

Not mortals, or angels, archangels or cherubim,  
 Prophets, apostles, or holiest seraphim,  
 Ever were favoured so highly!—And why?  
*She alone* was made MOTHER OF CHRIST THE MOST HIGH!  
*This title's the source of her singular merit,*  
*She alone* was o'ershadowed as *Spouse* by THE SPIRIT!\*  
*Such union with DEITY,* since or before,  
 Was never enjoyed by another! *The more*  
*Closely she thus with her God was united,*  
*The more was she worthy* in whom He delighted!  
 Hence, over all creatures, and next to her Son  
 Is that loveliest, worthiest, holiest one!  
 O'er all other daughters, exalted alone,  
 In the kingdom of God is she nearest His Throne!  
 For ages *predestined* for this holy station,  
 God blessed and preserved her even in her creation—  
 Conception, birth, childhood, life—free from all evil,  
 Defilement and sin—from all power of the devil!  
 By *miracle* thus was she *specially* graced,  
 And made worthy the office in which she was placed.  
 But alas! there are poor silly men who deny  
 That Mary could ever be gifted so high!  
 And what makes their case worse, they profess to believe  
 The Bible, but read it not,—thus they deceive  
 Themselves and their neighbours!—or, reading, they see not  
 The plainest things there! and assert them to be not!  
 If God fitted Moses his office to fill—  
 Endowed him with courage, light, heavenly skill,  
 And help'd him by miracles mighty to do  
 The great work that he made him for; could He not too,  
 Fit Mary for her greater office? If John,  
 The Baptist, Precursor of Jesus, was one  
 Who was specially made *for that office*, conceived  
 In the womb of his mother by *miracle*, † believed  
 To be kept throughout life from all sinfulness free,  
 The “more than a prophet,” ‡ the “angel”—if he  
 Was thus sanctified, honoured, endowed  
 With the loftiest graces, *because* to the crowd  
 He was sent to *announce* the Messiah—*much more*  
*Highly favoured must she be*—THE VIRGIN—who bore  
 THE EXPECTED OF NATIONS! *Of her alone*  
*Was HE flesh of her flesh, and bone of her bone!*  
*From her virginal womb came THE LAMB* without spot!  
 No sin, or in *act* or *original* blot,  
 Could reach that IMMACULATE DAUGHTER! whom God  
 For the sake of HIS SON, had exempted! *whose blood*

\* Luke I. 35. † Luke I. 18, 34. ‡ Matthew XI. 9.

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