

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?" —TERTULLIAN PRÆSCRIP. 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 of the Altar, and one Priesthood, is impossible. Whoever gathers elsewhere, scatters. Whatever is devised by human frenzy, in violation of the Divine Ordinance, is adulterous, impious, execrable." —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 Jerusol. Cat. xi. 1.

Calendar.

- SEPTEMBER 23—Sunday—XVII aft Pent 4th Sept St Linus P M d com of St Thecla V M.
- " 24—Monday—Fens' B V Mary de Mercedes g d.
- " 25—Tuesday—SS Eustachius & Co Min doub
- " 26—Wednesday—St Eusebius P C d com of SS Cyprian & Co Min
- " 27—Thursday—SS Cosmas and Damian Min sem
- " 28—Friday—St. Wenceslaus King M sem.
- " 29—Saturday—Dedication of St. Michael Archangel d 2 cl.

IRISH MANUSCRIPTS.

INTERESTING DISCOVERIES.

Mr. Curry, the eminent Irish Scholar, we perceive by the Dublin papers, is in London, whither he proceeded for the purpose of being examined before a Committee of the House of Commons on Public Libraries. He has, it appears, given the Committee some very valuable information in relation to the state of the libraries in Dublin and the Provincial Towns of Ireland, so far as Irish MSS. is concerned, more especially those "valuable treasures of the ancient Irish language, preserved in Trinity College and the Royal Irish Academy."

But in this, we are informed, was accomplished only one of the objects of Mr. Curry's visit to London. We, says the "Dublin Irishman," trace him to the British Museum, where, upon the introduction of Dr. Petrie and the Rev. Dr. Todd, he was immediately placed in a position to commence researches, the important results of which are given below. It may easily be imagined with what avidity so ardent an explorer of ancient Irish lore went to work on the literary banquet placed before him. In a few days he had read over several hundred pages of those MSS. which are a scaled book to the learned men of the world, with the exception of some half dozen Irish scholars, if, indeed, so large a number as half a dozen: and he did not neglect, of course, to make copious notes as he went along. Mr. Curry examined, among many others, the following important MSS.—

1. A copious glossary of ancient Irish words, of the greatest value for understanding the detail and working of the Brehon laws.
2. An ancient account of the first battle of Moytura, between the Furbolgs, Tuath-de-Dannan, &c., an exceedingly curious and valuable tract.
3. An ancient and very curious tract on the Psalms of David, explaining their original arrangement, and subsequent modification, &c.
4. Twenty-eight pages of the Annals of Kilronan, or rather of Trinity Island, in Lough Kay, which have been missing since the time of Sir James Ware, from an original book now in Trinity College.
5. A hundred folio pages of the original Compilation or Collection of the Four Masters.
6. A volume in vellum of the Lives of Irish saints, among which is included that of Saint Gregory the Great. This must have been a prize of the greatest value to Mr. Curry, with whom it has been long a favourite opinion that that illustrious pontiff was the son of Irish parents; and we understand that he has found in this singular and unique MS. abundant proof to satisfy him that his belief was well

7. The Tripartite Life of St. Patrick, a vellum MS written in 1477. There have been two leaves of this tract cut out, only one of them we believe of any importance; but, with this exception, it is the most curious and valuable addition made to our antiquarian treasures within our memory. We understand that it will throw important light on the *Falire Aenguis*, or Hierology of Angus the the Culdee; and that many of the proper names which were so metamorphosed by Colgan in his Latin version of the Tripartite Life, as to be doubtful or unintelligible, will now be clearly understood. This important MS. along with many others, was sold several years since to the British Museum by Mr Hardiman, who was not then aware of its real value. At that time our ancient literary remains too frequently found their way across the Channel, and we must not blame the distinguished antiquary and historian of Galway for following an example then so general. We know that the private libraries of the Duke of Buckingham and Sir Thomas Philips were enriched with Irish literary treasures by the Rev Chas. O'Connor and Sir William Betham, and the repositories of the British Museum have, at all events, the advantage of being open to the public.

Some of the MSS. which we have enumerated above, were known to Dr Todd, the Rev Mr Graves, and Mr O'Donovan, but the fragments of Annals and the Tripartite Life have now been identified for the first time, and as Mr Curry is engaged in making a catalogue of the Irish MSS. in the British Museum, for the trustees, we may expect to hear further discoveries. It was at the suggestion, we understand, of Viscount Adare that Sir Frederick Madden resolved to take advantage of Mr Curry's presence in London to get the catalogue compiled, and it is but justice to that noble Lord to add, that he loses no opportunity of promoting Irish antiquarian knowledge, and the interests of our national literature generally. We should also mention that Mr George Alexander Hamilton has exhibited exceeding great kindness to the Irish scholar in the present instance, and afforded all the assistance in his power in promoting the interesting objects upon which Mr. Curry is engaged.—*Truth Teller.*

FILIPPO NERI AND THE STUDENT.

A story is told of a good and pious old man whom the Church has enrolled among her saints on account of his great holiness. He was living in one of the Italian Universities, when a young man whom he had known as a boy, ran up to him with a face full of delight, and told him that what he had long been wishing above all the things in the world, was at length fulfilled—his parents having just given him leave to study law; and thereupon he had come to the law school at his university on account of his great fame, and meant to spare no pains or labor in getting through his studies as quickly and well as possible. In this way he ran on for a long time; and when at last he came to a stop, the holy man, who had been listening to him with great patience and kindness, said:

"Well, and when you have got through your course of studies, what do you mean to do then?"  
"Then I shall take my doctor's degree," answered the young man.  
"And then?" asked Filippo Neri again.  
"And then," continued the youth, "I shall have a number of difficult and knotty cases to

"And then?" repeated the holy man.  
"And then," replied the youth, "why, then there can't be a question; I shall be promoted to some high office or other: besides, I shall make money and grow rich."  
"And then?" repeated Filippo.  
"And then," pursued the young lawyer, "and then I shall live comfortably and honorably, in wealth and dignity, and shall be able to look forward quietly to a happy old age."  
"And then?" "And then," said the youth, "then I shall die."  
Here Filippo lifted up his voice, and again asked, "And then!" Whereupon the young man made no answer, but cast down his eyes and went away. The last *And then?* had pierced like a flash of lightning into his soul, and he could not get clear of it. Soon after, he forsook the study of law, and gave himself up to the ministry of Christ, and spent the remainder of his days in goodly words and works.

The question which St. Filippo Neri put to the young lawyer, is one which we should put frequently to ourselves. When we have done all that we are doing, all that we aim at doing, all that we dream of doing, even supposing that all our dreams are accomplished, that every wish of the heart is fulfilled, still we may ask, what will we do then? Whenever we cast our thoughts forward, never let them stop this side of the grave; but when we have followed ourselves thither, and have seen ourselves laid therein, still ask ourselves the searching question, AND WHAT THEN?

VISITATION.—Seventy-seven persons were confirmed in the Church of St. Peter, Reading, on Sunday, 12th inst.

Thirteen persons were confirmed in the Church of St. Henry, in Massillum township, Berks county, on Monday, 13th inst.

Sixty persons were confirmed in the Church of the Holy Sacrament, in Washington township, Berks county, on the Feast of the Assumption. This Church is popularly known by the name of Goshenhopen, the name of the township to which it originally belonged. It was built in 1741, by Rev Theodore Snyder, S. J. The original Church now serves as a Sanctuary for the new Church, erected by Rev Boniface Carvin, S. J., who died in 1837. The children advanced through the Church into the Sanctuary, in regular procession, carrying banners of the Blessed Virgin and of St. Joseph. They knelt in regular order at each side, and received confirmation with great piety. The German language, in a corrupt way, is spoken in the congregation; which, although it consists chiefly of persons born in the neighborhood, contains but few who speak English. Rev Augustus Bally, S. J., is in charge of this church and mission, as also of Massillum, which he visits monthly.—*Cath. Herald.*

ITALY—ROME

STATE OF ROME—We make the following quotations from the correspondent of the *Times* of course without accepting the spirit in which the writer uses his facts:—"Rome, August 17.—Though no direct hostility exists between the French diplomatists and Pius IX., matters are very far from being arranged. The Pope, I am told, positively refuses to recognise as his soldiers all who have borne arms against him; on the other hand, the French have reorganised all who were willing to continue in the army. The three Cardinals at the head of the Government have declined to receive the Roman officers; so what is to become of the

jected to a thorough military training. The Pope seems anxious to yield to the wishes of the people in secularising, as far as he ventures, the Government of the country. Out of ten *delegati* of the provinces there is only one Ecclesiastic, and two in the Commission of Inquiry into the acts of the late Government, which consists of eleven members. On the other hand, everything is in a most unsettled state, and I see no chance of improvement unless the Pope comes forward with a clear and plain statement of the policy he intends to pursue. The notes issued by the Republic, notwithstanding the reduction in value of 35 per cent., are looked upon with the greatest disgust, and are only to be converted into specie at a loss of from 30 to 40 per cent. The price of everything has risen in the same proportion, unless some remedy be forthwith adopted, the distress among the poor people will be very great.—August 18.—The commission charged with the re-organisation of the *Beneficenza*, the institution for supplying work to all applicants, has just published its programme. 4,000 or 5,000 men are at present employed who are to be formed into gangs and companies commanded by corporals and sergeants chosen from the workmen. Their labour are confined to excavations, earthworks, and street-sweeping, and are to be paid for by the piece. It is to be hoped by these means that habits of industry may be introduced, for at present I defy you to find such a set of lazy vagabonds any where. The rascals lately used to throw out scouts to warn them of the approach of the French inspector, and all the time he was in sight pretended to labour most extravagantly. The Commission further state their intention of establishing a poorhouse for all who are unable to work, thus putting an end to the interminable street-begging in our city. Filippo Capanna, an inspector of police under the Republic, has just been condemned to hard labour for life by court-martial, for having committed pillage and devastations by night in inhabited houses, and, being armed and accompanied by several persons, having threatened the lives of the lodgers. The harvest this year has been most abundant, so that if confidence will only return we may hope to escape from many of the evils which threatened us."

The *Piedmontese Gazette* states from Rome, Aug. 16, that on the preceding day, being the festival of the Assumption, and the birthday of the Emperor Napoleon, General Oudinot held a grand review on the banks of the Tiber. The French troops present consisted of twenty battalions of infantry, one of the engineer corps, six batteries of artillery, and six squadrons of cavalry. The Roman troops were represented by two regiments of infantry, one battery of artillery, and a regiment of cavalry.

CAPITULATION OF VENICE.—The *Venice Gazette* publishes in its official part the *pro-verbal* of the capitulation of Venice, which took place on the 22d ult. in the presence of General Gorzkowski, Baron Hess on the part of Austria, and three commissioners on the part of Venice. The surrender takes place on the terms of the proclamation of Radetzky, recently published—that is, unconditional surrender. The officers who fought against Austria will be allowed to leave Venice, as well as all foreign soldiers of whatever rank they may be, and certain civic functionaries and persons of whom a list was to be furnished by the Austrian General-in-Chief. The paper money of Venice is to be reduced to one-half of its nominal value, and will only have to