived to grow up. According to the custom of her time, although her husband was wealthy, she did all the marketing and shopping, personally directed the cooking and made the choicest sweets herself. She was active in the society of the

time and in all the public charities, was passionately fond of beauty in every form, and as she found time somehow to learn to paint, she soon equaled her teacher. Moreover, she was a born collector, and to the orderly arrangment and classification of her collections of autographs. seals, shells, corals and agates, thins, glass and curios her son attributed his passion for method and painstaking exactitude. Yet, with these endless duties and interests, she was best remembered for her intense devotion to her children. All through their childhood she was their constant companion and friend, and as a result Sir James declares that among them all there was not one who air, stupid or dishonest

After a while her husband's wealth diminished and the luxuries to which she had been accustomed had to be given up, but no word of complaint was ever heard from Mrs. Paget. Then her health failed and paralysis and loss of speech followed.

Cut off from all that had formerly made her life, she turned resolutely to other occupations. For example, she knit in a single piece of counterpane six feet square. There were large undoings necessary again and again, but she conquered at last, it was the habit of her life to conquer. To the very end, "gentle and with simple gestures, she took part in family affairs and helped to make the home still happy."

After years of splendid toll her son was knighted for his services to his profession, but long before that he had proudly declared himself well born -Youth's Companion

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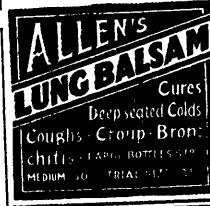
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