



RAPHAEL'S DISPUTA

The Apotheosis of the Blessed Sacrament in Heaven
and on Earth.

THIS famous half-circular fresco represents, as we have already stated, the apotheosis of the Blessed Sacrament in heaven and on earth. It is therefore composed of two superposed divisions, which are a marvel of balance and unity. — A square altar in the center of the lower, or earthly plane, supports a monstrance containing the transubstantiated host, a marvel of simplicity and effectiveness, and around it are ranged in groups of astonishing life and action, the Doctors who have written on the Divine Mystery of the Altar. To the right, near the altar, stands Peter Lombard, the *Magister Sententiarum*, with Thomas Aquinas and Duns Scot not far away, while St. Ambrose and St. Augustine sit in the foreground, the latter dictating to a scribe. St. Bonaventure, in Cardinal's