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Faith can remove mountains, and your faith in God and your love for His holy Church will enable you to remove the mountains of difficulties that may beset this work, and will urge you to accomplish wonders of labour and self-sacrifice in erecting in this city a splendid Cathedral, which will be in some measure not unworthy of the Divine Majesty, and will be to future generations a noble and enduring monument of your faith and piety. For this is the light in which we should regard the proposed undertaking. We should look at it with the eyes of faith, and should enter on it solely for the glory of God, the honour of our holy religion and the salvation of our souls. In the language of Holy Writ, "The house which we desire to build is great, for our God is great above all Gods." 2 Par., II, 5. We purpose building a house, not for man, but for God; not for the material wants of the perishable body, but for the spiritual wants and necessities of the imperishable soul.

The Catholic Church is pre-eminently the house of God and the gate of heaven. It is the house of God because Christ, our beloved Redeemer, dwells therein in the great Sacrament of the Eucharist, in which He so strikingly manifests his desire to be with the children of men. When Moses, by the Divine command, undertook to construct the tabernacle for the purpose of divine worship, he called upon the people to contribute of their means to enable him to accomplish his holy undertaking. The Israelites responded to the call made upon them with such alacrity and generosity, they were so zealous for the work and so prodigal of their means for the carrying of it out to a successful issue, that Moses felt compelled to restrain their zeal and to forbid any further gifts. "Both men and women," says the Scripture, "gave bracelets and earrings, rings and tablets and vessels of gold. If any man had violet and purple, and scarlet twice dyed, and fine linen, and metal of silver and brass, they offered it to the Lord. And the skilful women also gave such things as they had spun. And the princes offered onyx stones

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