

Jesus said to his disciples. Whom do you say that I am?

Simon Peter answered and said: Thou art Christ the Son of the living God.

And Jesus answering, said to him: Blessed art thou Simon Bar-Jona; because flesh and blood hath not revealed it to thee, but my father who is in heaven. AND I SAY TO THEE: THAT THOU ART PETER. AND UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH, AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT.

AND I SHALL GIVE TO THEE THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed also in heaven.—S. Matthew xvi. 16—19.



"Was anything concealed from Peter, who was styled the Rock on which the Church was built, who received the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and the power of loosing and binding in Heaven and on earth?" —TERTULLIAN Prescrip. xxii.

"There is one God, and one Church, and one Chair founded by the voice of the Lord upon Peter. That any other Altar be erected, or any other Priesthood established, besides that one Altar, and one Priesthood is impossible. Whosoever gathers elsewhere, scatters. Whatever is devised by human frenzy, in violation of the Divine Ordinance, is adulterous, impious, sacrilegious." —St. Cyprian Ep. 43 ad plebem.

"All of them remaining silent, for the doctrine was beyond the reach of man, Peter the Prince of the Apostles and the supreme herald of the Church, not following his own inventions, nor persuaded by human reasoning, but enlightened by the Father, says to him: Thou art Christ, and not this alone, but the Son of the living God." —St. Cyril of Jerusal. Cat. xi. 1.

Calendar.

- JULY 15—Sunday—VII after Pent office of the Sunday.
- " 16—Monday—Com of B V M of Mt Carmel gr dou.
- " 17—Tuesday—St. Leo IV P C doub.
- " 18—Wednesday—St Camillus of Lellis C doub com of Symphorosa V & Nm.
- " 19—Thursday—St Symmachus I P C dou.
- " 20—Friday—St. Jerome Emilianus C doub com St Margaret Vm.
- " 21—Saturday—St Alexius C doub com St Praxedes V.

The Cross;

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, JULY 14.

M. POWER, PRINTER.

PIUS IX.

Whilst we are in hourly expectation of decisive news from Rome, it may appear useless to speculate on the probable consequences of French occupation. Yet we are induced to make a few remarks on the present state and prospects of his Holiness, because we have recently heard and read many crude speculations on the subject from Catholics and Protestants. In the first place, we feel no alarm, either for the Church or for her visible Head. We have more than eighteen centuries of glorious and consoling experience to confirm, if confirmation were needed, the immutable promises of Christ. For sixty generations his rock-built Church has securely defied all the ravages of time, all the malice of men, and all the rage of hell. She was fitly represented as a bark sailing through the tempestuous ocean of this life, and alternately contending with winds and waves, with rocks and quicksands. But the fisherman and his successors are always at the helm, and the Great Invisible Head, as of old in the Galilean lakes, is constantly present with the struggling crew. Ever and anon the weather-beaten vessel is threatened with destruction by the roar of the tempest and the swelling of the ocean. The timid amongst the crew exclaim that she is on the point of being submerged—that all is lost, and that God has abandoned her. "He, however, is only asleep," and when the danger is most imminent—when the heavens and the earth seem combined for the destruction of this agitated bark, He arises in His might, and with that powerful voice by which "the heavens were established," He commands the angry winds, and rebukes the swelling waves of the devouring sea, and straightway the hallowing winds are hushed, the foaming surges are lulled to rest, the crested waters sink

into placid repose on the soft and tranquil bosom of the deep, and 'a great calm ensues!' This is the simple epitome of the Church's history throughout every age and clime. This has frequently happened before, is occurring now, and will often happen again before the consummation of all things. For the Church, then, we have no fears; we never had. Even in the hour of her darkest trial our hopes are brightest. She will survive the present storm as well as all those which preceded it. When the first Pontiff was crucified by Nero, on the Janiculum, that ruthless tyrant little imagined that the successor of the murdered fisherman of Galilee would be seated on the throne of the Cæsars. On the same Janiculum, at the gate of St. Pancrazio, another bloody scene has been for some time enacting, in which the interests of the Church are deeply involved. The sworn foes of all religion and social order have been waging a deadly warfare with the real and pretended friends of the Catholic Faith. But whilst those wicked men are doing the work of hell, 'the Great High Priest and Bishop of our souls' the Divine Founder and Invisible Head of the Church is watching over his chosen vineyard with unsleeping vigilance, and in his own good time will scatter the enemies of the christian name, and again exalt his Divine Spouse, that all men may recognize her as 'the Church of the Living God, the 'Pillar and Ground of Truth,' the 'Tabernacle of God with men.'

The eventful history of the brief pontificate of Pius IX is not without many a useful lesson. The old stereotyped Protestant calumny, about the tyranny of the Popedom and the slavish spirit of the Catholic Religion, has been triumphantly disproved. Pope Pius has been the most liberal sovereign in Europe. His reign has been one of toleration and meekness—of extraordinary concessions and parental indulgence. Contrast the government of the Pope with that of any other Sovereign in Europe, and the Ninth Pius, as the Father of his people, will stand at the head of modern kings. True, that his government may have been too liberal, and his concessions too great, but it is certain he is no despot. If he erred, it was on the side of humanity and mercy. Had he resisted all improvement—had he refused all demands—had he left the former disturbers of Italy to pine away, as they deserved, in distant exile—had he not defrauded the galleys of their due, and the prisons of their appro-

prate inmates, and that afterwards in the upheaving of the troubled spirits of Europe the imperial throne of the Cæsar's was found to totter beneath him, what an outcry would have been raised, what hypocritical lamentations would have been poured forth, what profound political calculations would have been made, what prophetic conjectures after the fact would have been indulged in! Then indeed it would be asserted with confidence, that had the Pope done *all that he really has done*, his throne would be secure. The pacific policy of Pius has, however, disproved the theories of the ignorant politician, and taken away the last plank from the hypocrisy of the socialist, and the ruffianism of the Red Republican. It is now proved to Europe, and to the world, that what these men want is not good government or enlightened institutions, or mildly-administered laws, but pillage, and massacre, and chaos; not liberty of person and property for themselves, but the detestable privilege of robbing and murdering every body else. The Pope has contributed more than any living man to disenchant the silly, though well-meaning disciples of the ultra-liberal school, and to reduce their insane ravings about liberty, and so forth, to their proper standard and truly ridiculous absurdity.

He has done more. United with his meekness of disposition and goodness of heart, he has, in the midst of turbulence and excitement, displayed a coolness of judgment and firmness of purpose, which must command our admiration. In the hour of Austria's greatest weakness, no means were left untried to force him to declare war against her. But even with the dagger at his breast, he steadily refused. The value of his decision has been since fully known. In like manner has he resisted the hypocritical and ambitious schemes of the French. He could not exclude them when he made an appeal to Catholic Europe, but he stipulated that the interference of the Great Powers should be combined and simultaneous. Had this understanding been faithfully carried out, French ambition and mischief would have been neutralized. But the Gaul would display his miserable vanity and selfish spirit. He has done so, and covered himself with the ridicule of Europe. The foreign cut-throats in Rome have given the French democrats a truly republican reception, and have probably ere now received their reward. But the Pope has protested against the occupation of his capital by

such treacherous allies. The Pope is aware that the French are detested in every part of Italy, and especially at Rome, by the real Romans. They cannot now blame their excellent Sovereign for any of the miseries of French occupation. When those tyrants formerly evacuated Rome, the people of the Eternal City felt as much relieved as our Saviour did when the traitor Judas went out of the Supper room. General Oudinot will soon occupy the same place in the affections of the Romans as his famous predecessor General Miollis. It was for the latter that the following classic prayer was twisted into rhyme by the old women of Rome:—

O Santa Madre del Gran Quit ollis
Libera nos de questo Miollis

We suppose that another twist will suit the present French hero.

O Santa Madro del Figlio santissimo
Libera nos de quest' Oudinot de Reggio.

Alcantine, even though the French should gratify the enemies of Catholicity by a tedious and unjust occupation of Rome, the Pope will not be embarrassed. He has the keys of Bologna the second city in his dominions, and a place fit to be the capital of an Empire. Thither he can repair, and rule as an independent Sovereign in the best portion of the States of the Church, as long as may be necessary. But, in anticipation of speedy news from the banks of the Tiber we must reluctantly stop the current of our thoughts.

ST. MARY'S.

Tuesday last being the anniversary of the demise of the Rev. Edward Daly, there was an Office and High Mass for the repose of his soul in the Cathedral, at which the Bishop and Clergy of the City were present. The High Mass was sung by the Rev. Mr. Hannan, and the absolution was performed by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Walsh. The amiable character, unobtrusive virtues and gifted attainments of the deceased will be long remembered by his fellow citizens. May he rest in peace!

QUEEN VICTORIA.

It appears from an official Letter addressed by the Pope's Nuncio at Paris to the Marquis of Normanby that our Gracious Sovereign in the month of January last wrote with her own hand a letter of sympathy to His Holiness Pope Pius IX. We should not be surprised if some of the Exeter Hall bigots would declare that her Majesty had forfeited her right to the Crown of England by hold-