

San Francisco Mail News.

(From our Exchanges.)

Pope Leo XIII. was crowned in the Sixtine chapel, on Sunday, the 3rd March, the ceremony lasting four hours. Only the cardinals, the prelates, the diplomatists accredited to the Papal Court, and a few other persons were permitted to be present. In the evening some of the faithful Romans illuminated their houses in honour of the event of the day; but the streets were filled with mobs of enraged revolutionists, and these broke some of the windows of the illuminated houses. Very tardily, it appears, the mobs were dispersed by the troops, who were apparently under orders not to hurt the rioters. The Italian Government is playing with fire; it is encouraging, perhaps making use of, a set of wretches who are almost as thirsty for the blood of the King as they are for the blood of the Pope; but who, for the present, are willing to pretend to be loyal subjects. It is clear that Leo XIII. is prisoner in the Vatican just as Pío Nono was. To-day the mob is instigated to break the windows of the lay Catholics in Rome; to-morrow, if the Pope should appear in the streets of his own city, his life would probably be taken.

The Rome correspondent of the London *Times*, writing from Rome under date of the 14th of February, spoke as follows of Cardinal Pecci, since then elected Pope: "Pecci is tall, with fine head, high forehead narrowing at temples; long face, and straight features. He has a large mouth, prominent chin, cheerful, open countenance, and large, well-shaped ears. His face reminds one of Gonsalvi, the renowned minister of Pius VII. He has a fine sonorous voice; great dignity, even austerity of manners in public life, but privately is affectionate, unassuming, sociable, and witty. As Camerlengo, he has been at the head of that party which, without formally renouncing the right of the holy See, acknowledges the wisdom of submitting to the decrees of Providence, accepting what seem to be irrevocably accomplished facts. The general opinion is that, for learning, tact, energy, dignity, amiability, real moral worth, and sincere piety, the Sacred College could not find a more deserving Pope than Cardinal Pecci. . . . Cardinal Pecci's private life, at all periods, is above reproach. . . . He never has had intercourse with functionaries of the present Italian Government, but is esteemed by them all, and those with whom the necessity of his duty brings him into contact are perfectly charmed with him."

Newspapers represent that Liberals and anti-Catholics are well pleased with the election of Cardinal Pecci! We may see how long they will remain so! In taking the name of Leo, the Pope may have thought of the first Pope St. Leo, called the Great, who, with unarmed hands went to meet Atilla, "the Scourge of God," and finding him on the farther bank of the Mincio, induced him to spare the Roman States—and his own destruction. But, perhaps, he thought more of the latest Pope Leo XII., who was called to succeed another Pope Pius, who had had a very long and troubled reign. Leo XII. used no timorous hand in plucking up weeds that had been growing during the long and exceeding mild reign of Pius VII.

One of the duties of Leo XIII., while Cardinal Camerlengo, was to open and read the will of Pius IX. This was done in the presence of the relatives by blood of the dead Pope. The will was written with his own hand on several sheets of paper bound together by a silk string, and dated 1875. There were several codicils. These are the directions for his burial: "My body shall be buried in the Church of St. Laurence, without the walls, under the little arch which surmounts the gridiron, that is, the stone on which are still visible the stains made by the martyrdom of the illustrious Levite. The expenses of the monument shall not exceed four hundred crowns." The following is the inscription written by himself:

OSSA ET CINERES PII P. IX.
SUM. PONT. VIXIT AN.—
IN PONTIFICATU AN.—
ORATE PRO EO.

That is to say: "The bones and dust of Pope Pius IX., Supreme Pontiff. He lived — years; in the Pontificate — years. Pray for him."

Amongst the gifts made to personal friends, Pius IX. left to the Comte de Chambord a mosaic design of the Blessed Virgin, to the Dowager Duchess of Modena a similar mosaic, to Queen Isabella a crucifix, to the King of Naples a Holy Family, to the Duke of Tuscany a copy of Raphael's Madonna, to the Duke of Parma a miniature representing Christ directing the Apostles to permit little children to come to Him, to Don Alphonse de Bourbon a medallion of the Resurrection, and to the Princess Thurn Taxis a crucifix set in precious stones, and made still more precious with relics of the True Cross. The Pope allotted the sum of 300,000 francs for the use of the poor. His private patrimony, obtained by inheritance, he divided equally between his nephew and grand-nephews.

Almost all of the near relatives of Pope Pius IX. had preceded him to the grave. No brother of his survives him: the last deceased member of his family were his elder brother, Count Gabriel Mastai, and his nephew, Luigi Mastai, son of Count Gabriel. Another son of Count Gabriel, and nephew of the late Pope, is still living: he is the Count Ercole, and dwells at Milan. He has two sons, one of whom is at Sinigaglia, while the other is being educated at the military school of St. Cyr. The count has also two daughters—one is a nun in a convent at Specchi, while the other is the wife of commander Marco Fabi.

None of the portraits of Pius IX. do him full justice. Many of them are admirable: some of them are as perfect as art can make them. But it is impossible for art to reproduce the angelic beauty of his face, the witchery of his smile, the lambent flame of his eyes. Millions of his children have seen him on earth, and they know what we mean: let us pray that we may meet him in heaven.

"Simon-bar-Jona is mortal, Peter never dies"—these words were often in the dead Pope's mouth, the thought is a Catholic one and ought to console us now who even in the face of death can recall the promise of the Ascension which was fulfilled at Pentecost. We have the Comforter, the Paraclete, the Spirit of Wisdom, who being with

the Church will never permit it to fail. The Vatican is empty. In the Quirinal rules a usurper, yet the day will come—after perhaps still greater trial—when the Quirinal will send adrift its unwelcome tenant and the Vatican will again rule and bless the city and the world. The dead Pope strikingly impressed this truth on a friendly French diplomat, who with his wife and child went to bid him farewell. "You are both of you young," said Pío Nono, "for you life will be long in passing. But, without deceiving myself, I believe it is the last time that you will see me. Perhaps you will not come to Rome for a long time; then remember me, and what I am about to say to you; repeat it often to this little child, as soon as he is able to understand you. . . . Impress profoundly on his memory the recollection of this man now before him, clothed in white. And whatever may happen to myself, who am in fact nothing, depend upon it that here, in this very place where I am standing, when the child having become old, shall one day return with his sons and grandsons, depend upon it that he will find here, even in the same place, another man like myself clothed in white."

The Scottish Hierarchy was constituted in Rome yesterday (Feb. 20). St. Andrew's and Glasgow are archbishoprics, Aberdeen and three other sees bishoprics,—all of them, excepting Glasgow, suffragan to St. Andrew's. The present bishops are retained, namely, the Right Rev. John Strain, now Vicar Apostolic of the Eastern District, who becomes Archbishop of St. Andrew's and Edinburgh; the Most Rev. Archbishop Eyre, now Apostolic Delegate for Scotland, and Vicar Apostolic of the Western District, who is appointed Archbishop of Glasgow, and the Right Rev. John McDonald, Vicar Apostolic of the Northern District, Bishop of Aberdeen. The new bishops are the Very Rev. John McLachlan Galloway; the Very Rev. George Rigg, now Vicar-General of the Eastern District, Dunkeld; and the Rev. Angus Macdonald, now priest of Arsaig, Argyll and the Isles.

On Monday, March 4, Irishmen everywhere recalled the memory of the brave gallant, unfortunate Robert Emmett, whose fate has moved all hearts, and whose eloquence still thrills all who can be moved by human words, appealing to some of the tenderest and purest emotions of humanity. He was an unselfish and heroic soul, who perished too young for himself and his country. If Ireland has had to blush for unhappy sons who traded on the holiest affections of her people and their devotion to their fatherland—degenerate sons who "thanked heaven they had a country to sell"—she has had also her Emmetts, one of whom would elevate a whole race.

We have to chronicle this week the death of Rev. Father Secchi, the famous astronomer, which occurred in Rome on the 25th of Feb. He was born in the States of the Church, at the commencement of the present century, and at an early age entered the Society of Jesus. For many years he has been director of the celebrated observatory in the Roman College, and when the Jesuits were driven from their establishments he was allowed to remain at his post. He has made many important discoveries in astronomical science, and has published many learned works.—*R.I.P.*

Bad as the dead king of Italy was his successor promises to be worse. Even in the proclamation which he makes of the King's death he shows himself to be both unfilial and uncatholic and makes it evident that if he had the power he would have stood between his dying father and his opportunity for sorrow and reparation. There are glowing promises that he will "follow in the footsteps of his father," but in this address of a Catholic King to a Catholic people lamenting the death of a Catholic man there is not one sentiment that shows his Catholic feeling, not even a halfhearted prayer that the poor dead man may rest in peace. Fitting epitaph for the dead father of such a son.

The Church of S. Andrea delle Frate, in Rome, was magnificently decorated with red satin damask bordered with gold, and an infinity of lights, on the 20th Feb., the anniversary of the miraculous conversion of Père Ratisbone, which occurred in 1842, in the Church of San Andrea. He was converted from Judaism by an apparition of the Blessed Virgin. Masses were said during the morning, and at five p.m. Cardinal Franchi gave solemn Benediction. Padre Giovanni, who possesses perhaps the finest tenor voice at present known, sang on the occasion, and there was hardly standing room in the church. On Wednesday, the 23rd, the Rev. Dr. O'Brien preached a sermon on Père Ratisbone to a crowded audience in the same church.

No king ever permitted his people to be more ruthlessly ground down than did Victor Emmanuel. Not a single great enterprise marks his reign. Local enterprises checked, enormous taxation, colossal debt, general bankruptcy, public dishonesty, violation of public national faith, increasing infidelity, numberless suicides, multiplied crimes by secret societies—these are the fruits of King Victor Emmanuel's unhappy reign. "May the Lord have mercy on his soul."

According to the latest statistics published in Berlin, Feb. 5th, the active army of Germany consists of 687,594 men, 1,800 cannons, and 233,095 horses. The reserve consists of 4,426 officers, 243,095 men, 426 cannons, and 690 horses. The militia, and in time of war intended for garrison duty, consists of 10,107 officers, 353,102 men, 124 cannons, and 30,590 horses. The effective army ready for the field is therefore 31,843 officers, 1,203,791 soldiers, 301,536 horses, and 426 batteries, with 2,500 cannons.

The *London Times* editorially says:—"It is stated, on authority which cannot be questioned, that 70,000,000 human beings are now starving in the famine stricken districts of North China. Imagination fails to cope with so gigantic a calamity. We cannot doubt that if the Chinese have found their way to America from the comparatively prosperous eastern provinces in thousands, they will pour forth in myriads from the famine-stricken districts of the north as soon as the way is opened to them. The Chinese difficulty may speedily become a greater menace to the future of the United States than the negro difficulty was at its worst, for negro immigration was never voluntary and ceased with the abolition of slave trade, while, if the Chinese tide once begins to flow in force, it is difficult to see when it will stop."

John Bull, just listen to this—from one of your own great men, too: "I do verily believe, and admit in convinced sorrow, that I live in the midst of a nation of thieves and murderers; that everybody round me is trying to rob everybody else, and that not bravely and strongly, but in the most cowardly ways of lying trade; that 'English-