

and beseech Her to strengthen you, to surround you with Her protection, and to preserve you from lapsing into intemperance.

Oh! it is particularly for you, Members of the Confraternity of the Cross, that Mary has preserved and holds in reserve a treasure of light and of strength, and Her charity invites you to come and draw from Her stores with confidence. Oh, what blessings and graces you forfeit, and to what dangers you are exposed, if you neglect Her amiable invitation! Oh, what shame and disgrace if you prove faithless to your temperance pledge! What an insult to the Mother of Jesus, whose thirst was slaked with gall and vinegar to expiate our excesses, if, in the face of Her Church, in the presence of Her altars, at the feet of Her image, and, as it were, under Her eyes, you betake yourselves to the debasing excesses of intemperance, and thus become a subject of scandal to the people of the town and country! Ah! we beseech you to shun so great a misfortune by putting yourselves under the safe keeping of Mary.

Strangers, whoever you are, or whithersoever you come from, on your arrival in this city, remember you are entering into the demesnes of Mary, into a city of which She is the Patroness, the Lady and the Princess, that She resides and holds Her Court here, where she cheerfully receives all strangers and travellers, where she even invites them to come and be presented to Her—reflect also that she is a noble Lady, that she is beneficent, charitable and powerful. Whatever be your fears or your hopes, your joys or your woes, your necessities of body or soul, your sufferings, your afflictions or your temptations, She has the power and the will to relieve them, if you will but consent to visit Her and implore Her assistance. Oh! do not fail to go and salute Her on your arrival, in order to pay Her your homage, and to obtain Her protection, and also at your departure to solicit Her blessing.

Citizens of Quebec, to you has been given the honour of having Mary for your Queen and your patroness: you have the happiness of being, in an especial manner, her clients and her children. She expects to receive from you signal proofs of your respect, your love, your devotedness, and your homage; you have also peculiar claims on her protection and succour. Your piety has erected in her honour the church of our Lady of Victories; the construction of this sanctuary is indeed the work of your fathers, but its recent restoration and decoration, together with its