

lie establishments which he had either created or restored, in the City of Paris, bore witness to his zeal. The most learned doctors testified "that, whilst in their youth, they had listened to his instructions, they believed that it was God himself who spoke to them." Fenelon and Flechier, together with eighty Bishops, bore the like honorable testimony. The different religious orders with one accord, proclaimed his praise. "It was impossible," said three assemblies of the clergy, at the head of whom was Cardinal de Noailles, "to restrain the piety of the faithful," who willed that the name of the humble Vincent should be inscribed in the diptychs of the Saints. The most eminent men of the time, as well as the most lowly, concurred in forwarding the canonization of the saintly man, who had given joy to the universal church by his charitable labours, and had won for his country, new and lasting fame. Such men as Cardinal de Perigord, and, the renowned Benedict XIV., known as yet, only, as Prosper Lambertini, labored in the cause, whilst a convict, to whom Vincent of Paul had imparted consolation and instruction, bore witness to his excellent virtue. This person, when informed that there was question of canonizing him, exclaimed: "O, I knew him well,—he was too humble, he will never suffer it." "This sublime defiance," observes the eloquent Cardinal Maury, "was heard in Heaven." The supreme authority pronounced. The memory of Vincent de Paul was beyond the reach of cavil, enshrined in the annals of the imperishable church; and his name which had already been written so long in the Book of Life, was inscribed in that record, more bright and more enduring than the most glorious page of earthly fame,—that record which passeth from generation to generation, and will only cease to be read, when there will no longer be a world to contain it, nor men by whom it can be perused. The French monarch Louis XV. worthily celebrated an event, so honorable to his country, by causing twelve Galley slaves to be restored to liberty. The French people, and all people who owned the Catholic name, hailed with rapture, the honors so worthily conferred on the Friend of humanity, the Apostle of Truth, the Light of his age, the Stay of weakness, the Father of the poor. The men of every clime rejoiced; for if Heaven descended Truth appeared to them, in their day, in all its essential excellence, and beauty, and fascinating loveliness, they owed the boon to SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL.