

There is question now of believing in the fidelity of the Heart of Jesus. First, to believe that His help will never fail, especially in things necessary to our salvation, such as to shun sin, to resist temptations, to fulfil our duties ; for " He is faithful, and He will not permit us to be tempted above our strength." Still more, He will turn our temptations to our profit, and make us find in them strength to resist even to the end : — God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that which you are able : but will make also with temptation issue, that you may be able to bear it." We must believe, also, that He will never fail to assist us in our trials, of what kind soever they may be. He will either deliver us from them or He will give us the strength to accept them, provided that, being in a state of grace, we implore His help with confidence, humility, and perseverance. He has even engaged Himself thereto by oath : — " If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you shall ask whatever you will, and it shall be done unto you " Lastly, we must believe in the eternal justifications of His fidelity, and that He has in reserve for us heavenly rewards that infinitely surpass all the riches of which, in spite of our confidence in Him and all our prayers, we have, by His permission, been deprived here below. Is it not for this reason that He can without irony say to us that the poor, the afflicted, the persecuted are happy here below, since poverty, sufferings and tears assure them infallibly the kingdom of Heaven, which is the possession of the infinite God?

Saint Peter.

(See frontispiece.)

Peter, whatever thou shalt bind on earth,
The same is bound above the starry sky ;
What here delegated thy power doth loose,
Is loosed in heaven's great citadel on high ;
To judgment shalt thou come, when the world's
[end is nigh.

Praise to the Father through all ages be ;
The same to thee, O co-eternal Son,
And Holy Ghost, one glorious Trinity,
To whom all majesty and might belong :
So sing we now, and such be our eternal song.