474 ST. JOHN. JUL,   
 unto him, They have no wine.   
 ach, xix, 4 Jesus saith unto her,   
 b So 2Sam, 2 Woman, ’what have I to do with thee? \*mine hour is   
 ae not yet come. 5 His mother saith unto the servants,   
 ¢ ch, 6, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.   
 set there six waterpots of stone, ‘after the And there of the   
   
 d Mark vii.   
 purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins   
   
 4.) The answer of our Lord is beyond known depth of all His early sayings   
 question oxe of reproof, and disclaimer of forbids us from attaching only this mean-   
 participation in the grownds on which the ing to it;—and he sees in it a to   
 request was made. See instances, besides the great marriage-feast and the new   
 reff. in Josh. xxii, 24: Mark i, 24. And fruit of the vine in the Kingdom of God.   
 so all the early expositors understood it. If this be so, it can be only in the back-   
 Treneus says, “The Lord, repelling her ground; the words must have had a   
 unseasonable urgency, said,” &c. ;—and present meaning, and I believe it to be,   
 Chrysostom, “She wished... . to gain ‘ My time, the time at which, from the   
 glory to herself by means of her Son,” Father’s appointment and my own con-   
 and therefore He “answered her with curring will, I am to begin miraculous   
 severity.” The Romanist expositors working, is not yet arrived: forestall it   
 mostly endeavour to divest the answer not’ Very similarly he speaks, ch. vii. 6,   
 of any aspect of rebuke, and maintain to His brethren, and yet afterwards goes   
 that it was so uttered for our sakes up to the feast. The notion that mine   
 alone, to teach us that He did not perform hour refers to the hour of our Lord’s   
 His miracles from regard to human affinity, human infirmity on the Cross when (ch.   
 but solely from love and His object of xix. 27) He “acknowledged her as His   
 manifesting His glory. So Maldonatus. mother,” Wordsw., seems wholly un-   
 And this is true:—but first among those founded. Where do we find any such   
 to be taught this, was she herself, had special acknowledgment there? And why   
 tempted Him to work a miracle from that should we go out of our way for a fanciful   
 regard. It has perhaps not been sense of words which bear an excellent   
 enough noticed, that in this answer the meaning as referring to circumstances   
 Lord declares His period of subjection to then present ? 5.) There certainly   
 her as His earthly parent to be at an end. seems beneath this narrative to lie some   
 Henceforth His thoughts are not her incident which is not told us. For not   
 thoughts. At twelve years of age, see only is Mary not repelled by the answer   
 Luke ii. 49, He answers, ‘thy father and just given, but she is convinced that the   
 I,’ by ‘My Father :’—now, He is to be no miracle will be wrought, and she is not   
 longer before the world as Mary’s son, without an anticipation of the method of   
 but as sanctified by the Father and sent working it: for how should He require   
 into the world :—compare Matt. xii. 48— the aid of the servants, except the miracle   
 50, and Luke xi. 27, 28. Woman] were to take place according to the form   
 There is no reproach in this term: but here related? I believe we shall find,   
 rather respect. he Lord henceforth uses when all things are opened to us, that   
 it towards her, net calling her ‘ mother,’ there had been a previous hint given her,   
 even on the Cross (see ch. xix. 26), —where or how I would not presume to   
 less for the reason above. mine say,—by our Lord, of His intention and   
 hour is not yet come] This expression, mine the manner of performing it, and that her   
 honr, is generally used in John of the time fault was, the too rash hastening on of   
 of the Death of Christ :—sce reff. But it what had been His fixed purpose.   
 is only so because His death is in those 6.] These vessels were for the washings   
 passages the subject naturally underlying usual at feasts: see Mark vii. 4. There   
 the narrative. It is, any fived or ap- could be no collusion or imposture here, as   
 pointed time ;—and therefore here, the they were water-vessels, and could have   
 appointed time of His self-manifestation no remnants of wine in them (sce also ver.   
 by miracles. This time was not yet come, 10). And the large quantity which they   
 but was close at hand. Some have sup- held could not haye been brought in unob-   
 posed that the wine was not yet wholly served. The word here rendered firkin is   
 exhausted, and that our Lord would wait probably equivalent to the Jewish “bath”   
 till the miracle should be undoubted (so (which held 8 gall. 7-4 and stands for   
 Trench): but Stier well remarks that the it in the LXX, ref. 2 Chron. According