

V.

THE TRAITOR UNMASKED, OR INCIDENTS OF OUR  
LORD'S LAST PASSOVER.

"When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, That one of you shall betray me," &c.—JOHN xiii. 21-38.

THE circumstances which this passage narrates, and of which I propose to take a review, occurred at Jerusalem, in the upper room whither our Lord had gone with his twelve disciples to eat the passover before his death. Judas, who had already covenanted with the chief priests to betray Jesus to them for thirty pieces of silver, was present among the other apostles; having, according to wonted practice, joined them, under the impression that his treachery was undiscovered, and apparently with the purpose at once of preventing suspicion and of obtaining the information that might best enable him to execute his nefarious designs. Strange infatuation! as if Jesus had not given frequent and incontestable proof that "he knew what was in man." The passage shows how the traitor was unmasked, and presents to our contemplation a beautiful and touching scene, which succeeded his withdrawal from the supper chamber.

You are to suppose that the paschal meal is ended. The feet of the disciples have been washed; and our Lord,