

Sala Della Loggia of the Vatican, and shortly afterwards His Holiness was carried in on the sedia gestatoria, amid the acclamations of the spectators. The Pope officiated at his own diamond mass, the music being furnished by the choir of the Sistine Chapel. The venerable Pontiff then attended a mass of thanksgiving, kneeling on a prie-dieu. At the conclusion of this mass His Holiness, in a strong voice, pronounced the Papal benediction ; he then took his seat on the throne and received until 10.30 o'clock, when he was borne out on the sedia gestatoria amid the acclamations of those present.

His Holiness had a most radiant face, and it was evident that he was enjoying excellent health. He received hundred of rich presents. Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria-Hungary, sent him 50,000 florins in gold in a casket, and the Queen Regent of Spain sent a massive gold and jewelled goblet. His gift from the United States was a diamond cross. President Faure, of France, sent six Sevres vases, and the present from the Sultan of Turkey was a superb diamond ring. Every country sent a large contribution to the Peter's Pence fund.

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### DON BOSCO ON CHARITY.

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Those who feel their hearts warmed to the gentle influence of Charity's soft ray, might be compared to the ocean, whence the sun gracefully receives tribute by evaporation without materially lessening the vast expanse of its waters. These vapours gradually form into clouds which, dissolving into rain, fertilise the earth, and afterwards return in rivers to the ocean from whence they came. Precisely so it happens in those who devote part of their substance to the glory of God and the salvation of their fellow-creatures. The charity of one may be, perhaps, but a single drop, but united with others forms a cloud which showers benefits on an infinity of misfortunes : on faithful and infidels ; on children in danger of corruption ; on families, on populations, on society at large. Moreover, alms-deeds never go unrewarded, for like the dissolving cloud, " they return in rivers to the sea." The chari-