

us to bless, even in our days, the forgotten name of the sovereigns of Toulouse.

Her remains, preserved for six centuries in silk and gold, relics of miraculous efficacy, offer a wonderful contrast to the abandoned and proscribed bones of her ancestors, repudiated by heaven and earth.

So true is it that the glory of God, which is found in holiness, is imperishable, while human glory, so much sought for by prince and beggar, withers and disappears like the grass of the field, blighted by the tempest of revolutions, or the pernicious breath of human ingratitude and human ignorance.

#### CHAPTER II.

BALDWIN OF TOULOUSE. HIS MISFORTUNES. BIRTH AND YOUTH OF ST. JOANNA.

Raymond VI., called "Old Raymond," had a brother whose name was Baldwin. Their mother was Constance of France, sister of Louis the Young, King of France.

Baldwin, with the consent of his brother, had married the daughter of Manfred of Rabastens, and received as her dowry the estates of Bruniquel, Montclar et Salvagnac. The deed of this donation is dated December, 1202. At the beginning of the war against the Albigenses, Baldwin sided with his brother, and assisted the latter in his struggles with Simon of Montfort.

Baldwin, while residing at his castle of Montferrand, was besieged by Montfort. Compelled to surrender his stronghold, he could only save his life by promising his conqueror that he would *never again wage war against the latter or move against him*. And although Baldwin frequently went to Toulouse afterwards to see the Count, his brother, he continued to be a follower

of Montfort, and aided the Catholic army against the heretics.

Raymond, angered by the conduct of his brother, finally treated him as an enemy and besieged him in the Castle of Olme, in Quercy, near Cahors. Having taken the castle, he made Baldwin his prisoner. He forced his poor prisoner to march chained and manacled to Montauban. In this city, Raymond, to satisfy his bitter feelings of revenge, barbarously ordered his brother to be hanged to a tree in his presence, by Roger, Count of Foix, Bernard his son, and an Arragonese called Raymond of Portellis.

When the Knight Templars heard of the tragic death of Baldwin, they came to Raymond and demanded that the body should be delivered to them in order that they might bury it. Having obtained his consent, they brought the body to the castle of Ville Dieu and there interred it near the church.

This fratricidal murder took place in the year 1213. Profane history makes no mention of the names of Baldwin's children, but everything indicates, according to the church historians, that Baldwin was the father of St. Joanna et St. Ann, both Carmelite virgins, whom historians designate as *Countesses of Toulouse, Saints of the house of Toulouse, or Virgins descending from the Counts of Toulouse*.

It was during the glorious pontificate of Innocent III. that our saint first saw the light of day.

The well known date of her death, and the equally well known years of her age at the time of death, are sufficient to determine with some degree of certainty the year of her birth as 1212.

This blessed child was baptized under the name of St. John the Baptist, the Precursor of Our Lord. Her very name was a presage of her future love