



## The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

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**B**EHOLD that venerable old man who has awaited during long years the Redemption of Israel ! What tears he shed ! What prayers he wafted heavenwards ! To-day a little child is presented to him. As soon as his arms clasp it, he feels and knows he holds the Desired of Nations. "It is He !"

And that pious widow who has consecrated the best years of her life to the service of the Temple. She also watched and prayed for the Messiah promised to her forefathers. What sighs ! What ardent longings went up from her very heart ! To-day the Holy Ghost guides her steps to the sacred place and in that little child Simeon raises towards heaven she recognizes the object of her desires. "It is He !" Not many weeks ago a few simple shepherds wended their way across the country in the middle of the night, following the angel's voice who had said : "Go to Bethlehem and behold a wonderful sight, a Saviour is born unto you..." "And when they saw this little Infant lying on straw, their hearts were filled with faith and love and they voiced the angel's gloria. "It is He !"

Then came the kings, the wise men. Many a night had they scanned the heavens, seeking the mysterious star foretold by the prophets... At last it appeared. They followed it and it led them to a crib wherein lay a little Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes. But a celestial light