FABIOLA.

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Written by His Eminence Cardinal Wiseman.

[Published by special request.]

CHAPTER VIII-Continued

The time was not come for speaking of these things to Fabiola. She mourned still, as they must mourn who have no hope. Day succeeded day in gloomy meditation on the mystery of death, till other cares mercifully roused her. The cornee srrived, and such a funeral followed as Rome then seldom witnessed. Processions by torch-light, in which the waxen efficies of ancestors were borne, a huge funeral pile built up of aromatic wood, and scented by the richest spices of Arbis, ended in her gathering up a few handfuls of charred bones, which were denosited in an alabaster urn, and placed in a niche of the family sepulchre, with the name inscribed of their former owner. Calpurnius sucke the funeral or ation; in which, according to the fashionable ideas of the day, he contrasted the virtues of the hospitable and industrious citizen with the false morality of those men called Christians, who fasted and prayed all day, and were stealthily insinuatting their dangerous principles into every noble family, and spreading disloyalty and immorality in every class. Fabius, he could have no doubt, if there was any future existence, whereon philosophers differed, was now basking on a green bank in Elysium, and quaffing nectar. And ohl concluded the old whining hypocrite, who would have been corry to exchange one goblet of Falernian for an amphora of that beverage, 'oh! that the gods would hasten the day when I, his humble client, may join

To this care succeeded another.

an Inch of his tooth. The rack, a large gridiron, an iron

chair with a furnace in it for heating faith. it, large boilers for hot oil or scalding water baths; ladles for melting lead, and pouring it neatly into the mouth; pincers, hooks and iron combs' of varied shapes, for laying bare the ribs; scorpions, or scourges armed with iron or leaded knobs; iron collars, manacles and fetters of the most tormenting make: in fine, awords, knives, and axes in tasteful varieties, were all commented upon with true relish, and an anticipation of much quarian, who, intent upon another suffered martyrdom, the holy and enjoyment, in seeing them used on research, accidently has put together learned applogist St. Justin. He those hard-hearted and thick-skinned all the data requisite for our pur- comparing his writings with his in his hand he hald the erosier, em-Christlans.

down. He was taken to the baths of Agnes parents as situated in the ship in times of persecution. Antoninus, where he caught the at- Vieus Patricius, or the Patrician In what place do the Christians tention of old Cucumio, the head of street. This had another name, for most? he is asked by the judge. the wardrobe department, or cap it was called the street of the Cor- Do you think, he replies, "that few days completely subdued.

ing suspected by Christians. Cor- the wedding song of these two vir- house of the Pudens family, and are I know his worth. vinus had determined to make a tre- tuous spouses. mendous dash at them, so soon as the certained, and his visit to the ceme whom the Prince of the Apostles sent St. Justin, therefore, lived on this

them round his susseum of borrors, mysteries; and hald his councils, or ito time is sight be surfer and used of Rouse and explaining everything with auch those glorious ordinations, which escubere. hearty good will, and no end of jokes | sent forth not only bishops but mar-

enthusiasm hopearly gave Torquatus gave to a St. Laurence his discretation of titles, was not itself This was the Postiff who performed self with administration of titles. practical illustrations of what he de- or to St. Novatus or St. Timothous a title It continued to be the august rite. Marcalinaus had atscribed, having almost caught his ear his priesthood. There, too, a Poly- or rather the position oburch ready governed the Church six years, in a pair of sharp plucets, and another carp or Irenaus visited the successor of Rome. The peatificate of St. Plus and yas of a venerable old are. Elis ded way distribute time brought down a mallet within of St. Poter; and thence received L. from 142 to 107, forms an interest- countemance, bent their commission the sportles who ing period in its history, for two scoredy second in beteles the converted our King Lucius to the reasons

out, we may not be misguided by a title national or personal prepossesion, we will follow a loarned living anti- to Rome, for the second time, and

D060. Torquatus was throughly broken . We have described the house of conclusions respecting Christian wor-

those at which we have said that It was in their house that St. Peter Fullyius and Corvinus met one morn-Edict should have come out. He lived; and his fellow-apostle St. Paul ning. Novatus and Timotheus were therefore exacted from Torquatus, as enumerates them among his familiar the brothers of the holy virgins his share of the compact, that the friends, as well: Eubulus and Pu- Prazedes and Pudentiana; and hence sny should study the principal come- dens, and Linus and Claudia, and all the baths were called the Timotine, tery where the pontiff lotended to the brothren salute thee.' From that as they passed from one brother to officiate. This Torquatus soon as house, then, went forth the bishops, another.

tery was in fulfillment of his engage in every direction, to propagate, and spot, and, as he knew no other in him in his shady repose and sober ment. When that strugglo between die for, the faith of Christ. After Rome, attended divine worship there. banquets! This noble seutiment grace and sin took place in his soul, the death of Pudens, the house be. The very claims of hospitality would which Soverus noticed, it was the came the property of his children, or suggest it. Now in his spology, deimage of Catulus and his hundred grandchildren, two sons and two scribing the Christian liturgy, of Fabiola had to apply her vigorous plagues, with that of Fulvlus and his daughters. . The latter are better course such as he saw it, he speaks mind to examine, and close her hundred bonds, that turned the scale known, because they have found a of the officiating priest in terms that father's complicated affairs. How he favor of perdition. Corvinus, after place in the general calendar of the sufficiently describe the bishop, or often was she pained at the discovery | receiving his report, and making Church, and b cause they have give a supreme paster of the place; not only of what to her seemed injustice, fraud, from it a rough chart of the cemetery, their names to two of the most illus by giving him a title applied to over-reaching and oppression, in the determined to assail it, early, the trious churches of Rome, those of St. bishops in antiquity, but by describtransactions of one whom the world very day alter the publication of the Praxedes and St. Pudentiana. It is ing him as the person who has the the latter, which Alban Butler calls care of orphans and widows, and the most ancient church in the succors the sick, the indigent, prisdetermined to decome sequainted, world, that marks at once the Vicus oriers, strangers who come as guests, by sight, with the principal clergy, Patricius, and the house of Pudens. who, in one word, undertakes to As in every other city, so in Rome, provide for all in want.' This could Once possessed of this knowledge, he the eucharistic sacrifice was offered be no other than the bigliop or pope was sure no disguise would conceal originally in only one place, by the himself. them from his piercing oyes, and he bishop. And even after more chur. We must further observe, that St. would easily nick them up, one by one. ches were erepted, and the faithful Pius is recorded to have erected a He therefore insisted upon Torque | met in them, communion was brought fixed baptismal font in this church, tus's taking him as his companion, to to them from the one altar by the another prerogative of the cathethe first great function that should descons, and distributed by the dral, transferred with the papel alcollect many priests and deacons priests. It was Pope Evaristus, the tar to the Lateran. It is related that around the Pope. He overruled fourth successor of St. Poter, who the holy Pope Stephen (4, p. 257) multiplied the churches of Rome baptized the tribune Nemesius and with circumstances peculiarly in his family, with many others, in the title of Pastor. And here it was that This Pope, then, did two things, the blessed deacon Laurentius dis-Torquatus soon informed him, that Frst, heenacted that from henceforth tributed the rich vessels of the there would be an excellent oppor- no altars should be erected except Church to the poor.

one, make than the rest, he fixed the first and The church is the Views Patricius, placeing upo, studying his every it was a not quite at for record, that in his tyrs to govern other churches, and therefore, which existed previous to gesture, losk, vetile, and linesmont visits to Fabloit, which existed possession of that nerve which man-First, that Pope, without altering typlom required, and which he en-The house which the Roman Pour the character of the church itself, hibited in his death for Christ. In upon Habitant tiffs inhabited, and the church in added to an oratory which he made a those days every outward character- as change of 1 which they officiated, fill Constantine little; and having colluted to it his fatio which could have betrayed the supplem in his addition installed them in the Lateran palace brother Pastor, it was called the oblet shepherd to the wolves was their having table and buillies, the residence and cathe- litulin Pastoris, the designation, for enrolly avoided. The ordinary sime joint step. Thus the dral of the illustrious line of martyr- a long time, of the curdinulate at- simple garb of respectable mon was make to be add popes for S00 years, can be no ig- mobed to the church. This shows worn. But there is no doubt that when wantys the michain noble spot. And that, in tracing it that the clurch itself was more than officiating at the alter, a distinctive perpendit virginity. robe, the forerunner of the ample | was greated; but for obvious : chasuble, of spotless white, was bast was kept carefully concented. The Secondly, in this postificate came over the ordinary garment. To this enty a day or two before the h the bishop added a srown, or isfula, one of their spiritual ampliais, in the origin of the inter mitre; while Sym told it, as a great secret to he

Acts, we come to some interesting blem of his pastoral effice and authority. ansembly, before the sacred altar of De you gall that charitaling sample. Peter, which was between him and the people, [In the great and old basarius and his wife Victoria, who had nelli, Vicus Corneliorum, because in we all meet in one place? It is not alleas of Rome the colabrast faces seen him at church. After a good it lived the illustrious family of that to." But when interrogated where the faithfull, the Eastern spy stead refection, he was led to a gambling- name. The conturion whom St. Poter he lived, and where he held meetings led his keenest glance. He scanned hall in the Therma, and lost, of converted belonged to this family; with his discipter, he answered, I him minutely, measured, with his course. Fulvius lent him money, and possibly to him the sportle owed have lived till now near the house of eyes his height, defined the color

but for every farthing, exacted a his introduction at Rome to the head a certain Martin, at the bath known of his hair and complexion, observed bond. By these means, he was, in a of his house, Cornelius Pudens. This as the Timotine. I have come to every turn of his head, his walk, his senstor married Claudia, a noble Rome for the second time, nor do I action, his tones, almost his breath-Their meetings were early and late; British lady; and it is singular how know any other place but the one I ing, till be said to himself, 'If he during the day he was left free, lest the unchaste poet Martial vies with have mentioned," The Timotine or stirs abroad, disguised as he may he should lose his value, through bes the purest writers, when he sings Timothean baths were part of the choose, that man is my prise. And

CHAPTER XL

PRIE IVN PAVES - MET PEARTIORS AN-NORVE PULLAS VINGO XII TANTYM AR CTELA DEI NT XPI PIL. VINCENTIO BT FRATITO. VO'DONSS. ("The day before the first of June, ceased to live Pretioss, a girl (puella), a virgin of only twelve years of age, the handmaid of God and Christ. In the consulship of Flavius Vincentius, and Fravitus, a consular man.' Found it the cametory of Callistus.)

If the learned Thomassinus had known this lately-discovered inscription. when he proved, with such abundance of learning, that virginity could be professed in the early

what her cours Con ver and many lates

as a relation. blind friend.

"And so," said the latter, preten ing to be displaced, 'you want to On him who now stood facing the keep all the good things to yourself. "'My dear child." said Syra soethingig don't be offended. It was necessary to keep it guite a convers 'And therefore, I suppuse, near 1 must not even be present?"

" 'Oh, yes, Casollis, to be sure yes may; and see all you can,' seclied Syra, laughing.

Never saind about the seeing. But tell and, how will you be dressed? What have you to get ready?

Syra gave bar an exact description of the babit sed will, their enter and form.

'How very internating?' she mid And what have you to de!"

The other smalled at her un wouldd ouriosity, described minutely the short ceremonial.

"Well now, one quantion store," or sumed the blind girl. When smit where is all this to be? You said I might oune, so I must know the times and place.'

Syra told her it would be title of Pastor, at daybreak, on the third day from that. West What he inade you so implisitive. dramest? never saw you as balance I am alreit you are becoming quite working." Never you mind, " replied Cint 'il people choose to have I me, I do not see why I

had applauded as the most honest Decree. and liberal of public contractors! In a few weeks more, in the dark sttire of a mourner. Fabiola went forth to visit her friends. The first of these was her cousin Agnes.

CHAPTER IX. THE FALSE BROTHER.

We must take our reader back a few steps in the history of Torquatus. On the morning after his fall, he found, on awaking, Fulvius at his bed-side. It was the falconer, who, having got hold of a good hawk, came to tame him to strike down the dove for him, in roturn for a well-fed slavery. With all the coolness of a practiced hand, he brought back to his memory every circumstance of the preceding night's debauch, his utter ruin, and only means of escape, With unfeeling precision he strengthened every thread of the last evening's web, and added many more meshes to it.

The position of Torquatus was this: if he made one step towards Christianity, which Fulvius assured him would be fruitless; he would be at once delivered to the judge, and cruelly punished with death. If he remained faithful to his compact of treason, he should want for nothing. 'You are hot and feverish.' at last

concluded Fulvius; 'an early walk, and fresh air, will do you good.'

The poor wretch consented; and they had hardly reached the Forum, when Corvinus, as if by accident met them. After mutual salutations. he said: 'I am glad to have fallen in with you, I should like to take you, and show you my father's workshop."

Workshop?' asked Torquatus with surprise.

has just been beautifully fitted up, sentially for the same purpose. Here it is, and that grim old foreman, Catulus, is opening the doors."

They entered into a spacious court gines of torture of every form. Torquatus shrunk back.

Come in, masters, don't be atraid. said the old executioner. There is no fire put on yet, and nobody will hurt you, unless you happen to be a wicked Christian. It's for them we have been polishing up of late."

'Now, Catulus, said Corvinus. 'tell this gentleman, who is a stranger, bare

Fulvius took another course. He and leading Christlans, of Rome, every remonstrance, dispelled every fear; and assured Torquatus, that once in, by his password, he should teresting. behave perfectly like may Christian.

CHAPTER X.

THE ORDINATION IN DECEMBER.

that very month of December.

the early Popes, will have become parent to any one looking at Genefamiliar with the fact, recorded al- sis xxviii ; where, after Jacob had most invariably of each, that he held certain ordinations in the month of December, wherein he created so many priests, and deacons, and so many bishops for different places. The first two orders were conferred to supply c'ergy for the city; the third was evidently to furnish pastors on the top of it." for other dioceses. In later times. the ember-days in December, regulated by the festival of St. Lucy, were those on which the Supreme Portiff held his consistories, in which he named his cardinal priests and deacons, and preconised, as it is called, the bishops of all parts of the world. And, though this function is not now coincident with the periods came a title, or monument. 'Yes, where he keeps his tools; it of ordination, still it is continued es-

Marcellinus, under whose pontificate our narrative is placed. is stated to have heid two ordinations in this with a shed round it, filled with en- month, that is, of course, in different years. It was to one of these that we have alluded, as about to take place.

to the Christian mitiouary. Nor

tunity at the coming ordination, in of stone, and that they should be In time this name has given way blessed; secondly, 'he distributed the to another. But the place is the titles;' that is, he divided Rome into same; and no doubt can exist, that parishes, to the churches of which the church of St. Pudentians, was, he gave the name of title. The con- for the first three centuries, the Whoever has read the history of nection of these two acts will be ap humble cathedral of Rome.

> It was to this spot, therefore, that Torquatus unwillingly consented to enjoyed an appelic vision, while lead Fulvius, that he might witness sleeping with a stone for his pillow, the December ordination. we are told that, trembling he said,

> We find either in sepulchral in-How terrible is this place. This is no scriptions, in martyrologies, or in other than the house of God, and ecclesiastical history, sbundant the gate of heaven. And Jacob aristraces of all the orders, as still coning in the morning took the stone ... forred in the Catholic Church. Inand set it up for a title, pouring oil scriptions perhaps more commonly record those of Lector or reader, The church 'or oratory, where the and of Exoreist.

> sacred mysteries were colebrated, A difference was, however, that was truly, to the Obristian, the house one order was not necessarily a nes of God; and the stone altar, set up sage, or step; to another; but perin it, was consecrated by the poursons remained, often for life, in one ing of oil upon it, as is done to this of these lesser-orders. There was day (for the whole law of Evaristus not therefore, that frequent adminremains in full force); and thus be intration of these, nor probably was it publicly performed with the high-Two interesting facts are elicited er orders.

from this narrative. One is, that to Torquatus, having the necessary that time there was only one church pass-word, entered, accompanied by with an altar in Rome; and no doubt Fulvius. who soon showed himself has over been raised, that this was expert in acting as others did around the church afterwards and yet him. The assembly was not large. known, by the name of St. Puden- It was held in a hall of the house, tiana. Another is, that the one alconverted into a church or oratory tar till then existing was not of stops. which was mainly occupied by the Where was this solemn function to It was, in fact, the wooden altar used clergy, and the candidates for orbe performed, was Fulvius' first by St. Peter, and kept in that ders, Among the latter were Mar. inquiry. And we cannot but think church, till transferred by St. Syl- mus and Marcellianus, the twin brothat the answer will be interesting vester to the Lateran hasilion, of there, fellow-converts of Torquatus, which it forms the high altar. We who received the descenshin, and can our sequaintenes with the an- further conclude, that the law was their father Tranquillinus, who was cient Roman Church be complete, not retrospective, and that the ordeined pricet. Of these Fulying Ba the use of these pretty toys you have without our knowing the invored wooden alter of the Popes was pre- pensed well in his mind the designed Catulus, with a good heart, showed presched, and celebrated the divine been first erected, though from time most a

hurch, at the age of twel would certainly have quoted it. For can we doubt that 'the girl who was a virgin of only twelve years old, a handmaid of God and Christ," was such by consecration to God? Otherwiss, the more tender hor age, the less wonderful her state of maidenbood.

But although this, the nubile age according to Roman law, was the one at which such dedication to God was permitted by the Church, she re served to a maturer period that more solemn consecration, when the veil of virginity was given by the bishop; generally on Easter Sunday. The first act probably consisted of nothing more than receiving from the hands of parents a plain dark dress. But when any danger threatened the Church permitted the anticipation, by many years, of that period, and fortified the spouses of Ohrist in their boly purpose, by her more solemn bleusiag:

A persecution of the most savage character was on the point of break ing out, which would not spare the most tender of the flook: and it was no wonder that they, who in their hearts had betrothed themselves to the Lamb, as His chaste spouses for ever, should desire to come to His nuptials before beath. They longed naturally to bear the full-grown lily, entwined around the palm, should this be their portion.

Agnes had from her infancy ohones for herself this bolinst state. The superhuman wisdom which had ever axhibited itself in her words, and actions, blending so gracefully with the simplicity of an incoust and guileless childhood, rendered 1 ripe, beyond her years, for measure of indulgence, which do be granted, to hearts that pointed for their chaste bridal-home Bbe carers seized on the claim that coming dan ger gave her, to a more thad usual relaxation of that law, which prescribed a datay of more that ten years in the fulfilling of her dealers. Another postulant joined her in this petition.

We may easily insering tags & hole friendship had been ground an eren her and Syra, from the first is the set which we have described be specie them. This feeling had been increa by all that Agnes had heard Fabiols say, in praise of her favorite securit. From this, and from the slaves more and the second second parts of

Syre headant : standed to all the page of They a parted Cancillia, amaint the kind Look tavorite in scatt 1 nos abo admitted to that a ten's minance. About she few m threw hernels when her be burst into tomm. Inseths wo and caressed ber, and soon ean ber. In a few minutes she was an bright and loyous, and evidently date in conspiracy, with the claurial lady. about something which deligible When she left she was all and bilthe, and went to the Agnes, in the knewline of an good prices, Disagatas, Ben found him at homes and said self on her knows b so fervestly to blue. moved to tears, and guild adhialdanty to him all's heart as sumble hat

The blang months of the solenn mysteries had bern ted, and the body of the faith dispersed. Only these second had to take part is the f function, or the water the to without it. and her ent, the Agnes, and of each Sine lookal m

NUMBER DEPARTMENT ions, and route allver lainte of grout

