

Jubilee differs from ordinary plenary indulgences? The Jubilee as a plenary indulgence, — that is to say, the full and entire remission of the temporal punishment due to sins already pardoned, — does not differ essentially from other indulgences, but only accidentally. Bourdaloue, in one of his sermons, treats the question thoroughly and learnedly. He tells us that, as far as the remission of punishment due to sin is concerned, nothing can be added to the plenitude of a plenary indulgence at any time ; but during the time of Jubilee, three circumstances distinguish it from other indulgences. In the first place, a Jubilee indulgence is more solemn, because it is universal ; it is extended to the whole Catholic Church. Secondly, because the ceremonies observed in the publication of it are more august and more holy : they all tend to give solemnity to this great act of pardon ; for instance, the opening of the Jubilee doors in St. Peter's and the Roman basilicas. And thirdly, because the functions of the *Anno Santo*, and above all the closing scenes of the year, are gone through in a way to excite our hearts to greater devotion, and to inspire into us more fervent sentiments of piety.

A Jubilee indulgence possesses greater privileges, because it is accompanied by many graces which the Church, like a fond mother, wishes to grant her children, but which she imparts only during this holy season ; such are, for example, the privilege of being absolved from all sorts of crime without restriction, and of being relieved from all kinds of censures ; of having vows, either dispensed altogether, or commuted. These are privileges attached specially to this period of blessings and salvation. Finally, a Jubilee indulgence is one more certain to be gained, because the reasons the Church has in view in granting it, are of greater moment ; hence, greater security as to its validity.

Although the chief reason given for granting it is a tradition venerable by six hundred years of existence, and ostensibly, because we are on the eve of a new century, there are other reasons that will appeal to our readers.