

DESIDERANDUM, OFFERENDUM, EXPLENDUM.

EVEN IF THE BULBS ARE EXCELLENT AND THE POSTS TALL AND STRONG, NO LIGHT WILL ILLUMINE A CITY UNLESS ELECTRICITY RUNS THROUGH THE WIRES. IN AN ELECTRIC LIGHTING SYSTEM, ELECTRICITY IS ESSENTIAL. OUR RELIGIOUS PROFESSION IS A SYSTEM OF SUPERNATURAL ACTIVITIES: THE ENERGY OF ANY SUPERNATURAL SYSTEM IS GRACE. IN THE SUPERNATURAL ORDER NOTHING CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BUT THROUGH GRACE, AS NO SAP WILL GIVE ENERGY TO A BRANCH, IF IT IS CUT OFF FROM THE MOTHER TREE. IN THE PRAYER AT THE END OF THE FORMULA OF THE VOWS WE REFER TO THE AID OF DIVINE GRACE WHICH WE ACKNOWLEDGE TO HAVE BEEN ABUNDANT IN THE DESIRE AND OFFERING OF THE VOWS AND WHICH WE PRAY TO BE GIVEN ABUNDANTLY TO US SO THAT WE MAY FULFIL THEM. AD HOC DESIDERANDUM ET OFFERENDUM SIC ETIAM AD EXPLENDUM GRATIAM UBEREM LARGIARIS.

I - AD DESIDERANDUM. I CANNOT DEVELOP THIS POINT MYSELF: IT IS PERSONAL: YOU ALONE CAN BRING TO YOUR MEMORY THE DIFFICULTIES YOU HAD TO OVERCOME TO FOLLOW THE PATH OF LIFE POINTED OUT TO YOU BY YOUR VOCATION: THE FRIENDS FROM WHOM YOU HAD PAINFULLY TO DEPART: THE LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS YOU HAD TO GIVE UP: THE PROSPECTS OF SUCCESSFUL LIFE YOU HAD TO ABANDON: THE PERIODS OF GLOOMY AND DARK DAYS YOU HAD TO GO THROUGH: THE AFFLICTIONS TO FRIENDS AND RELATIVES YOU WERE BLAMED TO HAVE CAUSED? WHO GAVE YOU THE PERSISTENT ^{cli}IN~~DI~~NATION TO FOLLOW THE STAR THAT WAS LEADING TO BETHLEEM? WHO GAVE YOU THE COURAGE TO REVERENTIALLY INFORM, EVEN YOUR MOTHER, THAT IN THE BUSINESS OF YOUR FATHER, WHO IS IN HEAVEN, YOU OUGHT TO BE ALL THE TIME? WHO GAVE