

to exert in their behalf, Her Motherly influence with Jesus : *Monstra te esse matrem.*

In fine, all the Fathers and all the Doctors of the Church are unanimous in teaching that under the benignant influence of Mary's name, none need despair, that it is impossible that a servant of Mary can ever perish ; and the devout St. Bernard has no hesitation in declaring, in the name of all : Remember, O most pious Virgin, that it is unknown and unheard of, that any of those who have had recourse to thee, imploring thy succour, has ever been forsaken. *Memorare, Opiissima Virgo, non esse auditum quemquam ad tua recurrentem presidia, tua implorantem auxilia..... esse derelictum.....*

From old France, solemnly consecrated to Mary, the devotion towards the blessed Virgin was imported by our forefathers into this, their new country. In the presence of the perils they had to encounter in a savage land, they hastened to place themselves and families under her protection. Champlain and his companions, kneeling together, on the spot where now stands the Church of Our Lady of Victories, in the first place offered up solemn thanksgivings to Mary, the auspicious Star of the Sea, who had guided their vessel and safely conducted them to port ; they afterwards besought her, that she would prove herself a mother in their regard amidst the dangers which they felt would beset them in a barbarous land ; that she would take under her holy care and safe keeping the nascent and feeble Colony, which was about being settled down, in the midst of infidel and ferocious hordes.

From this moment, the devotion towards the Holy Virgin seemed to be closely connected with this site, where also was said, in one of the apartments of Champlain's house, serving as a temporary Chapel, the first Mass that ever was celebrated at Quebec, after the arrival of the children of St. Francis in 1615.

Desirous to place this site under the protection of religion, and to promote at the same time devotion towards the Blessed Virgin, his Lordship the Right Rev. De St. Valier, second bishop of Quebec, laid in 1688, the corner stone of the Church of the Lower Town, which was afterwards dedicated under the invocation of our Lady of Victory, in consequence of a vow made by the ladies of Quebec, while the City was besieged by the English forces in 1690. To the especial pro-