

The Catholic Record

Published every Friday morning at 428 Richmond Street.
Annual subscription, \$2.00
Six months, \$1.00

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Ten cents per line for first, and five cents per line for each subsequent insertion. Advertisements measured in nonpareil type, 12 lines to an inch.
Contract advertisements for three, six or twelve months, special terms. All advertisements should be handed in not later than Tuesday morning.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All matter intended for publication must have the name of the writer attached, and must reach the office not later than Tuesday noon of each week.

THOS. COFFEY.

Publisher and Proprietor.
Subscribers who change their residence will please send us, by postal card, their Old as well as New Address, and thus insure the prompt delivery of the paper.
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LETTERS FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP WALSH.

London, Ont., May 23, 1879.
DEAR MR. COFFEY.—As you have become proprietor and publisher of the CATHOLIC RECORD, I deem it my duty to announce to its subscribers and patrons that the change of proprietorship will work no change in its aims and principles; that it will remain, what it has been, throughout, entirely independent of political parties, and exclusively devoted to the cause of the Church and the promotion of Catholic interests. I am confident that under your experienced management the RECORD will improve in usefulness and efficiency; and I therefore earnestly commend it to the patronage and encouragement of the clergy and laity of this diocese.
Believe me,
Yours very sincerely,
JOHN WALSH,
Bishop of London.

Catholic Record.

LONDON, FRIDAY, OCT. 28, 1881.

CRUEL FOLLY.

The British Premier, both in and out of Parliament, has frequently avowed the determination of his government to do justice to Ireland. No government was ever in a better position than the Gladstone administration to repair the wrongs of centuries inflicted on a generous people. The Irish people, deceived by the professions of the liberal chief, put faith in him—only to be grossly and brutally deceived. Every one must admit that in 1879 Ireland was face to face with starvation and ruin—a state of things resulting from the land system in force in that country. The Irish nation, the best judge of its own wants and necessities, declared in the spring of 1880 at the polls, that the land should belong to the people who tilled the soil. Mr. Gladstone himself had previously affirmed his preference for a peasant proprietary. He certainly, we admit, advocated not a system of spoliation or confiscation. Nor have the Irish people done so, as has been untruthfully and unjustly asserted by many English speakers and writers. But he did distinctly and emphatically assert that a radical measure of relief was necessary to restore peace and assure prosperity to Ireland. He could not ignore the fact that all classes of the people in that unfortunate country were in accord on this one point at least, that Irishmen who tilled the soil and improved its surface, who gave labor and means to the improvement of their holdings, should enjoy at least such a measure of security as could not interfere with the progress and the tranquility of the nation, and knowing this, could not refrain from expressing himself as he did, notably in the course of his famous Scottish campaign. When the voice of the vast majority of Englishmen called him to the highest place in their gift, Irishmen expected that he was prepared to deal as effectively with the land difficulty, as he had previously with the famous Scottish campaign. When the voice of the vast majority of Englishmen called him to the highest place in their gift, Irishmen expected that he was prepared to deal as effectively with the land difficulty, as he had previously with the famous Scottish campaign. When the voice of the vast majority of Englishmen called him to the highest place in their gift, Irishmen expected that he was prepared to deal as effectively with the land difficulty, as he had previously with the famous Scottish campaign.

at least as well as any British statesman with the situation in Ireland, should deal vigorously with the evils of the tenure of land in that country. Instead of doing so, he has given his best efforts to remove the apparent and most glaring injustices of landlordism with the view of preserving the system. The people of Ireland very justly resented such dealing with the question most affecting their interests. Through the voice of their freely chosen representatives in the late Dublin Convention, they expressed their distrust in the promised results of the Land Bill, but resolved at all events to test its workings. This was a manly and generous course. But before the Land Court enters upon organization the government determines upon provoking the whole nation to sedition and disorder by incarcerating the leader of the Irish people. Mr. Gladstone saw fit, in a recent speech at Leeds, to pronounce a bitter and most unjustifiable attack on Mr. Parnell. The latter very naturally replied with an impetuous bitterness all his own. We have frequently read speeches of Lord Beaconsfield, in criticism of Mr. Gladstone, and considered many of them at least as bitter, if not more bitter than that of Mr. Parnell at Wexford. But Mr. Gladstone dared not cause the arrest of his great rival. He dares, however, appeal to English prejudice to sustain him in incarcerating the trusted chief of the Irish party in Parliament. An act of more wanton folly could not be perpetrated by any Government. The Gladstone Government signed its own death warrant when it ordered the arrest of Mr. Charles Stewart Parnell. The name of this distinguished leader will now take a place in Irish history which nothing can obliterate. If anything were wanting to show the insincerity of the Premier, it is the re-arrest of John Dillon, the gallant member for Tipperary. This honorable gentleman was the recipient from Mr. Gladstone, at Leeds, of an eulogium such as Mr. Gladstone alone could pronounce. To-day he is languishing in prison for doing that which the Premier deemed worthy of eulogium. But neither the spirit of John Dillon, nor that of Charles Stewart Parnell, can be broken by prison bolts or chains. Their spirit is the spirit of Ireland redeemed and disenthralled from the servitude of landlordism. The cruel course which the government has seen fit to pursue has met with approval nowhere but in London. The press of that metropolis has in general distinguished itself by a hearty approval of brute force in all imperial dealings with Ireland. But the press which identifies itself with administrative violence cannot and does not command attention or respect abroad. The Irish people are now, and have been always lovers of law, order, and justice. In every country where they are found they are well known to be firm upholders of right, justice, and loyalty to the government that protects them. In Ireland they are equally well disposed to do all that in their power lies to promote the enforcement of law. But they cannot assist in the support of injustice, nor enforce laws framed to deprive them of rights. If Mr. Parnell deserves imprisonment for his utterances on the land tenure question, what must be said of the leaders of the liberal party previous to 1832, who positively threatened rebellion if the reform bill were not passed? The arrest of Mr. Parnell is in our opinion an aggravation of the injustice already dealt out to Ireland on the land question. It will simply provoke discord and ill-feeling—as well as hasten the day when Ireland will have to assert, by means as vigorous as she can employ, her right to self-government, and a place amongst the nations of the earth. The arrest has, instead of diminishing, increased the prestige, and added to the power of Mr. Parnell, who will leave prison the irresistible advocate of Irish freedom. His support will come from Irishmen all over the world, and will bear him up against every species of opposition either from governments or individuals.

Laval University, Quebec, has conferred the degree of M. A. on Rev. Messrs. Roy and Bourgeois, and that of B. A. on Rev. Mr. O'Neill.

All these gentlemen are professors in Memramcook College in this Province.

AT YORKTOWN.

The celebration of the great triumph achieved one hundred years ago by the combined armies of the United States and France over the British forces led by Lord Cornwallis have attracted very general attention both in Europe and America. The recent death of President Garfield under circumstances so sudden to the national heart has certainly diverted the interesting ceremonial, devised for the occasion, of the joyousness which otherwise had been one of its most marked features. Nevertheless, we are glad to know that the enthusiasm displayed in the commemoration of one of the most significant events in the revolutionary war has proved to the world that the American people cannot forget the memorable struggles which gave them a country, and a continent of enduring liberty. The presence of the representatives of the French army and navy added much to the éclat of the proceedings. It was meet indeed that the successors of the brave soldiers and sailors who fought so nobly and heroically to give the united colonies that freedom which has since spread its influence over the entire earth, should take part in the celebration so happily conducted at Yorktown. There is one other feature in connection with this celebration which should not be overlooked. It is this—that it has taken place in Virginia. The "old dominion" was the first portion of American soil settled permanently by an English speaking population. It suffered much in common with the other Southern colonies from the barbarous system of warfare which certain of the British captains inaugurated to quench the fire of liberty in the hearts of the American people. The South, it must not be forgotten, was the theatre of those ravages and devastations in which neither age, rank nor sex was respected. But cruelty failed to extinguish that exalted determination which the military genius of a Washington, the eloquence of a Patrick Henry and the statesmanship of a Jefferson had called into being and action. Virginia did at least her share, if not more than her share, in asserting the rights and maintaining the liberties of Britain's colonial empire. Upon her soil took place that momentous event justly celebrated by the American nation at Yorktown. Upon her soil, therefore, it is fitting that the representatives of all portions of the American union and of friendly European powers should assemble to commemorate an event which showed the impotence of tyranny in a struggle with right and justice and moderation. But since the triumph at Yorktown one hundred years ago, Virginia has been unfortunately the battle field between two sections of the very nation which then acquired liberty. The fratricidal conflict, began in 1860 and terminating five years later, has to this day left its mark on America. The friends of liberty in both hemispheres who were saddened and afflicted beyond all example by a struggle so unnatural and unprofitable, now rejoice to see North and South joining hands at Yorktown. No place more fitting, no place more apt by its touching memories to soften the asperities and remove the antagonism of recent civil strife than the historic town which so lately witnessed the gathering of the representative men of North and South. The gathering has, we repeat, attracted attention in the old as well as the new world. It will leave on the American people an excellent public and private effect. The rising generation of Americans see in it a desire on the part of their fathers to perpetuate those memories without which no nation can retain greatness or even duly fill its place in the great human family. The people that forget their past are unworthy of a future. America has proved by its magnificent celebration at Yorktown that it has not and cannot forget its glorious and historic past, and therefore lays claim to a future worthy the struggles, and sacrifices, and triumphs of the revolutionary war.

AN APPROACHING FALL.

The result of the late French elections proved, as we pointed out at the time, that the influence of Gambetta was decidedly on the wane. It was his boast and glory to represent a metropolitan constituency. At former elections he was invariably returned by enormous majorities from a suburb of Paris. This time he barely escaped defeat there by a nominal majority, and that, his opponents assert, obtained by the most questionable means. His party, however, was sustained by the nation at large—and many were on that account led to believe that the dictator who had by one word of his own so frequently removed Cabinets would now form a government of which he himself should be the avowed leader. Though it is no secret that Gambetta aspires to the Presidency of the republic itself, it is equally as generally acknowledged that M. Grevy has in that position given so much satisfaction to his party that the chances of the ambitious demagogue for the highest place in the republic are, so long as the present chief magistrate desires to retain the place, very slender indeed. Gambetta himself is not unacquainted with this fact—and, however bad he that gift of foresight predicted of him by his admirers, have decided on quietly biding his time till President Grevy's term had expired. In the presidential seat of the Chamber of Deputies, Gambetta ever displayed a partisanship revolting in such an officer. Outside the chamber he busied himself in intrigues and chicanery. It seemed impossible to devise any form of republican administration worthy his approval.

The slightest manifestation of independence on the part of ministers in regard of his arrogant and distasteful dictatorship brought them to early and sudden deprivation of office. The position held by the President of the Deputies was certainly anomalous and untenable. This disagreeable state of affairs the President of the republic very justly decided on terminating by inviting Gambetta himself on the close of the late elections to form a Cabinet. Ferry, the present Premier, expressed himself perfectly willing to make way at any time for him. But Gambetta, upon reflection, decided on refusing the offer of President Grevy, and will now, no doubt, endeavor to regain his old post as presiding officer of the popular chamber. The rank of the various monarchic groups in the new chamber are so very attenuated that the struggle for this post will be restricted to the republicans themselves. Gambetta cannot now command a unanimous republican vote. It is even doubtful if he could command such a large support as Clemenceau and others of reputed advanced theories. It may, indeed, be that several republican nominees will be proposed for the place. In that case it is difficult, if not impossible, to predict the chances of the dictator. Even if he proves successful in his race for the office he so unworthily filled during the existence of the last chamber, he can never again play the part of dictator. His ambition has already been rudely checked. He is now not the leader of the republican masses. His good name amongst them is lost. He has been judged and found wanting. Instead of a patriot, the people have found in him an arrogant demagogue and despotic adventurer. His fall is therefore at hand.

THE NEW VICE-PRESIDENT.

The Senate at its session of the 10th inst., elected Mr. Bayard, of Delaware, to its Presidential seat. This election proved but temporary, as a compromise between the parties who subsequently raised Mr. David Davis, of Illinois, to the Presidency of the Upper Chamber of the American Congress. Judge Davis is a gentleman of ability and of the highest legal attainments. Originally a republican, he has been of late inclined to the Democracy. In the Senate he has shown a marked spirit of independence of late unknown in the legislative bodies of America. It will be recollected by our readers that we recommended Judge Davis in the last campaign as the fittest candidate for the Presidency. Had

he been nominated he would of a certainty have been elected. His choice as President *pro tem.* of the Senate bespeaks his future election as President of the United States.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

This would be a most appropriate time for the government of Great Britain to call the attention of the powers to the condition of the peasantry in various out-of-the-way countries.

THE Montreal Star gets off the following truism: The apathy of the elector is the temptation of the politician. The less interest the elector takes in the affairs of his country, the greater the danger of the politician and the schemer getting control.

It is really laughable to witness the impertinence of the cable man. He volunteers occasionally to tell people of the American continent what he thinks of the condition of affairs in Ireland. The impudent chap should be sent about his business by the associated press.

In Ireland it is considered a grievance that the tenantry refuse landlords permission to fox-hunt over their farms. If the gentry were to set out upon such an expedition over Canadian farms they would find themselves in the look-up in a very short space of time.

WHAT a humiliating state of affairs for a great nation like England to contemplate! The corporation of the city of Dublin have passed a resolution to extend to Mr. Parnell the freedom of the city, while the government have stricken his name from the list of magistrates.

MR. PARNELL pronounced the Land Act a sham and a fraud. He was proceeding to prove this by bringing a number of test cases before the courts. Gladstone and Forster, however, considered "the best manner of covering up their knavery for a time would be to place Mr. Parnell in jail, and they did it."

It is a common expression that Ireland is England's weakness. How easily this could be changed. Give the former country a Parliament in Dublin such as we have here in Ontario, and Ireland might be made a strength to the empire. England's policy is a policy of selfishness and hate, and Ireland's rejoinder is a policy of contempt and defiance for England and England's laws.

A rumor is afloat in England of a "matrimonial alliance" between the Princess Beatrice and Thomas Duke of Genoa, the only brother of Queen Marguerite of Italy. This is supposed to be the outcome of Queen Victoria's visit to the Italian lakes two years ago. The Duke of Genoa is twenty-seven years of age and the Princess Beatrice twenty-four. What next? And what about the "law of succession?"

"A Comic Irish Alphabet for the Present Time" has made its appearance. It is the production of a St. Columba College boy, and the youthful author carries his fun playfully enough all round. The letter rhymes are of this kind:—

G—are the gentry begging their bread,
H—the Home Ruler who reigned in their stead.
I—is old Ireland, jovial and free,
J—judge and jury men, sunk in the sea.
K—the rack rents, which shall never be paid.
S—the State trials, a farce it is said, &c.

THE Montreal Star of 19th inst., says: Mgr. Racine, Bishop of Sherbrooke, and Very Rev. Mr. Hamel, V. G. of Quebec, who have just returned from Rome, dined yesterday with the reverend gentlemen of the Seminary, and afterwards visited Mgr. Fabre. His Lordship Bishop Racine speaks very despondingly of the great development of ultra-liberal ideas amongst the Italian population, and in fact throughout Europe in general. The community will be pleased to hear that Archbishop Bourget is in good health and enjoying his sojourn in Rome immensely.

An eviction sale at Cork left some small light in upon the kind of rents imposed by that model landlord, Mr. Bence Jones. Six of this gentleman's tenants were sold up. The first defaulting tenant was shown to be rented at £83, the valuation £38 10s; the next at £28, valuation £28 10s; the third at £28, valuation £14 10s; the fourth at £28, valuation £11; the fifth at £135, valuation £37 15s; the sixth at £61, valuation £25 10s. So that on an average the rent was more than three times the valuation. Mr. Bence Jones himself never makes any reduction for bad seasons, yet he is very

indignant when it is hinted, that he rack-rents.

It is most amusing to witness the manner in which some of the small fry of the Canadian press treat the Irish question. They bubble over with loyalty to such a degree that whatever little common-sense nature once endowed them with has departed. Why, little fellows, were the condition of things in Ireland to be imported into Canada for one week, we feel confident even many of you would handle a musket, brush up your knapsack and forthwith proceed to exterminate the landlords, bailiffs, stipendiary magistrates, peelers, &c., &c., who live and thrive and fatten on the hard labor of a people to whom the land rightfully belongs.

"Would you rob the landlords of their estates?" This question is often put now-a-days by the pro-English press. We would simply say: "Decidedly not." But do these estates belong to the landlords? They do. How did they obtain them? From the British government. Who gave them to the British Government? It confiscated the land, a legal phrase for robbery. But let this pass. The people are quite willing to let bygone be bygone. They want the land, and are willing to pay a fair price. They desire to purchase what of right belongs to them, and ask the government to compel the holders to sell. They will not live in squalor and hunger while the resources of the country are squandered on the continent by alien spendthrifts.

A rumor comes from Montreal that there is some little unpleasantness in the Dominion Cabinet over the appointment of the Montreal Judgeship. Sir John and Sir Alexander Campbell are said to be in favor of appointing Mr. Brooks, M. P. for Sherbrooke to the Bench there, and bringing Judge Doherty to Montreal, while Sir Hector Langevin persistently supports Mr. Groulx's candidature. This is probably the reason the proclamation has not yet been issued. Of course, Sir John "goes in" for his own "constitutional" and very properly so. Sir Hector and Sir Alexander and Hon. Mr. Pope "go in" to see that the "English Protestant element" is duly protected, and very properly again. Now, there are exactly two Irish Catholic Judges on the bench in the province of Quebec, (there isn't one at all in Ontario) but let the "Irish Catholic element" in either province say a word about the injustice done them, and they will be at once told:—"Oh, you shouldn't raise the question of class in the matter of appointments."

HALLOWEEN.

From the Dublin Penny Journal, 1833.

In the olden time, as Walter Scott would say, the evening of the 31st October was always spent in revelry and mirth, and we really think there was something very pleasant in seeing the young people and domestics of the family enjoying themselves on such occasions.

The observance of this day in this way might be compared to resting place, which is a feeling something similar to that which is said to be experienced by the traveller in the dreary deserts of the East, on beholding at a distance the verdant summit of some far distant hill.

By some of the superstitious observances of Halloween have been traced to a heathen origin, and are therefore considered superstitious. There were, no doubt, formerly charms and incantations practised which were highly censurable; such as those performed in the name of the devil, &c.; but we imagine nothing of that kind is now attempted, the tricks practised being merely a species of innocent diversion. We think the individual must be fastidious indeed who would object to them.

In Graham's "British Georgics," the various tricks practised on this night are thus described:—

Then round the fire full many a cottage ring
Cheerful convalesce, burn the boiling nut,
Till wasting into embers grey, sign of long life.
Together spent, they cause sometimes the event
Believed to be foretold; some when thrown in
Exploding, bound away as if they spurned
Their proffered partner. Marion to the wood,
This slighted, hid, from rovanter, two-stemmed,
A sprig to pull; with quaking heart she passed
The glowing fir, the lightning shivered oak,
The rained mill, all silent 'neath the moon.
On did she pause, and once she would have turned
As cross her path the startled owl flew,
Sailing along, but from an aged throat,
The stockade faintly cooed beside his mate:—
Forward she sped, and with the dear wood prize,
Breathless returned, nor waited long, till to
A sister spray adorned her true loves' breast.
And now by turns the laughing circle strives
Plunging to catch the floating fruit, that still
Eludes the attempt; nor is the triple spell
Of dishes, ranged to bid the goblin harm,
Forgot, nor aught of all the various sports
Which hoar tradition hands from age to age.

THE PURITY AND SANCTITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN.

Eloquent Sermon by His Lordship Bishop Clery, of Kingston.

St. Michael's Cathedral was filled to its utmost capacity on Sunday evening last by a congregation among whom were many of our separated brethren, including Protestant ministers, who had assembled to hear the sermon of the gifted and eloquent Bishop of Kingston. The services of the evening opened with Pontifical Vespers, at which His Grace Archbishop Lynch officiated. The music rendered by the choir was of the highest order and was favorably commented on by the many strangers present.

His Lordship Bishop Clery on ascending the pulpit read the text of his sermon from—
Matthew, 1 ch. 22 and 23 v. Now all this was done that it might be fulfilled what God spoke by the prophet, saying, "Behold a Virgin shall conceive and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which, being interpreted, is God with us."

The millifolius doctor, St. Bernard, commenced one of his most charming discourses on the Blessed Virgin Mary by declaring that "nothing gave him more pleasure, and nothing filled him with more apprehension than to speak upon the Virgin Mother of God." With similar sentiments I approach my subject this evening, for it is the feast of her holy Purity, and in complying with the request of your most reverend Archbishop, that I should preach to the congregation of St. Michael's Cathedral, I take the theme from the Church, and offer my feeble praise in union which the priests and people of all the congregations of worshippers throughout the universe who honor the Blessed Mother to-day in the ineffable mystery of her spotless virginity. It is difficult to speak worthily of her who is the most beautiful, the most gifted, the most exalted and honored of God among all His creatures, whom He prepared in the most special manner by the unlimited effusion of His graces to be the living tabernacle of the eternal Word made flesh, the true Ark of the Covenant in the midst of Israel, in whose chaste womb was borne, not the written letter of the Law, but the only-begotten of the Father, "God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, consubstantial with the Father." Little indeed is recorded of her with parchment and ink; for her name and office were predestined to be the synonyme of modest retirement in the Church throughout all ages, for the instruction of the faithful and the edification of her spotless virginity. It is difficult to speak worthily of her who is the most beautiful, the most gifted, the most exalted and honored of God among all His creatures, whom He prepared in the most special manner by the unlimited effusion of His graces to be the living tabernacle of the eternal Word made flesh, the true Ark of the Covenant in the midst of Israel, in whose chaste womb was borne, not the written letter of the Law, but the only-begotten of the Father, "God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, consubstantial with the Father." Little indeed is recorded of her with parchment and ink; for her name and office were predestined to be the synonyme of modest retirement in the Church throughout all ages, for the instruction of the faithful and the edification of her spotless virginity. It is difficult to speak worthily of her who is the most beautiful, the most gifted, the most exalted and honored of God among all His creatures, whom He prepared in the most special manner by the unlimited effusion of His graces to be the living tabernacle of the eternal Word made flesh, the true Ark of the Covenant in the midst of Israel, in whose chaste womb was borne, not the written letter of the Law, but the only-begotten of the Father, "God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, consubstantial with the Father." Little indeed is recorded of her with parchment and ink; for her name and office were predestined to be the synonyme of modest retirement in the Church throughout all ages, for the instruction of the faithful and the edification of her spotless virginity.

She shines, however, as the morning star of the day of redemption; she is the beginning, the middle and the end of the inspired book. Her powerful agency in subduing the infernal enemy of our race is extolled by God the Father in Paradise, and His eulogy is written upon the first page of Holy Writ. Pronouncing His anathema upon Satan, He said, "I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed; she shall crush thy head." Thus the woman is should up in the merciful decree of God, promising redemption to our accursed race through the Saviour to come, the seed of the woman. She is allied with her Son, for the party to the bond, which was the title deed of sanctifying grace, on which the seeds of the Old Law drew for the means of salvation by credit through faith in the atonement foreseen to them by type and figure; the same from which we derive our faith of faith and more copious sanctification through the atonement consummated on Calvary. Nay more, the woman is not only placed in the bond conjointly with her Son, but she is a remarkable design of the Most High, that she give a priority of place. "I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed." "Who shall fathom the mystery of these divine words? Why is the woman thus signally put forward in the decree of redemption? Why is she assigned a place before her Son? She, of herself, had no power to redeem fallen man. God alone could effect that. She is a creature, and had need of redemption through her Son, equally as all the other children of Eve. If she was conceived immaculate and born sinless, it is not that she was exempt from the sentence of universal condemnation, but that let her Son, for the sake of His own honor, indissolubly linked with hers, interposed between the sentence and its execution in her behalf, and redeemed her by anticipation. We are redeemed by regeneration; she was redeemed more perfectly by preventing grace. Shall any one pretend to think that the woman here referred to is the heroine of combat in the deadly warfare between Satan and mankind, exercises no influence upon the issue? She certainly did not add anything to the sufficiency of the Saviour's atonement; for His is "the only name under heaven given to men whereby we must be saved." But she does what the Catholic Church has taught from the beginning, and shall never cease to teach, that the woman of whom the Son of the Eternal Father took flesh, whom He called by the sacred name of mother, and loved beyond all others in heaven and on earth, who was united with Him in His joys and sorrows, in Bethlehem and Nazareth, on Calvary and the mountain of Galilee, has a maternal influence over the heart of her Son, that she can move Him to exercise His divine power, miracles also, if necessary, even as in Cana of Galilee, for the benefit of those for whom He shed His blood; that, moreover, she has a place in the economy of redemption, by virtue of her queenly pre-eminence in the court of heaven, for the more abundant dispensation of grace to the children of her predilection and all who invoke her benign patronage. I abstain purposely from dwelling upon the clause in the promise made by God in Paradise which attributes to the woman the actual crushing of the serpent's head, because the original Hebrew text grammatically considered, leaves the reader free to interpret this clause with reference either to the woman or her seed. I will state, however, that all antiquity, from the very first age of the Church, refers it to the woman. The vulgar tradition, which was generally accepted in