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## Easter.

On Easter day, in primitive times, Christians saluted each other with the Kaster Kiss, and the exelamation Sur-
vexit, He is risen; to w.hich the reply was vere survexit, He is risen indeed. The festival of Faster, which memorates the resurrection of Jesu arist, derives its name from the festival of the goddess Ostara, in Anglo Saxon, Eastre, which the Saxons of old
were wont to celebrate about the same season at which the Christian festival of Easter occurs. When these Saxons, having renounced idolatry, became of the resurreetion the name by which they had honored the Spring-tide of nature. Easter commemor
Spring of the supernatural.
Spring of the supernatural.
Until the Council of Nice
Until the Council of Nice, A. D
325 , there was a difference of opinio as to when not as to why, Easter
should be celebrated. The council cided that the great feast should be observed upon one and the same day Its canon fixed the day as the firi Sunday after the full moon which hapMarch, the rennal equinox If the full moon Kappens upon a Sunday, the festival is to bo observed the Sunday Faster is therefore a maxable fass, is a fixed fact in listory. It is also a fundamental fact of Christianity. F
he who denies the liteal of the buman body of
should, to be logically consistent, deThe Apostles based their appeals to Jews and Gentiles to become Christians upon this fuet. They were plain men, accustomed to observe facts They speak as sober-minded witreeses testifying to what they knew.
Their evidenee cannot be rejected on the ground that they were deceived
by seeing only a vision. A vision is by seeing only a vision. A vision is
not handled, nor does it eat or work : not handled, nor does it eat or work a
miracle. The alternative is to believe facir testimony, or to rejeet it as the
fals wilful imposters. That falsehood of wilful imposters. That
supposition is demolished by the character of the Apostles, by their zeal, their suceess and their fate. death of their hoader men whom the and scattered. They did not expect to see Him again on earth. Their cause was lost, so they thought, when the saw their dead Lord buried.
But their senses forced them, in spite of their despair and skepticism, to confess that they saw Jesus in His own in one band, and fillod them with enthusiasm for the "lost cause."
They went everywhere testifying that Christ had risen from the dead and that they bad seen him. In all places and at all times they witnessed to this fact, In prisons and in courts, before the people who derided them as
fanatics, and before the cursed them as fools, they asserted that they knew their blessed Lord had risen from the dead.
their blood, and the fact they with Were revolutionized the porld Were they martyrs to a lie? Did a falsehood change the history of the world? Is the Christian church, the most practieal and powerfal benevolent
institutiop carth has ever possessed, founded upon an imposture?
In all the trustworthy facts of histoxy, there is not one more certain than from the dead with the sume body

## which was lald in the tomb of Jorept of Arimathea. On Easter norning. therefore, th Clristian ehureh stands by an empt! Claristian church stands by an emptt sepulchre and gazes into heaven "His body was there," it says, point. ing to the open tomb. "His body is there," and it sweeps. its righ here," and it sweeps its right hand chant, "Now is Christ risent from the dead, and become then dend, and become the first fruits of them that slept. <br> SIMMOMS \& MALLV


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