

and respect, and gives presents. Let us then think St. Anne from the very beginning, so that she may not forget us in the present and in the future.

Monseigneur Fréppel, the eloquent, courageous and untiring Bishop of Angers, pronounced on that day the grand words in the church of St. Anne d'Aray, the national pilgrimage of Brittany.

"How and by what means has such a worship thus taken root in some wild heath of Armorica? It is one of those mysterious apparitions which strike the mind of a nation only at the moment when they reap its fruits. The Ethiopian shepherd-boy, who treads with indifference the ground beneath which the Nile hides its unexplored sources, doubts not that there springs the river which fertilizes all Egypt. So it is with the works of God: they are nearly always born in silence and obscurity: sometimes even they seem to be lost underground and to hide from the sight the trace of their passage, to reappear at a short distance farther on, brighter and stronger. When, therefore, three centuries ago, that man of God, whose name would reproach myself for not pronouncing on this day, when your old ancestor Nicolazic, was raised up by Him who loveth to choose what is weakest according to the world to confound that which is strongest, it was after a long chain of centuries that he was called to link together again the present and the future, by restoring a worship that your forefathers had received at the very dawn of christianity.

"Yes, that immortal pledge of His blessings, which had placed it in the very cradle of your faith. He willed that the image of the matron of Juda should remain suspended above your heads, as the symbol and model of domestic virtues, as the ideal of the wife and mother, so that after the example of Her whose husband was a saint, and whose daughter was the Queen of all Saints, you might preserve at your family hearth, the submissiveness of filial piety.