

LIFE OF ST. PETER THOMAS, OF THE ORDER OF CARMELITES :

DEVOTED SERVANT OF MARY—TITULAR PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE—LEGATE
OF THE CRUSADE OF 1365.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF L'ABBE A. PARRAUD.

BY MISS S. X. BLAKELY.

CHAPTER XI.

EMBASSY TO CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE GREEK SCHISM—BLESSED PETER THOMAS AS A DISPUTANT—A DETRACTOR
PUNISHED WITH DEATH—SUBMISSION OF JOHN PALEOLOGUS
TO THE POPE—1357.



ONE of the most difficult theological questions is that which is called by the schoolmen the manner of procession of the Holy Ghost. The doctrine of the Catholic Church is, that in the Holy

Trinity the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father and Son. Certain Greek doctors of the Lower Empire maintained that the Divine Spirit only proceeded from the Father. The Roman Church in order to define explicitly the Catholic doctrine upon the above point added a word to the Nicene Creed. To the sentence which formerly read "*ex Patre procedit*" was attached the word "*Filioque*." Ever since we say "*ex Patre Filioque procedit*":—"the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father and the Son." The patriarchs of Constantinople, who cherished an inveterate jealousy towards the supremacy of the Roman Pontiff and his authority in the

East strenuously opposed the addition of "*Filioque*." Objections and reproaches arose on every side at what was anathematized as an "interpolation" and a falsification of the ancient Creed.

Photius, patriarch of Constantinople, whilst professing to preserve and maintain the title of "Orthodox," violently announced his intention to separate from Rome, which he actually did, in the year, 866.

The rupture, averted for a while, by earnest attempts at a reconciliation, was fatally consummated in 1053, by Cerularius, another patriarch of the same See. This, has ever since constituted one of the greatest trials of Christianity.

The Church, however, had by no means abandoned the hope of a reunion. In the thirteenth century, under the influence of the Latin Crusaders, who, to fortify themselves, as they said, against political treason, of which they had several times been the victim, had taken possession of Constantinople in 1204, Catholicity began to make such decided and general progress that Michael Paleologus, who was