

**MARY: THE PERFECT WOMAN.
ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY
RHYTHMS IN HONOR OF THE
MYSTICAL LIFE OF OUR LADY**

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Mary: The Perfect Woman. One Hundred and Fifty Rhythms in Honor of the Mystical Life of Our Lady by Emily Mary Shapcote

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EMILY MARY SHAPCOTE

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IN HONOR OF

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The Mystical Life of Our Lady

BY

EMILY MARY SHAPCOTE

Author of "Eucharistic Hours" ✓

WITH A PREFACE BY

The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster
Herbert Vaughan



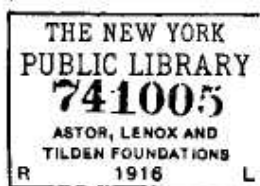
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In festo Immaculae Conceptionis, B. V. M., 1904

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TO

Jesus

OUR ALPHA AND OUR OMEGA

AND

Mary

THE HANDMAIDEN OF THE LORD

WITH HUMBLE, TREMBLING, DEVOTION

SIT

Laus et Benedictio

13518

As long as we live here, in the midst of innumerable storms and tempests, let the voice of each heart, in its own tune, and in its own measure, and in its own place, ceaselessly resound in the Highest before the Throne. And let the fragrance also of spotless conversation pour forth its sweet savour like everlasting incense, and redound to its own principle; so that as the heavens have dropped with honey by the admirable Advent of the Word of God, the Bridegroom Jesus, in the Flesh, and by the daily presenting Himself upon the altar, and by the frequent pouring forth of His Holy Spirit and of spiritual beauty on the souls of the elect; even so in their measure, let the desires of each ascend on every side, correspond everywhere with grace, and extend themselves and their love one towards another into infinite latitude.

The Fiery Soliloquy with God, p. 158, by Master Gerlac Petersen, Canon Regular of Deventer (a contemporary of Thomas à Kempis).

PREFACE.

I AM pleased to write a few words of Preface to the poem

MARY: THE PERFECT WOMAN.

To have a hand, however slight and feeble, in anything that redounds to the honour of our Heavenly Mother is a privilege that is of the nature of a Divine Grace.

We may say much ; but can never praise her enough. She is beyond all human praise. Chosen by God to be His Mother, what wonder that her power, her magnificence, her goodness, her holiness are beyond the grasp of any human estimate? To belong integrally and intimately to the Order of the Hypostatic Union, by having been the conscious and deliberate instrument of its accomplishment, is to share an elevation more sublime than anything open to men or angels.

And yet this same Immaculate and sublime Creature owes her unsurpassable privilege not only