

the skin was torn off the feet, and even large pieces of flesh, so as to leave the bones bare. The veins and muscles contracted gradually, and when the boots were pulled off, no one could bear to look at the horrible spectacle. He was then cast into prison till the 7th of June, when early in the morning he was carried to Stephen's Green, where what remained of human life was quickly extinguished, by putting him again to torture, and then by hanging.

M. I. C. S. will find further particulars in "Collections from Irish Church History," from the MSS. of the Rev. Laurence F. Renshan, D.D., and edited by the Rev. D. McCarthy, (C. M. Warren, Dublin, 1861); also in "Martyrs omitted by Foxe," (Hodges, 1870); in "Student's History of Ireland," (Longmans, 1870); and at p. 78, of "State Papers," edited by Dr. Maziere Brady, (Longmans).

F. S.

#### THE SEALED BOOK—BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, 1662.

21.—*One of the Canons of Carlisle discovered last year in the cathedral library, in a chest, the copy of the Sealed Book which was deposited there. It is in excellent preservation, with the Letters Patent within the covers, but with the seal not quite perfect. I could not point to any list of the Sealed Books known at present. Would any of the readers of the PENNY POST help to form such a list, by stating any copies which have come within notice?*

ED. MARSHALL.

Your correspondent, ED. MARSHALL, enquires as to copies of the "Sealed Book." Your readers may be interested in the following extracts from Stephens' "Book of Common Prayer," relative to this book. It is a copy of the Book of Common Prayer, as revised by the Convocation of 1661, and finally ratified by the Act of Uniformity, (13 and 14 Car. II., c. 4.) This act provides as follows:—"That the respective Deans and Chapters of every Cathedral within England and Wales shall, before the 25th of December, 1662, obtain under the Great Seal of England a true and perfect printed copy of this book, . . . to be by the said Deans and Chapters, and their successors, kept and preserved in safety for ever, and to be also produced, and showed forth in any Court of Record, as often as they shall be therunto lawfully required; which said books shall be examined by such persons as the King's Majesty shall appoint, and shall be compared with the original book, and they shall certify in writing under their hands and seals, at the end of the same book, that they have examined, and

compared the same book, and find it to be a true and perfect copy."

The "Sealed Book," in the custody of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, is kept in the Exchequer Chamber of that Cathedral Church. It is in excellent preservation, with the letters patent within its covers, and the seal (somewhat broken) attached. At the end of the book are the names of the following persons, under whose hands and seals it was certified.

JOS. HENSHAW, Dean of Chichester.

RICH. CHAWORTH.

WILL. BRABOURNE.

MARK FRANK, Archd. of St. Alban's.

GEO. STRAUDLING.

H. W.

There is a fine clean and perfect copy of the Sealed Prayer-book in Hereford Cathedral Library, with silken cord, and part of the royal seal. Copies ought to be found in most of our cathedrals.

F. T. H.

#### THE UTRECHT PSALTER AND THE ATHANASIAN CREED.

23.—*Can you tell me anything about the Utrecht Psalter, which has been mentioned of late in connection with the Athanasian Creed?*

P. J.

In the last Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records, Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy writes:—"I had the honour to state to your Majesty in my last report that two facsimiles of the Greek text of the Athanasian Creed, preserved in St. Mark's Library, Venice, had been forwarded to this department from Venice by Mr. Rawdon Brown, as part of the valuable transcripts which he annually transmits. One of these was a photograph of a manuscript of an earlier date than any in England. This photograph was shown to the houses of Convocation; and the Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, as Chairman of the Committee of Bishops on the Athanasian Creed, requested the Master of the Rolls to procure a photographic copy of the Creed in a manuscript formerly in the Cotton collection, and now in the University of Utrecht. This manuscript was supposed to be of considerable antiquity, but had not been collated, nor its date palæographically ascertained; it was suggested by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol that a photograph of the Creed, which was said to be of the time of Gregory the Great, might tend to settle the question whether or not it was a forgery of the ninth century. Lord Romilly thereupon applied to your Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for assistance in procuring for this office a photographic copy of the