

**ITALY AND THE GOSPEL, LETTERS
AND DISCOURSES OF C. CURIO,
TRANSLATED FROM THE ITALIAN
EDITION OF 1552. WITH A SKETCH
OF HIS LIFE. ALSO, A SERMON**

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Italy and the Gospel, Letters and Discourses of C. Curio, Translated from the Italian Edition of 1552. With a Sketch of His Life. Also, a Sermon by Coelius Secundus Curio & Dr. Desanctis

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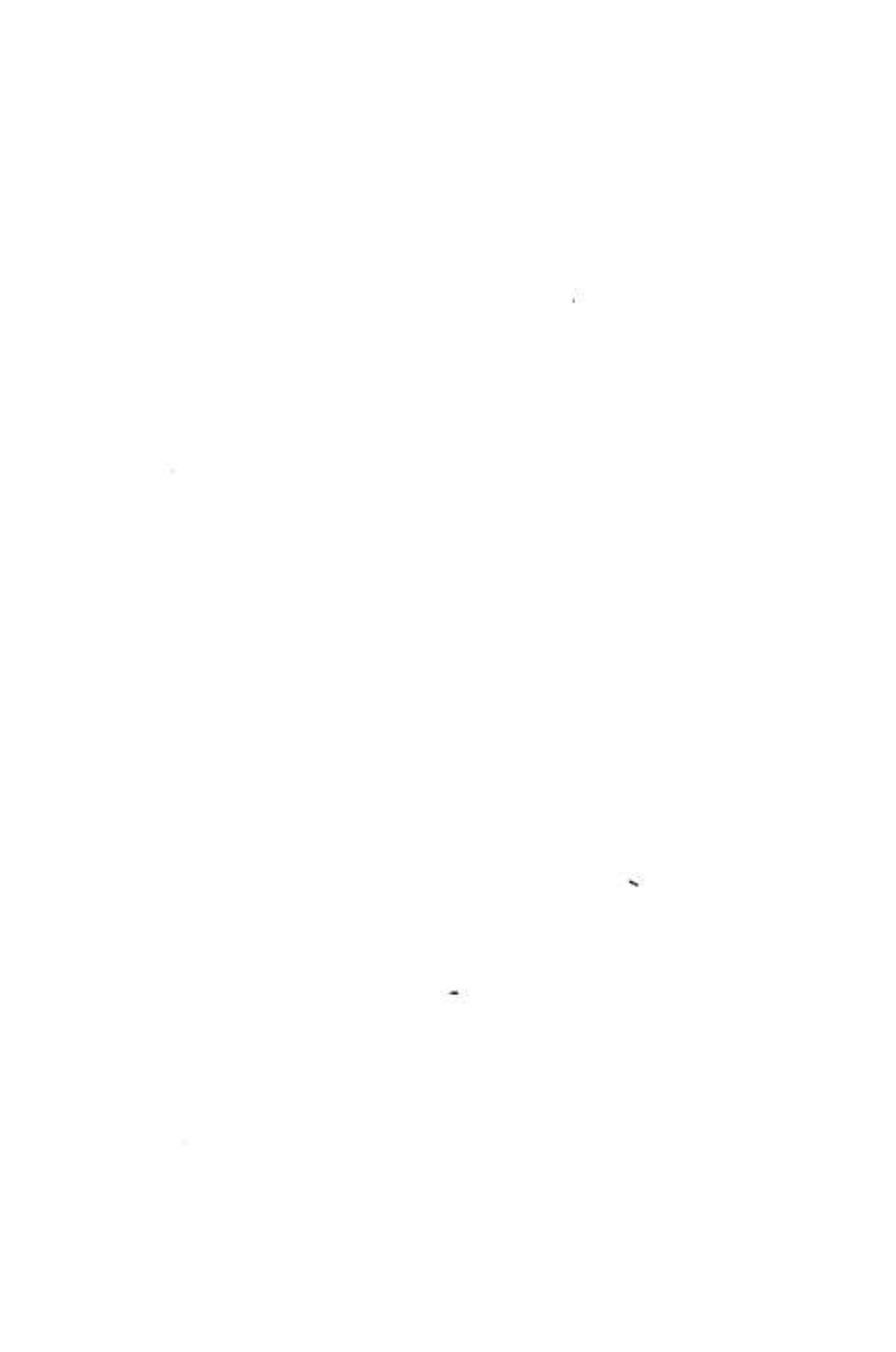
COELIUS SECUNDUS CURIO & DR. DESANCTIS

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LETTERS AND DISCOURSES

OF

CELIO CURIO.



ITALY AND THE GOSPEL.

LETTERS AND DISCOURSES
OF
CELIO CURIO.

TRANSLATED FROM THE ITALIAN EDITION OF 1852.

WITH

A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

ALSO,

A SERMON BY DR. DESANCTIS,
LATE PRIEST OF THE PARISH OF SANTA MARIA MADALENA,
AT ROME.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE following pages are translated from a work of Celio Curio, of the sixteenth century, bearing the title of "Four Christian Letters, with a Paradox upon the Text, 'Blessed are they that mourn,' and a Discourse or Sermon on Prayer, and one on Justification, newly brought to light for the Consolation and Confirmation of Pious Persons and Lovers of the Truth.

"Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand." (Phil. iv. 4, 5.)

"In Bologna per M. Pietro and Paulo Perusini fratelli nel 1552."

The letters and sermons of this remarkable man, now presented to the English reader,

are those of the volume that seemed most calculated to afford a specimen of his lively and affectionate manner of commending that Gospel to others which had wrought so happy a change on his own mind. It was eminently characteristic of the progress of the Reformed principles in Italy that they brought under their influence men of distinguished talents and great literary acquirements. Among these, the accomplished scholar Celio Curio held no inferior rank. The sketch of his life prefixed to this volume will be read with additional interest as translated from a modern Italian Journal, where it was placed for the benefit of his countrymen, and his former coadjutors in the priesthood, by the Rev. Dr. Desanctis, a convert from the same Church, and whose conversion witnesses a similar instance of the power of the truth of the Gospel in the present day. There are, indeed, several points of resemblance in the two cases, he being also, like the subject of his biographical sketch, a man of cultivated mind

and occupying a prominent station,* was obliged to quit his native land ; and from the sensation which his conversion to the Protestant faith has made in the very centre of the Roman Catholic Church, efforts from the highest quarters have not been wanting to induce him to return. He, however, like his predecessor, seems only intent on making known the Gospel to his benighted country ; and the light and unction which mark a sermon from his ordinary ministrations, which will be found appended to those of Celio Curio, convey the strongest conviction that all such efforts will be unavailing.

There appears to be, both in the early age of the Reformation, and in the present day, a striking difference between the experience of those who have been brought from the darkness of Romanism to the light of the Gospel, and that of the convert from Protestantism to the Roman Catholic faith. In the latter case there is very seldom any dis-

* Priest of the parish of Santa Maria Madalena at Rome.