

fore his time. S. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (A. D. 374) left a Litany in many things agreeing with ours. Spelman says it is a "public kind of supplication whereby the mercy of God is more ardently and solemnly implored."

A Litany, probably of the 8th century, contains a large portion of that which we repeat at the present day; and preserves exactly the same form of petition and response which is still retained.

The chief difference between our Litany, as reformed, and that of all ancient Litanies *after the seventh century*, consists in omission of the Invocation of Saints, which invocations *do not appear in any ancient Litany before the fifth century.—Selected.*

MARTIN LUTHER'S LAST WILL AND PRAYER.

O LORD GOD, I thank Thee that Thou would'st have me to be poor and a beggar upon the earth; I have no house, land, possession, or money to leave. Thou hast given me a wife and children; to Thee I return them; nourish, teach, and save them, as hitherto Thou hast me, O Father of the fatherless, and Judge of the widows. O my heavenly Father, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God of all consolations, I thank Thee that Thou hast revealed Thy Son Jesus Christ to me, on whom I have believed, whom I have professed, whom I have loved, whom I have celebrated, * * * * whom all the multitude of the wicked do persecute and reproach. I pray Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, receive my soul. My heavenly Father, although I am taken out of this life,

though I must now lay down this body, yet I certainly know that I shall dwell with Thee forever, neither can I by any be plucked out of Thine hands. "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

CATECHISM ON LITURGIES.

1. What is meant by Common Prayer? Prayer offered up in common by a Christian congregation.

2. What are Rubrics? Directions for the conduct of Common Prayer, originally printed in *red letters*.

3. What is a Liturgy? Prayer in words fixed upon beforehand. Anciently it meant the Office for the Holy Communion. It now includes the whole of Divine Service.

4. What is a Litany? A form of general supplication.

5. What is a Response? A short Prayer uttered by the people after the Minister.

6. What is a Collect? A short form of supplication, generally collected out of the Epistle and Gospel.

7. What is the difference between a Collect and a Hymn? Both are forms of Prayer, one in prose, the other in verse.

8. What are the metrical forms in the Old Testament called? Psalms.

9. For whose use was a set form of benediction in prose prepared by Moses? The children of Israel. Numb. vi. 24.

10. On what occasion were the elders of a city required to repeat a form of deprecation? The expiation of an uncertain murder.