

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. 15—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?" —*Trinitarian Prescrip.* xxi.

"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 thou alone, but the Son of the living God." —*St. Cyril of Jerusal. Cat.* xi. 1.

Calendar.

- SEPTEMBER 16—Sunday—XVI aft Pent 3d Sept 7 Dol of B V M g d sup.
- " 17—Monday—Stigmata of Saint Francis C doub.
- " 18—Tuesday—Saint Joseph of Cupertino C doub
- " 19—Wednesday—Ember Day, (Fast) SS Januarius, &c. Mm d.
- " 20—Thursday—St Agapitus I P C d com of Vigil sup.
- " 21—Friday—Em Day (Fast) S Mathew Ap & Ev d 2 cl.
- " 22—Saturday—Ember Day (Fast) S Thomas of Villa Nova B C & D com of SS Mauritius &c Mm.

SIEGE OF VENICE.

The *Osservatore Triestino* gives the following deplorable accounts of the state of things in Venice, from correspondents, under date of the 6th current:—"Mannin has been named absolute dictator; representatives, proprietors, merchants, and people are all at extremes. Powder, food, medicine, drink, even water, are failing us. The thought of the future affrights all, the present is horrible. The sack of the Patriarch's palace, which was commenced, may be the prelude to days of grief or consolation. Hours seem to have for us the life of years. The troops, demoralised, begin to show the robber instinct under the veil of patriotism; those fit to bear arms are in number 9,000, the sick 3,500. The continued bombardment disheartens, but has not the effect of deciding the end; a vain hope and fatal faith, based on childish prejudices and prophecies, renders patience capable of incredible sacrifices in the midst of ruin and conflagration. The projectiles reach the Phoenix Theatre on one side, and San Lio on the other; still they do not reduce the people to determine on submission. To the general misery and squalor, add that the cholera carries off forty to sixty persons a day in Venice only, and thirty to forty in Chioggia. Finances exhausted, paper at half the nominal value, commerce null, shops and workhouses deserted because no supplies come in, families without bread, without a roof, in search of shelter and victuals; old men, children, and pregnant women hunting for a vault to cover them, crammed into the public storehouses and the Ducal Palace, or exposed under the naked sky to the inclemency of the weather; the disease every day increasing, and extreme misery. Our only consolation is that the lessons of 1848 and 1849 will have for their fruit a peace not likely to be again broken." Another correspondent says:—"Here folly succeeds folly. The Assembly, instead of occupying itself with urgent business, decrees laws on the press, bills of exchange, and everything but what concerns its actual position. The balls reach from Santa Maria Zobenigo on one side, nearly to St. John's and St. Paul's on the other; every body has gone to Castello, where the cholera makes horrible ravages. The populace is paid by the Government, and is always ready to pounce upon those who talk of surrender. The other day M. Giurati read aloud, before the cafe Florian, a list of those whom he wished to be considered as reactionaries. The mob then rushed to a certain Monsieur Quirini, at Santa Maria Formosa, under the pretext of going to the Patriarch's, and pillaged everything in it. The house was completely torn down, and the moreables thrown out of the windows. Happily we have only victuals for fifteen days, and then

the chiefs will flee and the town surrender at discretion. Mannin is a quack and a black-guard—those about him are the same." A letter from Trieste of the 8th says:—"The Brazier steamer, which quitted Venice yesterday evening, has just brought us terrible news from that city. At her departure several quarters were on fire. The Austrians a few days before succeeded in establishing at San Juliano pieces of thirty and eighty, which were hard at work firing, and which sent projectiles to the most distant quarters. It was said at five o'clock that a flag was about to be sent to the Austrian camp; but that appears to me doubtful. The population of the city, which was absolutely in want of everything, had evacuated the parts of the town which were most exposed, and had encamped in the neighbourhood of St. Marc. Venice will not for a long time recover from this terrible crisis, if it escape being entirely destroyed.

EXTRAORDINARY CONDUCT OF A PROTESTANT GAOL CHAPLAIN.—The *Coventry Herald* of Friday publishes an extraordinary statement in reference to the convict Mary Ball, lately executed for poisoning her husband, from which we glean the following particulars:—"Whilst Mary Ball was lying in the condemned cell at Coventry, the Rev. Richard Clapham, who was Chaplain of the gaol, burnt her hand with a lighted candle, for the purpose, as he informed her of giving her a foretaste of what hell was. The following account appears in the evidence:—"On Saturday afternoon, the 4th of August, the governor of the gaol, Mr. Stanley, had occasion to go to Birmingham; on returning shortly after six o'clock in the same evening, he was informed by Miss Winter, the assistant matron, that during his absence the Chaplain had visited the prisoner, Mary Ball, then under sentence of death, and by force, in her presence, had held the condemned woman's hand over a lighted candle, thereby burning and blistering it. Mr. Stanley immediately ran to the cell when the prisoner shewed him her hand, which he found blistered as he had been informed, the prisoner expressing herself glad that he had come, and complaining of the Rev. Mr. Chapman's treatment. Susanna Winter also informed the magistrates that it was about half-past five o'clock on Saturday afternoon that the Chaplain visited the prisoner, and immediately on entering the cell he called for a lighted candle, which was brought to him. He then took the candle in one hand, and with the other laid hold of the hand of the prisoner, Mary Ball, which he held over the candle, and asked her if she felt it. After a time she snatched her hand away, having previously endeavoured to withdraw it, saying at the same time that she did feel it. The Chaplain asked her what that would be compared to the torments of hell, where her whole frame would be burning for a hundred years? Whilst the Chaplain held the prisoner's hand over the candle she tried hard to get it away. Miss Winter gives it as her opinion, to the best of her judgment, that the hand of the prisoner, was held over the candle two minutes. The candle was first held at a distance from her hand, and brought nearer to it gradually. She tried hard to get it away while it was being held. After Mary Ball had got her hand away Mr. Chapman told her not to think he was actuated by any motives of cruelty towards her, and that his design was to give her some idea what the torments of hell were. These statements having been made before the magistrates, in the presence of Mr. Chapman, he admitted that they were substantially correct. He

added that he was actuated by the best of motives, and that what he did was to facilitate her notion of pain. The magistrates have suspended this Christian Chaplain until the next general Quarter Sessions, when, of course, he will be discharged.

QUEEN'S COLLEGES.—On this subject the *Cork Examiner* has the following:—"Notwithstanding the extravagant laudations of the Castle Press, we hear on every side condemnation of the appointments to the Queen's Colleges, but particularly to those of Cork. The following is an extract of a letter received this morning by a correspondent of ours—an unsought for opinion from one of the most distinguished men of science in Great Britain; it perfectly agrees with the opinion expressed by every literary and scientific man in this city:—"My dear—, I have just seen the newspaper list of Irish College officials; and it seems to me altogether a most strange list. In the departments of literature and sciences, with which I am conversant, I scarcely recognize a single name of any value whatever. Have the offices gone a-begging? Pray tell me all about it?" Another correspondent, whose opinion is valuable, says—"I am grieved to think that our College will be nothing better than a high school."

EFFECTS OF CATHOLICISM ON CIVILIZATION.—A correspondent of the *Bath Journal* thus defends Catholicism (which he couples with Puseyism) from the charge of its injuring civilisation:—"Talk of Puseyism as a certain concomitant of laziness, mendicity, and slavery! Nonsense. Let us turn to Protestant England, and what do we here behold? The streets teeming with beggars—a Poor Law in addition providing for more than one tenth of the population, hundreds of laws on the statute books for the punishment of mendicity, which to a great extent are in operation; and during the whole period of Protestant ascendancy from the time a king became 'defender of the faith,' notwithstanding the operation of Poor Laws, statute has succeeded statute in quick succession, and each exceeding the former in severity, even to lopping off ears, branding on the cheek, iron collars, slavery, whipping till the back was bloody at the cart tail, pillory and transportation, but all without effect for the suppression of begging, and all under our good Protestant regime. And here we are under good Protestant Victoria, and the land covered with beggars; the country literally overlaid with institutions of one delusive sort or other, having the same ineffectual object in view. So with poor crucified Ireland, that plague spot on the map of Europe, what has the bloated Protestant Hierarchy done for that unhappy land but to assist in creating that beggary, famine, and pestilence which has shocked humanity and made Ireland and her people a by-word through the world? Does no responsibility rest on that wealth-consuming pest? Is that gorged establishment, so long draining the vitals of poor Ireland, to be passed over unscathed and unrebuked, and the poor Catholic Priesthood only to meet condemnation? What

interest can the Catholic Priest have in a lazy and beggarly flock, who with better means could provide more liberally for their spiritual guides, whose present and scanty remuneration barely supplies the most common necessities of life? and even that is cheerfully divided with their more destitute and starving parishioners. Lazy Ireland! Where in the world will you find an Irishman lazy, when well paid for working? Fourpence and sixpence a day for hard work, when shillings may be obtained by begging, is well calculated to make Englishmen lazy, as well as the Irishmen, and to that point we appear to be fast approaching."

DR. GOBAT.—We (*Guardian*) are informed, on the authority of persons recently returned from the East, that the heads of the Greek, Latin, Armenian, Coptic, and Syrian Churches in Jerusalem, have determined to address a public protest to all Christendom, against the interference of Bishop Gobat in the internal affairs of their respective congregations; and that the European Consuls, under whose protection the Eastern and Latin Christians generally are supposed to be, intend to second the demonstration by a simultaneous appeal to their respective Governments against the part which the English Consul takes in supporting the Bishop's missionaries in their officious proceedings.

THE LAND OF BIBLES.

CONFESSION OF EIGHT MURDERS.—Chippenham, Friday.—Rebecca Smith, the female who was tried at the recent Wilts Summer Assizes for the murder of her infant child at Westbury, has made some horrible confessions. She was the wife of a labourer, at Westbury, and had been married eighteen years; she had given birth in that period to ten children, nine of whom died in their infancy, the eldest only being now alive. She was tried for the murder of the youngest child, exactly one month old, but she has confessed to the Chaplain of the county gaol that she previously murdered seven more of her children in the same manner. This woman was religious in her outward deportment; she attended divine worship at the meeting houses every sabbath day, and regularly said her prayers; yet she was the annual and deliberate destroyer of her own offspring—no sooner bringing them into the world than administering poison to get rid of them, and this, too, in a manner the most unnatural, converting the channel of their sustenance into the means of their destruction, by applying the poison (arsenic) to her own breast that the children might suck it off, calmly looking upon them lingering in a long and agonising death.

THE GUESTLING POISONINGS.—Mary Ann Geering, who was convicted at the Lewes assizes for murdering her husband, by administering arsenic to him, and against whom there were also two indictments for taking away the lives of two of her sons in a similar manner, made a full confession of her crime on Thursday last to the Rev. Mr. Barnet, the chaplain of Lewes gaol. The unfortunate woman has, since her condemnation, evinced a due sense of the awful position in which she is placed. The execution is fixed to take place at Lewes on Tuesday next.