

woman of prophecy, and the serpent there shall be an eternal enmity, an undying hostility, and she, through her seed, the incarnate God, shall bring life and salvation to mankind. The woman Mary, and her seed, Jesus Christ, have crushed and destroyed the serpent's head, the one *mediately*, the other *immediately*; Mary crushes the serpent's head by giving birth to Jesus, and Jesus by the might of His own divine power and virtue. When St. Paul instituted a contrast between the first Adam and the second, he suggested the existence of a similar contrast between Eve and Mary, and this contrast is constantly dwelt upon by the Christian Fathers. Their teaching on this subject, when summarized, is substantially as follows:—

(a). That Mary is the new and second Eve, as Christ is the new and second Adam; and therefore, as Adam was a type of Jesus, so Eve was a type of Mary, and that as Eve was an active and efficient agent in the ruin of man, Mary was an active and efficient agent in his redemption and salvation. (b). The enmity between this second Eve and the serpent is in every way similar to that which existed between the serpent and the second Adam; and, consequently, it is deadly, implacable, and without interruption. (c). In Mary the fall of Eve is restored; the prudence, the obedience, and the faith of the former making reparation for the imprudence, the disobedience and the unbelief of the latter. (d). God who condemned Eve, crowns Mary with glory. (e). As death flowed from the first Eve, so did life from the second; as all that is evil came through Eve, so through Mary comes all that is good; as Adam was renewed in Christ, so is Eve in Mary. (f). By Mary salvation and life is within the reach of all, as by Eve all fell into ruin and death. (g). It is only on account of Mary that Eve is, and is called the mother of the living. (h). Mary raised Eve from her fall, restored Adam, despoiled hell, and opened the gates of paradise; (i). a curse was pronounced upon Eve; it is abolished by Mary, who is altogether blessed; (k). as we all die through Eve, so do we all live through Mary, we gain the adoption of sons, and return to our pristine dignity. (l). The new Virgin hath expiated the evil deed of the old: