

fold, under a Divine Pastor. "Other sheep I have, that are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice and there shall be one fold and one shepherd." (Joan. x. 16.) Christian life has left indelible traces of this devotion on the monuments of the primitive ages. The figure of the Good Shepherd is a favorite subject of Christian art and symbolism in the beginning of the Church. It is found on the ceilings and walls of the chapels in the catacombs, graven on sacred vessels, frescoed in sepulchral chambers, chiselled on medals of devotion, traced in gold on vases, moulded in clay in lamps, on rings, etc. The Good Shepherd is represented sometimes alone in the midst of His flock; sometimes surrounded by His apostles, with sheep pressing closely around them; elsewhere, He is holding and caressing on His bosom a strayed sheep, or He is carrying home on His shoulders one which had gone away from the fold. His sheep take various attitudes. Some are looking up at Him; others are listening; others are receiving His teaching and His graces, symbolised by fruitful showers, by well-filled running streams. This symbol of tenderness and mercy, under which Our Lord manifests Himself, was meant to encourage the cruelly persecuted Christians of the early Church. It took possession of their hearts and excited them to a devotedness and courage which lasted even to martyrdom. Such was the devotion of that epoch.

"When the Church began to enjoy peace, Our Lord gave another symbol, namely, the *Cross*. The symbol of the cross hardly appears in the catacombs. But it was seen shining on the banners of Constantine. Had not St. Helen dug out of the earth, at Jerusalem, the true wood of the Cross of Jesus-Christ? Churches henceforward began to be built in cruciform style, and their steeples crowned with the sign of the redemption. The cross is found in apsidal mosaics, on altars and sacred vestments, on royal crowns, on city gates, on coin currency. Everywhere it shone