

to repentance. Wherefore, O Lord, animated by Thy calling and invitation, I come unto Thee, overburdened with the weight of my sins, hoping to find ease and relief of Thee. Thy custom (while Thou wert upon earth) was to receive sinners and to eat with them ; and thy delight was to be with the sons of men ; if Thou, O Lord, be still pleased with such guests, behold one here at this time, of that kind, a notorious sinner. I verily believe, that thou tookest more pleasure in the tears of the sinful woman, than in the great feast of the proud Pharisee, and for a few tears of her's didst forgive many sins unto her. Behold, O Lord, new matter offered for Thy great mercy to work upon. Here lieth a sinner, who hath many more sins than she, but fewer tears by many : who, though he hath more grievously offended, yet doth more carelessly bewail his offences than she did. She was neither the first nor the last, whom Thou didst in