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Charity Never Fails

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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CHARITY NEVER FAILS

In the City of New York, at 71 Jackson Street, stands a plain building of yellow brick. It is a hospital, but a most exclusive hospital in an unusual sense. To be admitted as a patient you must belong to the aristocracy of poverty and pain. If you have money, or if you are suffering from an ailment that carries with it the hope of recovery, you must look elsewhere. But if you are penniless, and if you are afflicted with an incurable form of cancer, nothing more is required, you are welcome. This remarkable house of hospitality is known as St. Rose's Home, named in honor of St. Rose of Lima. You may recall that St. Rose's Home was founded by Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, a daughter of Nathaniel Hawthorne, the distinguished American novelist.

Those who have read Katherine Burton's interesting book "Sorrow Builds a Bridge" will know the story of how Mrs. Lathrop became Mother Alphonsa, and counted it a divine privilege to work among the cancerous poor.

Charity never fails. She did not want the vicissitudes of time to bring to a close this work of finding Christ in the afflicted. She wanted others who feel the pres-

sure of pain to discover that sorrow can be a friend. That is why she founded a community of Dominican Sisters to keep love alive long after she had passed on. Although vocations are difficult to find for any work of extreme sacrifice, it was not long before other homesteads of hospitality were founded in various parts of the United States. Here is the list:

Mother House (with Home attached), Hawthorne, N. Y.

St. Rose's Home, 71 Jackson Street, New York, N. Y.

Sacred Heart Home, Philadelphia, Pa.

Rose Hawthorne Lathrop Home, Fall River, Mass.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Home, Atlanta, Ga.

Our Lady of Good Counsel Home, St. Paul, Minn.

There is no danger of these homesteads tumbling down into ruins. Mark Twain, distinguished American humorist, saw the seriousness of the good and trustful humor that blesses these little homes, and wrote a letter to Rosary Hill, saying:

"This work will never fail until pity fails in the hearts of men —and that will never be."