

THE IRISH CONVENTION.

AN IRISH NATIONAL PARLIAMENT REQUIRED—PARNELL CARRIES ALL HIS POINTS—THE LABORERS BENEFITED—BRILLIANT ORATORY.

The Land League Convention occupied the best part of the last day's sitting in an attempt to secure the adherence of the laboring classes to the policy of the League. For some months growing dissatisfaction has been manifested by the laborers throughout Ireland at the neglect of their interests by the advocates of land reform, and there seemed to be some danger that a rival agitation, directed chiefly against the farming classes, would grow alongside the tenant movement in Ireland. The position of the laborer excites the compassion of every stranger, and it is notorious that among the poorer tenant farmers are found the hardest taskmasters. It is not to be wondered at therefore that the doctrines of social emancipation taught from nameless platforms for the benefit of the tenant farmers should be eagerly embraced by that class whose social condition was more hopeless and pitiful than that of the most rack-rented tenant. In the beginning of the last agitation these laborers swelled the ranks which rallied round Messrs. Davitt and Parnell, and it is well known that most of the deeds of violence which gave a grim significance to the speeches of the agitators were planned and executed by members of the laboring class, who have always been the fighting element in Irish social and political movements. Their loyalty to the farmers, however, was unswerving, and seeing themselves in danger of being left out in the settlement of the land question, they began to organize in a significant manner, and even to utter threats that they would have to be considered when the programme of "Land for the people" came to be carried out practically. Alarmed by the mutinous attitude of 500,000 laborers who, within a few years, will receive the franchise, Mr. Parnell and his cabinet resolved to add a new plank to their platform, and by a resolution adopted to-day they have called upon the farmers to allot half an acre of land for every twenty-five acres in their possession to the use of the laborers, or, as an alternative, to give them the grass of one cow. This will be a BITTER PILL FOR THE TENANT FARMERS, but they will probably swallow it to prevent the laborers from going over to the landlord movement. It was an adroit movement on the part of Mr. Parnell, and will probably have the effect of rallying to his party the most dangerous elements of the Irish population, and supply him with supporters equally ready to coerce the farmers or the landlords. Mr. Parnell's attitude, and the tone of the convention which to-day completed its work, half draws aside the veil from the policy of the land agitators. No scheme of land reform will satisfy them. It becomes abundantly clear that labor movements are only to be used for the purpose of gaining the confidence of the people and creating a formidable organization which at some favorable moment could be used to extort from the fears of an English Ministry the restoration of the Irish Parliament.

THE PROCEEDINGS TO-DAY were instructive in character. Representatives of the labor organizations were given seats on the platform in order that they might announce their adherence to the new policy of the League executive, and assure the farmers of Ireland that if they acted on the recommendation of Mr. Parnell and his friends they might count on the active and loyal support of the whole laboring population. Should the farmers be unselfish enough to put into practice the schemes proposed for the amelioration of the laborers' position, Secretary Forster will probably have some difficulty in preventing a wide and general application during the coming winter of the new law to making the land question ripe for solution, and bringing it within the sphere of practical politics. On the other hand a refusal to concede the laborers' demands may probably lead to acts of violence directed against the farmers. In several districts where the relations of the two classes are not friendly, rumors of threatened rioting are beginning to circulate. When the representatives had exhausted their eloquence in declaring their adherence to Mr. Parnell, the convention proceeded rapidly to dispose of the remaining resolutions submitted by the executive. The most important of these invited Mr. Parnell to proceed to America, accompanied by T. P. O'Connor, to explain the new situation and to promote the collection of the dollars, without which there would be danger of a collapse in the land agitation. Mr. Parnell explained that it would not probably be in his power to leave Ireland, where he would be needed to guide the agitation through the difficult and dangerous shoals created by Mr. Gladstone's seductive Land Bill. The Irish-Americans will probably have to content themselves with the advocacy of Mr. O'Connor. The proceedings of the convention give a vote of thanks to America for the aid and sympathy given to Land League agitation. It was proposed by Mr. O'Connor in an able speech. He was brilliantly supported by Mr. Sexton. Father Corr, a Newark priest, and Mr. Redpath responded in speeches which roused the enthusiasm of the audience to the highest pitch. The last words were reserved for Mr. Healy, who was compelled to abandon his self-imposed silence in obedience to the imperative call of the Convention. Before putting the resolution of thanks, Mr. Parnell asked the Convention to charge him with

A MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE TO MRS. GARFIELD. The allusion to the wounded President was received with marks of deep sympathy by the assembled delegates. The closing hours were marked by an enthusiasm and oratorical brilliancy which was noticeably absent while the real business was under consideration. This was due to the policy adopted by the executive of leaving the discussion of their proposition to speakers chosen from among the county delegates. The general average of oratory was low, but the closing hours were occupied by the ablest speakers of the Irish party. They succeeded in maintaining the interest in the proceedings to the last, and in bringing the Convention to a close amid a brilliant display of oratorical power not unworthy of the best traditions of Irish eloquence.

SEA SICKNESS. The best remedy and preventive of Sea Sickness is Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. It is also the best remedy for all Summer complaints, whether on the sea or land it will not fail you. All Druggists sell it at 75 cents per bottle. John Bull sneers at our navy, but he is probably not aware that we can turn out 15,000 brass bands at the very first hint of foreign invasion.—N.Y. Star.

COMMENTS AND CLIPPINGS.

Tennyson is writing a drama for Irving, the actor. Moody and Saxeby will remain two years in Europe. The 20th of October will be Canada's day of thanksgiving. Queen Victoria was an accomplished vocalist in her youth. Mr. James Gordon Bennett pays his chief cook \$400 a month. The Liberal candidate for Berwick-on-Tweed is a Catholic. The Catholics comprise 77 per cent of the population of Ireland. Iroquois, winner of the St. Leger, has realized \$19,000 for his master this year. We hear a great deal about the Junior Conservative Club, but where is the senior. King Alfonso of Spain has accepted the Order of the Garter from Queen Victoria. During a debate held by the English Trade Unionists five fair traders were bounced. Colonel Dan Murphy, of California, is the present largest private land owner in America. The Highland pipes are played beneath the Queen's window every morning before breakfast. The English papers admit that a renewal of Irish trade is possible. Thanks to thee, Parnell. The guarantee fund for the exhibition of Irish manufactures has reached forty-three thousand dollars. A little Derby hat on the head of a fat man bears a striking resemblance to a postage stamp on a watermelon. The way they intend getting over the Mason-Guiteau difficulty, is by proving that Mason did not fire at all. One of Mr. Bright's brothers-in-law joined the Catholic Church and established Tablet. He was Frederick Lucas. Harrison Ainsworth, the novelist, is still alive, though it is nearly sixty years since he published his first romance. It is Sir John Lubbock's opinion that bees are, in a rough kind of way, sensitive to color, and that their favorite color is blue. Impresario Strakosch is to pay Gerster \$1,000 a night. What might he be going to pay it for, however, he doesn't say. Beecher says we owe a large part of our happiness to our mistakes. If that is true what a cheerful man he must be!—Quit. Effort is being made to introduce pennies into Nashville business circles. Hitherto the nickel has been the smallest coin used. Signor Brignoli is looking for the man who christened him "a nightingale in a pump." When the Signor gets excited he talks English with the accuracy of a Zulu. Thanks to the Conservative Government the crops in British Columbia are splendid this year, and thanks to the Liberal opposition they are not so good in Nova Scotia. Emerson says: "A man passes for what he is worth." The more experienced editor of the Lowell Courier says: "No he doesn't; he passes for the sake of getting a new trump." The Jesuits have purchased the Hales Place property, near Canterbury, England, and will convert the old manor house into an enormous college at an estimated cost of £50,000. According to Rousseau's assertion there is neither rhythm nor melody in French music, for which he was burned in effigy by the indignant actors and musicians of the opera. Nilsson is said to receive for her concerts in England \$20,000 for each 100 concerts, besides a share in the receipts of each evening. English playgoers pay big prices for what they want. "Mother, I am at the door," is the title of a new ballad. It is to be hoped that the old lady will hurry down stairs and let him in, or watchful "copper" will have him in the station house. The Toronto Mail and a Montreal evening paper have evidently entered into a mutual puffing arrangement as regards circulation. The Globe has as large a circulation as both put together. A bon mot has reached us which it would be a pity to withhold. The other day a Bishop, when travelling in a London bus, met one of his clerics. "My lord," said the latter, "I have seen many a Bishop in *partibus*, but never till to-day a Bishop in omnibus." The Rochester Democrat thinks that one of the saddest sights in the world is to see a young man trying to treat his sweetheart's small and dejected brother as though he were his dearest friend. A young man from the country saw steam fire engines working at a conflagration upon his visit to the city and asked his father: "What in thunder makes 'em heat the water by steam to put a fire out with? Cold water's a darn sight better!" Boston has a lady barber. She is a blonde and very pretty. A reporter who was shaved by her speaks in glowing terms of her skill. The lady herself says that her work is light and easy, requiring just the dexterity that women possess, and she wonders that more of them do not go into the business. A New Jersey widow couldn't earn six dollars a week at the wash-tub. She became a clairvoyant, and her income increased to sixty. It just shows that a man begrudges the quarter he pays for washing his stick, while he will cheerfully give a dollar to stick his nose into the other world before the show begins. A curious experiment is being tried in several corps of the Russian army. This consists in the introduction of dogs instead of men as sentries. For this duty the wolf dogs of the Ural Mountains is found most suitable, as this animal will growl at the presence of an intruder instead of barking outright, and thus inciting all the dogs in camp to do likewise. Charles Kenny, the English journalist who died a few days since, was a good deal of a wit in his way. The London World, in referring to his death, tells this story:—"The wisest of all wise sayings," said some one one night at the Fielding Club, "it is the old Greek maxim, 'Know thyself.'" "Yes," said Kenny, "there is a deal of wisdom in it, 'Know thyself,'" but," he added, "never introduce a friend." That was worthy of Charles Lamb. Major Laner, of the Austrian engineers, has made some experiment at Krems, on the Danube, on blasting rocks under water, which have attracted considerable attention. Into a cylinder he puts a quantity of dynamite, which is connected with an electrical apparatus. The cylinder is placed on the surface of the rock only, and fixed in that position. No matter how deep the water may be over the rock it is shattered when the dynamite explodes, into fragments so small that they are washed away by the stream. This process is said to save 40 per cent on the cost of removing submerged rocks.

THE PRESIDENT OF "THE UNITED STATES."

Chester Allen Arthur was born in Franklin County, Vt., in October, 1829. His father, Rev. William Arthur, was born in the County, Ireland. When he emigrated to this country he settled in Vermont, and died in Newbury, near Albany, on Oct. 27, 1875. The General's father was at one time pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in this city, the present pastor of which, Rev. Robert S. MacArthur, is a relative of the family. Chester A. Arthur found his father's ripe knowledge of the Latin and Greek classics of great advantage to him when he came to prepare for college. His preparation first began in Union Village, near Greenwich, a beautiful village of Washington County, N.Y., and was concluded at the grammar school at Schenectady. He took a high position in Union College, where he entered in 1847, when only 15 years old. Every year of his college course he was declared to be one of those who had taken "maximum honors," and at the conclusion of his college course, out of a class of more than 100 members, he was one of six who were elected members of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the condition of entrance to which is the highest scholarship. He graduated from Union College, Schenectady, in 1848, and then engaged in the study of law and was admitted to the bar in 1850. Soon afterward he came to this city and entered the law office of Erastus D. Culver. When Judge Culver was elevated to the Bench, Mr. Arthur formed a partnership with him, and in 1855, upon the death of the latter in 1855, the business was continued by Mr. Arthur alone until 1871, when the co-partnership of Arthur, Phelps & Khevals was formed. Mr. Phelps of that firm is the same gentleman who filled the office of District Attorney of this county for several years. Already there were signs of the coming struggle over slavery. Mr. Arthur's ability as a lawyer, as well as his strong anti-slavery sentiments, had already been shown by his successful management of the celebrated Lemmon slave case. With this celebrated case Chester A. Arthur became prominently associated on the side of human liberty. He had studied law in the office of Judge Culver, by whom the whole habeas corpus proceeding was instituted, and thus came to figure it on the appeals, appearing as representative of the State of New York. By his connection with the case Mr. Arthur came to be looked upon by the colored residents of New York as a champion of their rights, and very soon was called upon to represent them in another controversy. In the year 1855 Mr. Arthur began to be prominent in politics in New York city. He sympathized with the Whig party, and was an ardent admirer of Henry Clay. His first vote was cast in 1852 for Winfield Scott for President. In New York city Arthur identified himself with the "practical men" in politics by joining political associations of his party, and at the polls acting as inspector on election day. General Arthur has been a Republican since the foundation of the party. When the war broke out he was Judge-Advocate of the Second Brigade State Militia, and when Gov. Morgan was inaugurated in 1861 he appointed General Arthur Engineer-in-Chief on his staff. He afterward held the positions of Inspector-General and Quartermaster-General. On the expiration of Gov. Morgan's term, General Arthur resumed the practice of law. He afterward obtained an appointment as counsel to the Tax Commissioners, at a salary of \$10,000 per annum. For many years he has been the bosom friend of ex-Collector Thomas Murphy, and when that gentleman resigned the office of Collector of the Port on November 20, 1871, President Grant appointed General Arthur as his successor, and when his term of office expired he was re-nominated. He was retired from the office on July 12, 1878, being succeeded by Mr. Merritt, the late incumbent. He then re-engaged in the practice of his profession as a partner in the law firm of Arthur, Phelps, Khevals & Ransom. In the fall of 1879 he was elected chairman of the Republican State Committee, of which he had been a prominent member for many years before his appointment as Collector, and conducted the victorious campaign of that year which ended in the election of all but one of the candidates of the Republican party for six State offices. General Arthur is a widower. He married Miss Ella L. Herndon, a daughter of Lieutenant Herndon of the Navy. She died in this city from pneumonia on Jan. 12, 1880. Personally General Arthur is a gentleman of most courteous and affable manner. He is a man of fine physique, being over six feet in height, and weighing over 220 pounds. He is striking in appearance, and one who would attract attention and observation in any assembly. He has a full, open countenance and large, clear blue eyes, and when talking with one, looks the questioner full in the face. He is possessed of high intellectual endowments, is a most social man among his friends, and his qualities of heart have endeared him to thousands.

GRANDMOTHER. Used to say, "Boys, if your blood is out of order try Burdock tea," and they had to dig Burdock and boil it down in kettles, making a nasty smelling decoction; now you get all the curative properties put up in a palatable form in Burdock Blood Bitters. Price \$1.00, trial size 50 cents.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR. WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—President Arthur has taken the oath of office in the Marble Room at the Capitol in the presence of the members of the Cabinet, the Justice of the Supreme Court, a few Senators and members of the House, Generals Sherman, Grant, Admiral Nichols, Hannibal, Hamlin and a few others, forty in all. This step was taken after the conference held between Arthur, Blaine and the Attorney General. Shortly before noon Chief Justice Waite, in full robes of office, accompanied by associate justices, proceeded from the Supreme Court room to the Marble Room. The doors were immediately closed, and without formally Arthur rose, and standing on one side of the centre table, Waite on the other, took the oath. The President's manner was calm and composed, and his response, "So help me God," was firm and without a tremor.

BEAUTIFIERS. Ladies, you cannot make fair skin, rosy cheeks and sparkling eyes with all the cosmetics of France, or beautifiers of the world, while in poor health, and nothing will give you such good health, strength, buoyant spirits and beauty as Hop Bitters. A trial is certain proof.—Telegraph.

The Rev. Mr. Kessler, of the Brooklyn Central Baptist Church, preached a sermon on the defaulting secretary, Stewart, last Sunday.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR.

THE ADDRESS OF THE NEW CHIEF MAGISTRATE—THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION—THE MEMBERS OF THE CABINET REQUESTED TO REMAIN IN OFFICE.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—After taking the oath of office President Arthur read from manuscript the following address:—"I am glad to be the fourth time in the history of the Republic its Chief Magistrate has been removed by death. All hearts are filled with grief and horror at the hideous crime which has darkened our land, and the memory of the murdered President, his protracted sufferings, his unyielding fortitude, the example and achievements of his life and the pathos of his death will forever illumine the pages of our history. For the fourth time the officer elected by the people and ordained by the constitution to fill the vacancy so created is called to assume the executive chair. The wisdom of our fathers, foreseeing even the most dire possibilities, made sure that the Government should never be imperilled because of the uncertainty of human life. Men may die, but the fabrics of our free institutions remain unshaken: No higher or more assuring proof could exist of the strength and permanence of popular government than the fact that though the chosen of the people be struck down, his constitutional successor is peacefully installed without shock or strain; except the sorrow which mourns the bereavement. All the noble aspirations of my lamented predecessor which found expression in his life, the measures devised and suggested during his brief administration to correct abuses and enforce economy, to advance prosperity and promote the general welfare, to ensure domestic security and maintain friendly and honorable relations with the nations of the earth, will be gathered in the hearts of the people, and it will be my earnest endeavor to profit and to see this nation shall profit by his example and experience. Prosperity blesses our country. Our fiscal policy is fixed by law, is well grounded and generally approved. No threatening issue mars our foreign intercourse, and the wisdom, integrity and thrift of our people may be trusted to continue undisturbed the present assured career of peace and tranquility. The gloom and anxiety which have enshrouded us make room welcome now. The demand for speedy legislation has been heard. No adequate occasion is apparent for an unusual session of Congress. The Constitution defines the function and powers of the Executive as clearly as those of either of the other two departments of the Government, and he must answer for a just exercise of his discretion. It permits the performance of the duties it reposes on those summoned to these high duties and responsibilities, and profoundly conscious of their magnitude and gravity, I assume the trust imposed by the Constitution, relying for aid on divine guidance and the patriotism and intelligence of the American people."

After the reading of the address, Blaine stepped forward and grasped his hands, and after him the members of the Cabinet. The others present also shook hands with the President. Ex-President Hayes arrived at the Capitol soon after the ceremony, and with Grant shortly afterwards left the Capitol. A meeting of the Cabinet was then held. WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 22.—Members of the Cabinet have been requested to retain their respective positions. It is authoritatively learned that there will be no session of Congress until the regular session in December. The following has been issued by the President of the United States of America. Whereas,—In His inscrutable wisdom it has pleased God to remove from the United States the illustrious hero of the nation, James A. Garfield, late President of the United States, and whereas it is fitting that the deep grief which fills all hearts should manifest itself with one accord toward the throne of infinite grace, and that we should bow before the Almighty and seek from Him that consolation in our affliction, and that sanctification of our loss which he is able and willing to vouchsafe; now, therefore, in obedience to sacred duty and in accordance with the desire of the people, I, Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States of America, do hereby appoint Monday next, 26th day of September, on which day our beloved dead will be consigned to his last resting place on earth, to be observed throughout the United States as a day of mourning, and I earnestly recommend all people to assemble on that day in their respective places of divine worship, there to render alike their tribute of sorrowful submission to the will of the Almighty God and of reverence and love for the memory and character of our late Chief Magistrate.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, 22nd September, in the year of our Lord 1881, and of the independence of the United States one hundred and sixth. (Signed) CHESTER A. ARTHUR. [Seal] By President.

WORTHLESS STUFF. Not so fast my friend; if you could see the strong, healthy, blooming men, women and children that have been raised from beds of sickness, suffering and almost death, by use of Hop Bitters, you would say "Glorious and invaluable remedy."—Philadelphia Press.

HYGIENIC VALUE OF MIRTH. But, aside from all this, mirth has a hygienic value that can hardly be overrated while our social life remains what the slavery of vices and dogmas has made it. Joy has been called the sunshine of the heart. Yet the same sun that calls forth the flowers of a plant is also needed to expand its leaves and ripen its fruits; and without the stimulus of exhilarating pastimes perfect bodily health is as impossible as moral and mental vigor. And, as sure as a succession of uniform crops will exhaust the best soil, the daily repetition of a monotonous occupation will wear out the best man. Body and mind require an occasional change of employment, or else a liberal supply of fertilizing recreations, and this requirement is a factor whose omission often falls the arithmetic of our political economists. To the creatures of the wilderness affliction comes generally in the form of impending danger—famine or persistent persecution; and under such circumstances the modifications of the vital process seem to operate against its long continuance; well-wishing Nature sees her purpose defeated, and the vital energy flags, the sap of life runs to joyless. On the same principle an existence of joyless drudgery seems to drain the springs of health, even at an age when they can draw upon the largest internal resources; hope too often baffled, at last withdraws her aid; the tongue may be attuned to chanting hymns of consolation, but the heart can not be deceived, and with its sinking pulse the strength of life ebbs away. Nine-tenths of our city children are literally starving for lack of recreation; not the means of life, but its object, civilization has defrauded them of; they feel a want which bread can only aggravate, for only hunger helps them to forget the misery of ennui. Their pallor is the sallow hue of a cellar plant; they would be healthier if they were happier. I would undertake to cure a sickly child with fun and rye-bread sooner than with tithes and tedium.—Dr. Felix L. Oswald, in Popular Science Monthly for August.

REARING AND TRAINING OF CHILDREN. Every mother should bear in mind that it is easier to keep children well than it is to cure them after they become ill. A few simple rules, faithfully and unflinchingly observed, would banish nine-tenths of the sicknesses among children that too often lead to fatal results. Give them in the first place plenty of love—expressions of love! Oftentimes fathers and mothers deeply love their children; yet show such little evidence of affection that the children are apt to have a forlorn feeling that it doesn't exist at all. An occasional word of praise, a caress, an expression of sympathy—these are as necessary to healthy and happy child-life as summer showers to growing vines. Especially bear this in mind—they should never go to bed cold, or hungry, or unhappy. Let them have plenty of healthy and palatable food, at regular hours. Small children have a slice of bread and butter, or an apple, or some simple "bite," half way between meals, or nothing more in the way of lunches. It is the constant nibbling and "piecing" that does harm. Never force a child to eat anything he has a real dislike for. When plain food is declined because of the more tempting desert ahead, it is a different affair; but I have seen little children compelled to eat things when very mouthful would be swallowed with tremendous effort, and with an utter abhorrence of onions or tomatoes, or codfish, or some article of food that ought to be relished. How would we like to have some mighty giant put such food on our plates, and compel us to eat it amid wild flourishes of his knotted club? Would we wearily feel that the dear giant knew what was best for us, and proceed to swallow every mouthful? or would we say to ourselves—"We'll eat it, because we must, but we hate it all the same, and we hate you, too!" Children have as much right to their likes and dislikes as we have to ours.—Mrs. WELAND, in American Agriculturist for October.

THE SCHOLAR-POPE. INCIDENTS IN POPE LEO'S SCHOOL DAYS. From the Geneva Continental Times, a non-Catholic journal, we take the following remarkable article in relation to the scholar-Pope. Leo XIII. is a crowned scholar. From a child he took kindly to his book, and the Jesuits turned him into one of the first Latinists of the age. The one result was pretty certain to follow from the other, as the key to the educational success of the Jesuits is to be found in their principles of the first ascertaining a pupil's aptitudes, and then cultivate them to the best of their power. Joachim Pecci's youth was a series of academic triumphs, each of which signalized the addition of a fresh province of learning to his intellectual dominions. Classics were first mastered, then mathematics, next physics, and afterwards moral philosophy, in which he gave instruction at the age of nineteen. Perhaps he might have remained a scholar and nothing more, but in the third decade of his life he fell under the influence—one would rather say rose to the influence—of the famous Cardinal Odescalchi, a man who, in another age, might have replayed the great part of the famous Ignatius Loyola. Odescalchi it was who renounced the purple to enter the Order of Jesus, and gave innumerable other proofs of Christian humility and devotion to his Master's cause. Among the services he rendered to the Church of Rome not the least was the conversion of Pecci, as one may call it in the true sense of the word. He turned his mind to a serious though not austere view of religion, and had the happiness of admitting him to holy orders. Pecci was then twenty-seven, and already a lay prelate in the household of Gregory XVI. Like every Pope since the Reformation, Leo XIII. is a thoroughly good man. Still, if one may venture to compare his moral standard with that of his immediate predecessor, one would be inclined to state the difference between them as consisting in the fact that Leo has more of the wisdom of the serpent, while Pius had more of the innocence of the dove. Pius kept a childlike heart and faith to the last, and the Bishop of Perugia, who knew the world and showed it, rose but slowly into his sovereign's confidence. He received the red hat in 1853, but was not appointed camerlengo till twenty-four years later. The days of Pius were already numbered, and he must have known that in this slinging out Pecci for distinction he was almost designating him as a desirable successor. The courtly and accomplished cardinal has at length won his way to the Pontiff's cordial esteem. Pius, too, may have suspected that he had set too little store by the wisdom of this world, and that, humanly speaking, no small share of it would be necessary to the man who was next to steer the barque of St. Peter through the troubled waters. Leo XIII. has now reigned more than three years, and the broad lines of his policy are sufficiently defined. His attitude toward the Government of Europe is the wisest, if it be not the only one, he could have adopted. He stands on the defensive and hides his time. Two points in the purely spiritual policy of Leo XIII. deserve notice. The first, he has not any more than the first, made the slightest use of the extraordinary powers declared by the last general Council of the Holy See. In truth, the council which proclaimed the Pope infallible when speaking *ex cathedra* has necessarily made the Pope extremely cautious of giving expression to *ex cathedra* utterances. Absolute power has often been remarked to exercise a sobering influence on its possessor. Even so, authority to decide most solemn questions without appeal is one

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