

believes so, and he is mistaken. Was it for temporal honor and glory? The ambitious think so, and they err. Was it for worldly sinful pleasures? Such is the libertine's persuasion, and damnation will be his lot. Was it to eat, to drink and to sleep? No. God created man for His glory, to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him forever in the next. The Book of Wisdom (xv. 3) teaches, that to know God is perfect justice, and to know His justice and power is the root of immortality. And shortly before His Passion, when praying for His Apostles and the world our Lord Jesus Christ said. « This is eternal life that they may know Thee, the only true God. » (Jo. xvii. 3)

How can man acquire a proper knowledge of God? A monk was one day walking along the solitary sea shores, absorbed in the contemplation of God's greatness; he was looking for something in nature that would give him an idea of the Creator. He raised his eyes and cast them over the ocean's deep. Like King David, he admired that vast expanse of waters, and in his heart he repeated the Psalmist's words: (xcii. 4) *mirabiles elationes maris* — « Wonderful are the surges of the sea; wonderful is the Lord on high. » On the summit of every surf that broke on the beach, he imagined he saw so many different words written in letters of gold. He read thereon, that the God whom he sought to comprehend, was omnipotent, omniscient, all-wise, immense, immutable, infinitely holy, just, good, true and faithful. Every billow that died at his feet, brought him a different name of God's infinite perfections. It seemed to appeal to him, to devote his life to the study of his Creator by the proper consideration of each separate attribute. —

Want of space will not permit a proper exposition of God's manifold perfections. A brief explanation of one or two, will, however, teach us how to acquire a greater knowledge of God.

*God is omnipotent.* That is to say, He is all-powerful, He can do anything He wills. Before the beginning of time, nothing but God existed. He spoke to chaos, and immediately the sun shone in the heavens; the stars and the moon appeared in the firmament; the rivers flowed to the ocean; the earth gave forth its fruit, and, finally, God created man, the master and lord of all. Nothing is difficult or impossible to God's omnipotence. If He so desired, He could create thousands of other worlds greater and more marvellous than this one, which is the admiration of man. After considering all this, let the mother adore Almighty God, the Maker and Ruler of all things, saying: «Great