

it is his kinsfolk and friends that love him.

The object of love, then, is a person, and a person who is real, living, and near. There is only One 'whom not having seen we love.' * And there is no love comparable to the love which He has inspired in the breasts of the children of men. Think of

St. Francis
of Assisi,

St. Francis of Assisi. It was a vision of Jesus that transformed him; and it is told how 'from that hour his heart was wounded and melted at the remembrance of

St. Thomas
Aquinas,

the Lord's Passion.' † Think of St. Thomas Aquinas. 'Thou hast written well of Me, Thomas,' said the voice from the Crucifix as he bowed in prayer: 'what recom-

St. Bernard
of Clairvaux.

pense dost thou desire?' 'None other,' answered the saint, 'than Thyself, O Lord.' Think of St. Bernard of Clairvaux:

'Jesus, the very thought of Thee
With sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far Thy face to see,
And in Thy presence rest.

* 1 Peter i. 8.

† 'Ab illa hora vulneratum et liquefactum est cor ejus ad memoriam Dominicæ passionis.'