

*pallium* pours water on his head; not far off is the favourite scene of the infirm man of the gospel taking up his bed and walking. I shall not stop to give any detailed interpretation of these scenes. What the mystic rock is we learn from St. Paul (1 Cor. x., 4) where, speaking of the Israelites in the desert, he says, "They drank of the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ." The leader of Christ's people, therefore, strikes the mystic rock by the exercise of his office, and the waters of grace flow out to the faithful, and are applied to their souls through the Sacraments.

I have now completed the plan which I laid down from the beginning. But, as you see, my lecture has been a general introduction to the study of the Catacombs, rather than a critical study of each or any one in particular. I have said nothing of the Vatican cemetery, the first official cemetery of the bishops of Rome, over which the church of St. Peter's now stands; I have said nothing of the Ostrian cemetery, with which the life and labours of St. Peter in Rome are so closely connected; I have said nothing of a very large number of other cemeteries; and when I did make reference to any one in particular, it was only by way of illustration of the general facts to which I have necessarily limited my discourse.

How many precious memories still lie hidden in Rome's ancient Christian cemeteries we cannot say;—future excavations shall tell. Their present condition is not promising.