

and precious stones. All, both men and women, with devout mind offered gifts that the work might be done which the Lord had commanded by the hand of Moses." Exodus xxxv. Now the tabernacle of Moses was but the mere type and shadow of the Catholic temple. It contained the tables of the law, the rod of Aaron and the loaves of Proposition. The Catholic temple contains in His Eucharistic presence God, the author of the law; it enshrines Christ himself, who fills it with the majesty of His adorable presence. The tabernacle contained a vessel of the manna that was showered from the heavens for the sustenance of the chosen people in their passage through the desert; the Catholic temple contains the true bread from heaven, the bread of life, of which they who partake may not die. "Your fathers," said Christ to the Jews, "did eat manna in the desert, and they died; he that eateth this bread shall live forever; and the bread which I will give you is my flesh for the life of the world. He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath everlasting life, and I will raise him up on the last day." St. John vi. Now the Church is the treasure-house of this divine and life-giving bread—it is the paradise in which grows this tree of life whose leaves are for the healing of the nations; it is the earthly house of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, whose delight is to be with the children of men.

When Solomon had dedicated the great temple which he had built to the honour of the true God, the Lord said to him, "I have sanctified this house which thou hast built to put my name there for ever, and my eyes and my heart shall be there always." 3 Kings, iv. But our Blessed Redeemer dwells corporally in our churches. Not only His blessed name, but He Himself is always there, and his eyes and his adorable and loving heart are there day and night to see the wants and miseries of His people, and to grant them mercy, grace and pardon.

The temple in the olden dispensation was a place of sacrifice. On its altars was offered up the blood of animals to