



## The Purification.

*M* AIDEN—she comes in matron's guise,  
 Into the temple's holy place ;  
 A mother's love-light in her eyes,  
 A virgin bloom upon her face ;  
 Lawless—she still obeys the law  
 As did her Son when erst the flow  
 Of Jordan's waters paused and saw  
 The baptized Saviour from them go.  
 Wealthy—she comes in pauper mien,  
 Whose voice at Cana softly breathed  
 A whispered word, and wine was seen  
 Within the casks where water wreathed.

Sinless—she comes in sinner's form  
 Her stainless soul to purify,  
 Seeing some lily which the storm  
 Had beautified in passing by.  
 O waxen tapers that are placed  
 Upon her many shrines to-day,  
 What happiness is yours to waste  
 For her dear sake yourselves away !  
 Would that our hearts might imitate  
 The sacrifices ye complete,  
 And all our being consecrate  
 Itself to such a service sweet !

—REV WILLIAM D. KELLY.