

## SHRINES OF MARY

So wherever I look in the distance  
And wherever I turn to the past,  
There is a shrine of Mary  
Each brighter than the last.

I will ask for one grace, O Mother !  
And will leave the rest to thy will ;  
From one shrine of thine to another  
Let my life be a Pilgrimage still !

At each one, O Mary of Mercy !  
Let still more of thy love be given  
Till I kneel at the last and brightest,  
The throne of the Queen of Heaven."

*A. Procter.*

Once more we hail the sweet month of Our Lady ! and our thoughts travel back to the lands where May is the "Fairest month of all the year ;" where earth is a carpet of verdure, besprinkled with flowers of every hue, and the air, laden with perfume resounds with the exstatic songs of birds ; the lakes reflect the varying beauties of the sky from rosy dawn to golden eve, and all nature rejoices in the new birth and promise of the spring.

To Mary who brought forth the Saviour of the world, we dedicate this month which brings forth so much that is beautiful.

With what devotion the pious children of the church surround the shrines of Mary ! What a chorus of praise and prayer assails the gates of Heaven ! Let us pause for a moment and consider how multitudinous are these shrines, and how many sad hearts are comforted, and sinful ones healed, at these fountains of grace.

In the city of Rome alone there are forty-four churches of Our Lady under the different titles. Each one's history is full of interest. Besides the churches erected in her honor, are many altars in other churches, especially dedicated to Mary, where she has been pleased to work miracles from time to time.