

After having visited it in all directions, during forty days, the explorers came back to Moses, Aaron and the children of Israël assembled in the desert of Pharan, near Cades. Two of the envoys bore upon a litter a vine-branch with its grapes, and the others were laden with divers fruits of the land of Canaan. They showed them to the assembly, relating what they had seen, and said : " We have travelled through this land that you have sent us to visit, and it is truly flowing with milk and honey, as you may judge by these fruits."

Dear reader, St. Anne and St. Joachim are in a certain manner that Land of Promise; at least this symbolical name is given them by the Fathers and some pious writers. If then, you wish to appreciate its riches, behold its fruit : on this holy land, the burning bush shed all its light without being consumed ; on this blessed land, in this earthly paradise, grew the stem of Jesse, the tree which has given us the fruit of life, Life itself. Joachim was the father, and Anne, the mother of Mary Immaculate.

Like the Hebrews wandering through the dreary wilderness, let us hasten towards the beloved country of Heaven, watered with unspeakable blessings. Let us leave the caves of Pharan ; let us seek a refuge in that land where flow the milk and honey of divine consolations ; in our sorrows, in our temptations, and all our wants, may we learn how to have recourse to St. Anne and her motherly kindness. Is she not the mother of the Mother of grace ?

*(From the French of Father Mermillod, S. J.)*

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## THE DEVOTION OF PILGRIMAGES.

It is a well-known truth, and every year proved by numerous and striking facts, that St. Anne frequently grants the favors asked of her, in the course of the pilgrimages piously performed at her beloved shrine. Nor need we wonder at this. Places of pilgrimage,