

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

appeared to her, and asked her to build a new convent for her Carmelites in Brooklyn. The Prioress replied gratefully, telling the invalid they would pray for her, and when she had recovered she was to call on them and they would talk the matter over. Two or three days later there came a second letter from the invalid, announcing that the Little Flower had again asked her if she would not build the much-needed convent. A second time the Prioress replied that they would await her recovery and thereafter would discuss the affair. Soon there arrived a note scrawled in the handwriting of one who scarcely had strength to hold the pen. There had been a third visit from the Saint, and a third request that the convent would be rebuilt. The sufferer added that death was at hand, and she wished to settle the matter before it was too late. The Prioress wrote that she had done her duty and could rest content, assured her of their prayers, and advised her to think only of preparing for the coming of Our Lord. Very shortly afterwards God called the good woman to Himself. A priest, however, who had attended her on her deathbed, told the story to her sister, and bade the latter examine the letters written to the Carmel. Profoundly impressed, she decided it was God's will she should carry out the wish of the Little Flower; and at the moment of writing, February, 1927, a beautiful convent and a lofty enclosure wall have been completed.

In Hartford St. Thérèse has care of the Italian community, and her shrine is a notable centre of devotion in that very Catholic city. Washington also has its ardent devotees of the Little Flower. Her League there looks after the interests of the Alaskan missionaries. In one of its convents the writer found it necessary to meet certain criticisms levelled good-naturedly at the devotion. "I am not a heretic," said one of the community with a smile, "I have seen the Little Flower." The answer was a rather incredulous look. "Yes," she continued, "I happened to be in Rome on pilgrimage