

former; while by the latter it is shamefully lowered and the danger is incurred 'of their being considered outcasts, slaves of the lusts of men . . .' No one can fail to admire the divine Wisdom, Holiness, and Goodness which, while respecting the dignity and happiness of husband and wife, has provided so bountifully for the conservation and propagation of the human race by a single, chaste, and sacred fellowship of nuptial union."

EXPOSITION

Untabernacled now at last,
God is monstranced in a manger;
An ox and ass, His acolytes,
Stand nigh the sudden Stranger,
While hosts of Angels pour their praise
Down aisles of stars from glory's choir;
Mary's soul's a fragrant censer,
Aglow in joy, with love afire.

Lost in peace and wonder,
Wrapt in adoration,
Joseph is the silent,
Reverent congregation.