

the dogma and bestowing praise upon the prelate who had erected it into an article of faith.

Throughout the great world arose sanctuaries and altars to God in honor of the Blessed Virgin ; and a fresh impulse was given to the devotion to Mary who had been so signally honored by our Lord Himself when He chose her to be the guide of His tender years, and when at the foot of the cross He gave her as common mother to all the faithful represented by the beloved disciple St. John. Truly may we say that Pius IX. was the chosen servant of the Lord who was to be so instrumental in bringing about the fulfilment of the prophesy contained in Luke I, 48 : "For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed."

Sir Walter Scott had fully grasped the idea of Catholic devotion to the Mother of God when he wrote his "Hymn to the Virgin : " with whose beautiful lines we close :

Ave Maria ! maiden mild  
Listen to a maiden's prayer,  
Thou canst hear though from the wild  
Thou canst save amid despair  
Safe may we sleep beneath thy care  
Though banished, outcast, and reviled  
Maiden ! hear a maiden's prayer !  
Mother, hear a suppliant-child !

Ave Maria !

Ave Maria ! undefiled  
The flinty couch we now must share,  
Shall seem with down of eider piled  
If thy protection hover there,  
The murky cavern's heavy air  
Shall breathe of balm, if thou hast smiled ;  
Then, Maiden ! hear a maiden's prayer ;  
Mother, list a suppliant child !

Ave Maria !

Ave Maria ! stainless styled !  
Foul demons of the earth and air,  
From this their wonted haunt exiled,  
Shall flee before thy presence fair.  
We bow us to our lot of care,  
Beneath thy guidance reconciled ;  
Hear for a maid a maiden's prayer  
And for a father hear a child !

Ave Maria !

L. E. O. PAYMENT '99.

