

such as shall have combatted their evil propensities, and with courage and perseverance, fulfilled all their duties.

It was by means like these, that Hermann and his wife skilfully inspired their young family with sentiments of piety, profiting by circumstances to lead them to love and practise virtue.

Hence these children were distinguished throughout the village, for their innocence, their meekness their amiable manners, and their good conduct. As their parents presented the example of a happy marriage, so the children were soon remarkable for their precocious virtues.

The curate often said to his parishoners, "I do not know a more estimable family than the school-master's; and the reason is, because it seeks its happiness in religion."

(To be continued.)

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### POETRY.

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#### ADDRESS TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN.

ON THE DAY OF HER GLORIOUS ASSUMPTION,

*For the Conversion of my Children.*

Angels trooped in bright succession,  
Seraphs singing in the sky,  
Odours sweet in heaven's possession  
Bear "the Mystic Rose" on high.

Eyes of Mary! near whose beaming  
Stars of glory dimly shine;  
Planetary brightness seeming  
Lost in radiance so divine.

Eyes of Mary! looking softer  
Than the moon in evening mild;  
Turn those rays of liquid lustro  
On her supplicating child.

Mother hear me now beseeching  
For my captive children pray;  
Compassionate my grief and weeping,  
On this joyous festal day.

By the joy of that saluting,  
Bright archangel Gabriel's "Hail!"  
Hear me for thy aid invoking—  
For thy prayers which never fail.

By that heaven directed meeting,  
When St. Elizabeth exclaimed—  
"Mother of our Lord! Thee greeting  
Thus thy blessedness proclaimed

By the sword of grief which pierced thee,  
While the prophet Simeon spake  
Look benignly now upon me,  
On my children pity take.

By delicious joys which filled thee,  
When God [an infant] on thee smiled;  
Look with clemency upon me,  
"Help of Christians!" *Virgin mild!*

By the poignant grief which seized thee,  
When Herod sought thy Jesus' life;  
Oh! avert my children's danger,  
[Unarmed to meet the demon's strife.]

By the joy thy soul delighting,  
When eastern sovereigns adored  
Thy Jesus—humbly made their offering,  
Owning him their Sovereign Lord.

By the grief your heart assailing  
When, in vain, you sought your child!  
Oh! assist my children wandering  
All bewildered and beguiled.

By the grateful joy which blest thee,  
When on the temples hallowed ground,  
'Midst th' astonished throng which press'd thee,  
Jesus preaching there you found,

By the bitter woe and anguish,  
Afflicted Mother! at His side  
Thou beheld'st thy Jesus languish;  
Pity those for whom he died.

By thy desolating sadness  
At the closed sarcophagus sight,  
Mother! let my children's darkness  
Pass away!—oh! give them light.

By thy blessed Son's appearing  
Triumphant over Death and Hell,  
Offer prayers thy Jesus hearing,  
Will succour those He loves so well.

By the joys so far surpassing  
Thought e'er reach'd or eye hath seen,  
Hear me now, my grief outpouring,  
Virgin Mother! Heavenly Queen!

M. E. I. W.

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### General Intelligence.

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#### THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Rome, Dec. 8.

Rome, receives at this moment, with a pious avidity, the spiritual treasures which the common father of the faithful has just opened to the entire world. Since the first day of the Jubilee, the Roman people have repaired in crowds, either to visit the Holy Basilicas, or to listen to the discourses which are delivered towards evening in the various churches appointed by the Cardinal-Vicar. The well known piety of the Romans seems to have received a new impulse from the holy exhortations and touching example of Pius IX. In the midst of the grave anxieties which the temporal affairs of his government impose, the Sovereign Pontiff never for a moment loses sight of the more sacred duties of his divine mission.—With an activity truly indefatigable in the study of his subject's wants, he occupies himself with