

invariably built by the united efforts of the diocese. We do not know a single exception to this rule. Even in wealthy New York, every mission in the diocese had to contribute for years a fixed annual sum towards the erection of St. Patrick's Cathedral. Hence, in asking our diocesans to contribute unitedly and generously towards the construction of our Cathedral, we are asking nothing which the bishops of the christian world have not asked and obtained under similar circumstances. We therefore confidently appeal to our beloved clergy, and the faithful and ever-generous laity of the diocese, to come unanimously to our help in our great and arduous undertaking. You have never yet failed us in any call we felt obliged to make upon you in the interests of religion, and we feel confident you will not fail us now. The Cathedral is a necessity, it is the work of God; it is undertaken solely for the glory of the adorable Trinity, for the interest of our holy religion, for the honour of the diocese, and for the salvation of souls. Let not selfishness, narrow-mindedness, avidity, or any other unworthy motive, prevent any from helping in this diocesan work. These things have never yet raised a monument to God, or achieved anything great or noble in the world; they are only powerful for mischief and for retarding or preventing the success of a good cause. But rather let generosity, nobility of soul, the love of God and of our holy religion, be the motives that will animate you and guide your conduct in relation to this great undertaking.

Let us, therefore, in God's holy name, go to work. Let us build this much-needed Cathedral for the honour of God and His Blessed Mother, and as a monument of our holy faith. We shall have a share in the merit of every act of religion performed in it. Every stone and brick built into its walls will be a prayer for us to God. Every holy Mass offered therein will plead with the irresistible voice of the precious blood, before the divine mercy seat, for pardon of our sins. Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament will abundantly bless and reward all who will have helped to raise this temple to His