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THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF CHRIST.

WHEN Milton essayed to write his "Paradise Lost," he invoked the aid of the heavenly muse to his adventurous song, because it was about to pursue things unattempted yet in prose or rhyme. My supplication is for aid because I essay a theme so often pursued before. He feared lest he should be lost in his solitary way, and I lest I should be lost among the multitude of my companions. Many times since I chose my theme for this lecture has the poem of Edwin Arnold been repeated in my memory:

“ ‘How shall I write,’ I said, ‘who am not meet
One word of that sweet speaking to repeat?’
‘It shall be given unto thee. Do this thing,’
Answered the voice, ‘wash thy lips clean and sing.’”

The Consciousness of Christ is my subject. And I have chosen this theme, not because I shall attempt to explain to you what His consciousness was, but that I may indicate the way in which that consciousness is to be discovered. I do not presume to unfold something new and striking about the person of Christ, but to state some facts that gather about His person, and some reflections that arise from these facts.

That Jesus Christ is the great object of interest to the world, and specially to the Church, we all know. But this