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# The True Witness

Vol. LI, No. 35 MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1902. PRICE FIVE CENTS

THE  
DAWN  
OF THE  
SILVER  
JUBILEE  
YEAR!

The brief despatches from Rome, received as we go to press, convey the news that the ceremonies, on Monday last, in connection with the dawn of the year of silver jubilee of His Holiness the Pope were of a most imposing nature.

In the morning at eight o'clock the piazza of St. Peter's was black with a mass of 80,000 people. About 50,000 of these were admitted, and it took four hours for them to enter by four doors. The gold and white marble of the interior glittered with myriads of candles and thousands of electric lights set in the ceiling. The entire concourse within the building stood with the exception of a few of who occupied special tribunes.

The royal tribune, in which were the Grand Duchess of Saxweimer, the Duchess of Trani, and the Princess Liechtenstein was next to that of the Pope's family. The members of the diplomatic corps occupied a third. The general crowd was largely international, and included hundreds of Americans.

The sound of silver trumpets announced the approach of the Pontifical procession. First came a gilded jeweled cross, carried by a white clad youth. Then religious orders of monks, functionaries, archbishops, bishops and prelates of all grades. The Sistine choir rendered soul-stirring music during the entrance. Then the cardinals and His Holiness entered, clad in gorgeous robes of white, red and gold.

The crowd was silent until the Pope entered, and then with one voice it shouted, "Viva papare," (Long live the Pope).

The election of Leo XIII. to the exalted position of Sovereign Pontiff took place twenty-five years ago on Feb. 20. On Feb. 18, 1878, ten days after the demise of Pope Pius IX. 61 cardinals entered into the conclave. The cardinals were of the following nationality: 39 Italians, 7 Frenchmen, 4 Spaniards, 1 Portuguese, 1 Pole, 4 Austrians, 2 Germans, 1 Belgian and 2 Englishmen. The conclave was one of the shortest in history. When the first ballot was taken on the morning of Feb. 19, twenty-three votes were cast for Cardinal Gioacchino Pecci, Camerlingo of the Holy Roman Church, while the next favorite candidate, Cardinal Franchi, received only seven. At the second ballot, taken the same day, the votes for Cardinal Pecci amounted to thirty-eight; the third ballot showed that the election was consummated, Cardinal Pecci having received forty-four votes, more than the necessary two-thirds. Cardinal Donnet, archbishop of Bordeaux, who sat by the side of Cardinal Pecci during the voting, said that when the name of the cardinal chamberlain was announced with startling repetition, the future pontiff abed abundant fears, and his trembling hand refused to retain its grasp on the pen. The French cardinal picked it up, and handing it to his palled colleague, he whispered: "Courage! This is not a question of you; the interest of the Church and the future of the world are concerned."

When the moment arrived for his

assumption of the name of which he was thereafter to be known in the annals of the Church, the new pontiff assumed the name of Leo XIII.

Leo XIII. is the only one of the long line of popes who has worn the episcopal mitre fifty-nine consecutive years. He is the sixth in line as to length of reign and second as to personal age. He is now the senior bishop of the whole Catholic world and also the doyen of those who have held the rank of cardinal. He has seen 137 cardinals die since he began his reign, a record nowhere approached by any of his predecessors, and has created 148 members of the senate of the Church.

The history of the popes shows that of the long line 195 have been Italians; 3; Greeks, 15; Africans, 3; Spaniards, 4; French, 14; Burgundians, 2; Germans, 6;

The Roman correspondent of the New York "Sun" in a recent letter, writes:—

Leo XIII. has applied the principle of a policy adapted to the facts into all fields. His idea has been to subject the varied contingencies of our times to immutable principles, to adapt old methods of work to new needs, to increase the traditional patrimony by the addition and increase of safe conquests, to point out the agreement of Christianity with whatever is right, true and good in progress, in short, to enable the Church to fulfil its beneficial mission in accordance with the demands of the century.

He triumphs in philosophy, where he brings about the amalgamation of the old schools with the intellectual movement of our times. In history, where, alone among sovereigns, with a generous and bold hand he throws open the Vatican

tory imprints on Leo XIII's brow; such is the monument of perennial bronze of his pontificate.

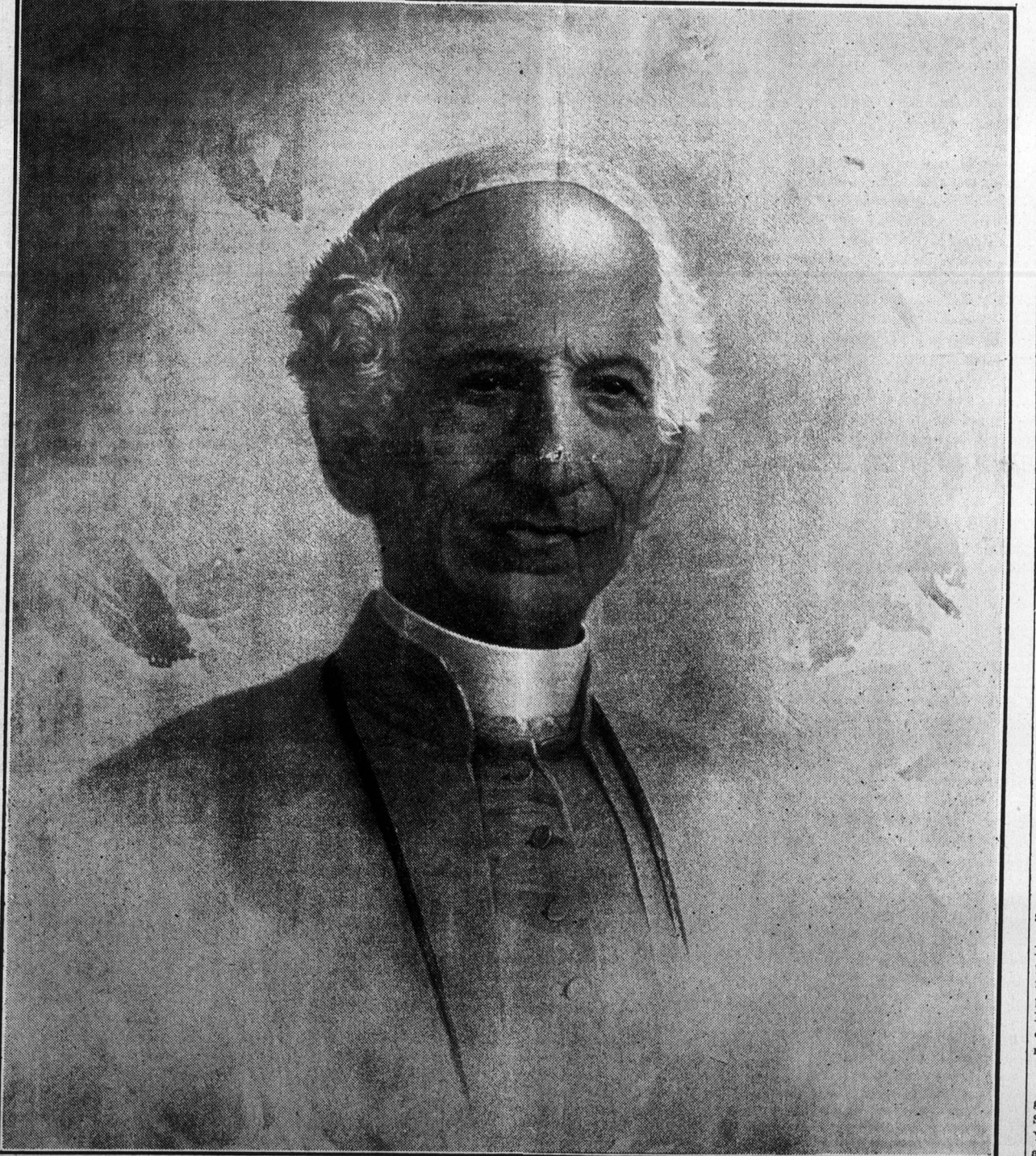
Justin McCarthy has penned the following picture of the Pope. Leo XIII., he writes, is a man of singularly graceful and imposing presence. He is generally described as very tall, but his slender form gives him the appearance of being much taller than he is. He is a man not much above the middle height, but very slight and stately. His face is bloodless as that of a marble statue. He dresses in white, and the white of his robes is only of a different tone from the pallor of his face. Even now, despite his advanced years, the Pope moves with a quick and easy tread, which has no suggestion of creeping old age about it. He enters readily and simply into conversation, and has the native-born sympathy which enables him to come at once into a

Leo XIII. as one of those figures which must have been more often seen in the days when saints walked on earth—as, indeed, some saints do walk the earth even now."

A correspondent of the Buffalo "Express" gives some notes of a recent visit to the Vatican, from which we clip the following:—

Leo XIII. was working hard from early morning, long before the majority of men who are occupied with mental exertions think of rising. He was up at 6 o'clock and with but few intermissions busied himself many hours daily, receiving the cardinals, bishops, other prelates and political representatives, listening to reports and appearing almost daily before the large bodies of pilgrims from all over the world. One day it was the Spanish pilgrims, the next day a large Polish pilgrimage, the following, a great number of Americans, including about 40

CATHOLIC NOTES OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SOURCES!



HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIII.

Saxons, 2; Bavarians, 4; English, 1; and Belgian, 1. The nationality of the others is not well established. Forty popes are venerated as saints and confessors and thirty-seven as martyrs, making the entire number of the beatified seventy-seven. The first thirty-three popes were martyred.

Ninety-two years is a long span of life; longer still is it, when we contemplate all that has been crowded into those few years. What a wonderful life, that of Leo XIII! Not in appearance a robust man, still he carries his load with a reserve of strength rarely to be found in any human being. That he is already looked upon as a great Pope, as well as a great statesman, litterateur and ruler, is amply borne out by the testimony which comes from all quarters of the globe.

archives giving new life to the science and demonstrating the Papacy's good wishes for the propagation of truth. In Biblical studies, where, through the commission lately appointed, he takes into the ancient organism of intellectual life the new treasures of criticism. In ecclesiastical science, where he raises clerical education to the level of present demands through his zeal in rejuvenating methods. In political economy, where he brings about the agreement of the principles of justice, fraternity and love with the movement for reform. And so in all other things.

The same policy is seen in every field. His ministry and his reign embody in an illuminating synthesis the two necessary elements of life; stability, or, in other words, tradition, and progress; that is to say, motion. Such is the seal that his-

cordial and thorough understanding with his visitors. It can hardly be necessary to say that he is brought into constant communication with men and women from all parts of the world; and I have never heard of anyone who did not go away impressed with his geniality and his graciousness. Among the many commanding figures in the Europe of our days, he is one of the most commanding. I have seen a good many great men in my time. I have been acquainted with Gladstone, and I have talked with Bismarck, and with Cardinal Newman; I can recall to memory the presence of the Emperor Nicholas of Russia, and I knew Charles Sumner, the great American orator and abolitionist, and I have seen and heard the late prince consort. But no picture has impressed me more than that of Pope Leo XIII. I always think of

priests from the diocese of Brooklyn with the Right Reverend Bishop McDonnell at their head; again pilgrims from the Far East, next from the hot plains of Africa, yesterday Sicilians, to-morrow the French. All came to Rome, all desired and prayed to see the Vicar of Christ, and he did not refuse to receive them."

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME.—Bishop McDonnell, of Brooklyn, will head a big pilgrimage of Catholics from that borough and elsewhere to Rome in celebration of the silver jubilee of Pope Leo XIII. The pilgrimage will start for Rome soon after Easter. A number of laymen will accompany the clergy on the trip.

Good company and good conversation are the very sinews of virtue.

TO LOAN TO THE CHURCH. — By an amendment to the Supreme Constitution of the Catholic Knights of America the order is permitted to loan the surplus in their reserve fund to the Church to the amount of \$450,000, at an interest rate of not less than 4 per cent. clear of all tax and expense.

These loans may be made to the Archbishops and Bishops of the diocese applying for the loan, and in addition to the properties mortgaged there shall be a good and sufficient bond signed by the parishioners or executive officers of the parish or institution.

The limit of loan to any one diocese shall be \$100,000, and the smallest was fixed at \$5,000. The above amendment was submitted by John J. O'Rourke, of Philadelphia, supreme delegate from Pennsylvania.

DONATED HIS SALARY. — At Towson, Maryland, when Father M. O'Keefe was paid his salary of \$798, he at once turned the same over to the trustees of the building fund for the new church. It is estimated that Father O'Keefe's contributions to this fund aggregate fully \$15,000.

FOR REDEMPTRISTS. — A new chapel is being built in connection with the residence of the Redemptorist Fathers in charge of St. Joseph's Church, Rochester, N. Y. It is to be for the exclusive use of the Rev. Fathers.

A MUNIFICENT DONATION. — \$100,000 is the sum which a wealthy citizen of San Francisco—Mr. E. J. Le Breton—donated recently, for the purpose of securing a site and erecting a building for a home for old people, under the direction of the Little Sisters of the Poor. It is one of the largest individual endowments in the history of that city.

UP IN SMOKE.—A second mortgage of \$16,000 on the property of St. Jerome's Church, Yonkers, N. Y., was canceled week before last, and the document was burned in the presence of the congregation on a recent Sunday.

A GENEROUS DONATION. — Milwaukee Catholics are engaged in the good work of raising \$10,000 for the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in that city. A generous gentleman donates \$2,000 and agrees to increase the amount in proportion to that secured by the committee having the work in hand.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS. — Some parishioners of the Church of St. Lucy, New York, recently donated a handsome set of Stations of the Cross.

ARCHBISHOP CORRIGAN, we learn from New York exchanges, has recovered from the effects of the injuries occasioned by the severe fall he sustained, and to which reference was made in this column two weeks ago.

(Continued on Page Four.)