

the church " and of the Dominican and Franciscan Orders respectively, Sts. Thomas Aquinas and Bonaventure, who were despatched to Bolsena to make due inquiries into the truth of the miracle. † Pope Urban, satisfied as to the fact that some great manifestation of God's power had occurred, commanded the Bishop of Orvieto to go to the church of St. Christina, at Bolsena, and arrange for the speedy translation of the sacred treasures to his own cathedral. This he did with the utmost solemnity ; and, accompanied by a goodly escort of his clergy, and also of the devout citizens, brought them in procession to Orvieto. The approach of the Bishop with his sacred brethren was duly heralded to all the inhabitants, who displayed the utmost joy and holy enthusiasm as became so remarkable an occasion. The various scenes of this great function can be seen portrayed in picturesque frescoes, which adorn the walls of the chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, in the north transept of the present Duomo.

The old city of Orvieto, deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon her by the Vicar of Christ—an honour that was to make her memorable in all ages—went out bodily to meet the *cortege* from Bolsena. The city is built on a lofty mountain, and beautiful must have been the sight as the Pope and Cardinals, the clergy and the monks, together with the bulk of people, poured forth from the city walls, and down the western declivity to the bridge across the river below, called the Rivo Chiaro. We are told that the clergy and youths, and even children, like the Hebrew crowd at Christ's entry into Jerusalem; carried branches of olive and palm, singing spiritual canticles. The Sovereign Pontiff, on meeting the Bishop at this spot, about half a mile from the city, threw himself on his knees in humble homage and veneration. He then took possession of the sacred treasure, which he now carried in his own hands up the steep incline to the old Cathedral of Our Lady. Tears of joy flowed on all sides, and that vast multitude broke out again with holy canticles, and sang in lusty joy their loudest hymns, until they reached the tem-

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† This is the account of a certain Domenico Magro. The famous old inscription on stone, at Bolsena and Orvieto, merely says : "*prins habita informatione solemn.*"