

so great, and withal so gentle that it engenders a sweet and affectionate confidence.

We have recourse to him without any effort, not only as to a powerful protector, but as to the dearest and most devoted friend. Saint Anthony becomes an intimate and familiar member in every household where he is invoked, everything is confided to his care.

Should one of the family start out on a journey, this is the mother's prayer: «Good St. Anthony, watch over him». The traveller himself will also say a daily prayer to St. Anthony, and no one will have any uneasiness about him.

If we lose anything, St. Anthony is at once invoked, and the missing article is found.

In all dangers we raise our thoughts and our voices to the Thaumaturgus, and help is granted us; in temptations we cry out to him and serenity is restored to the soul.

Is there a difficult question to be settled? It is confided to St. Anthony, and eventually, all turns out the best. Above all, if an alms, or even the promise of an alms be joined to our prayer, all the words of the «*Miraculous Responsory*» are verified to the very letter.

«Death, error, calamities, leprosy, the demon take flight; the sick are restored to health. The sea obeys; chains are broken, dangers disappear; want is no longer felt.»

It is this constant influence, as well as the perceptible and efficacious protection of the saint, which inspire and maintain this universal confidence in his power.

Is not this the only plausible explanation to be given regarding the ardor with which we invoke and praise the Thaumaturgus.

It seems as if he wished for no other claim on christian people's love, than that to which he is entitled by his power and goodness.

The liturgy of the Church goes no further, but the God has assigned him is, in reality, worth all other claims.

St. Anthony is not an Apostle but he possessed the eloquence and the gifts of one; and his preaching, like