

3dly, From Luke, 22. v. 31, 32. "The Lord said : Simon, Simon, behold satan hath desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for thee that thy faith faileth not, and thou being once converted, confirm thy brethren. In which text our Lord not only declares his particular concern for Peter in praying for him that his faith might not fail, but also committed to him the care of his brethren, the other apostles, in charging him to confirm, or strengthen them.

4thly, From John 21. v. 15, &c. "Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of John, lovest thou me more than these ? He saith to him, Yea, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee : He saith to him, feed my lambs. He saith to him again, the second time, Simon, son of John, lovest thou me ? He saith unto him, yea, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, feed my lambs. He saith unto him a third time, Simon, son of John, lovest thou me ? Peter was grieved because he said to him a third time, lovest thou me ? and he said unto him, Lord thou knowest all things, thou knowest that I love thee ; Jesus saith unto him, feed my sheep." In which text our Lord in a most solemn manner, thrice committed to Peter the care of his flock, of all his sheep without exception, that is of his whole church.

Q. How do you prove that this commission given to Peter descends to the Pope or Bishop of Rome ?

A. Because by the unanimous consent of the Fathers and the tradition of the church in all ages, the bishops of Rome are the successors of St. Peter, who translated his chair from Antioch to Rome, and died bishop of Rome. Hence the see of Rome in all ages was called the *see of Peter*, the *chair of Peter*, and absolutely the *see apostolic* : and in that quality has from the beginning exercised jurisdiction over all other churches, as appears from the best records of church history.

Besides, supposing the supremacy of St. Peter, which we have proved above from plain scripture, it must consequently be allowed that this supremacy, which Christ