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## Box 11, Folder 40 - "St. Augustine : For Faith has its eyes" (E.M.S.)

Edwin Mortimer Standing

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## St Augustine

For faith has its eyes, by which it in some way perceives to be true that which it does not yet see, and by which it-very surely-perceives that it does not yet see what it believes. Moreover, he who by true reason arrives at an understanding of what he had only believed, is in a better state of advancement than he who still only desires to understand what he believes. If, however, he has not this desire and thinks that it is sufficient to hold fast to the faith without aspiring to an understanding, he ignores the true end and utility of faith. For as pious faith has no desire to exist without hope and without charity, it is needful that the faithful should believe what he does not yet see in such a way that he may hope for and love a vision of it.

For faith has its eyes by which it in some way perceives to be true that which it does not yet see, and

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The disciples whom He picked out to set forth his teaching were of the common people, unlearned, fishermen; publicans, and it was they who, proclaiming His Resurrection and His Ascension, which they asserted that they had seen, and being filled with the Holy Ghost, sounded forth this Gospel in all tongues which they had not learned. And of those who heard them, part believed, part, believing not, fiercely withstood the preaches. And so by their fidelity even unto death for the truth; by their striving, not by returning evil but by steadfast endurance; by their victories, gained not by killing but by dying; the world was converted to this religion; and to this Gospel were converted the hearts of mortals, of men and women, of great and small, of learned and unlearned, of wise and foolish, of mighty and weak, of noble and ignoble, of high degree and low. And the Church, spread abroad throughout all nations, so increased, that even against the Catholic faith itself there arises no perverse sect nor any kind of error, which is found so to oppose itself to Christian truth, as that it affects not and go about to glory in the name of Christ. And such very error would not be suffered to spring up over the earth, were it not that its refutation exercises a wholesome discipline.