

surprising miracles, certainly produces an effect, in the highest degree sublime. The description of the zealous bishop and his faithful twelve treading the gloomy labyrinthic pathways of "Fachlut Wood," regardless of its countless yawning horrors, ravening beasts and spirits of ill, led on by the mysterious wail of children forsaken and distressed, "God sent heralds foot-sore bringing the heart-sore comfort"—This is sure, a description of striking grandeur and magnificence, the counterpart of which will not easily be found. Another scene in which epic sublimity is unmistakably revealed, is that presented by St. Patrick in the rôle of "God's Athlete" in prayer in Mt. Cruachan, demanding of God "gifts mighty and immeasurable and over great for granting:" striving in contest with all the legioned demons of the isle. The saint brooks not repulse, listens not to the repeated monitions of the angel victor: he Prays on, and still prays, combatting with apostolic might the demon race that rushing on him

"From all sides, and close met in circling storm
Besieged the enclouded steep of Cruachan,
That scarce the difference knew 'twixt night and day,
More than the sunless pole."

And still he perseveres in his ecstatic passion of prayer, until finally, all obstacles overcome, the object of his mighty petition is obtained. thus proving, as the author very aptly puts it, "that fortitude in prayer lays man's hand on God's sceptre." Certainly the most noteworthy passage in "The Legends," and probably the grandest and noblest to be found in the language, is that in which St. Patrick is represented as accepting the crozier staff, the symbol of his mission, from the sacred hands of the Saviour Himself. It occurs in "The Confession of St. Patrick." The future apostle, when nearing the end of his long noviceship, set out for Rome to receive the blessing of the "Chief Shepherd of the Saviour's flock on earth." On the way he tarried in a small "isle to Lerins near but fairer yet, till then unseen." Here he beheld a man who because he "saw the Son of Man, and took Him in" was preserved in endless youth; and Patrick, hearing all the