

ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR

slackening to a premature death. There is an illuminated manuscript, '*Missarum libri et Sancti Georgii martyris historia*,' executed by some Sienese artist for Cardinal Jacopo Stefaneschi, and now in the Capitular Archives of St. Peter's. Here there was every opportunity for details such as the drinking of the poisoned cup, or the torture on the wheel, or the boiling in lead, such as the mediaeval artist represented so cheerfully; but we have nothing but the final scene of the decollation. This last subject was also treated, in characteristic style, by Paul Veronese, in *San Giorgio at Verona*. The suggestion has been made, and may be true, that the early condemnation of the Acts by Papal authority was the cause of the comparative rarity of these representations.

The function of St. George as patron of the Order of the Garter, especially interesting to Englishmen, does not come within our present scope. The curious in this matter may consult Ashmole; and may thereafter keep their eyes open for representations of St. George wearing the Garter, as he does in Raphael's picture in the Hermitage, or in the fine fifteenth-century miniature in the Bedford Book of Hours in the British Museum, where the Duke of Bedford, Henry I's brother, kneels before the Saint, who is clad in the mantle of the Order.