

internal revolutions, it was left to Garcia Moreno to make it what the Holy Father Leo XIII called it : *the Model of a Christian State.*

“ Only thirty years after the death of Bolivar, this man, by the grace of God and a faithful following of His counsels, swept away the villains who were fattening at the expense of the people, established as Catholic a Government as that of St. Louis of France and dragged the whole nation out of the chaos in which it was plunged. In 1862, in spite of the Radicals and Socialists, he signed a Concordat which restored entire liberty to the Church.

“ In 1867, he established a Constitutional Government destined to make his people a true flock of Jesus Christ. In 1870, he alone had the boldness to protest against the invasion of the Pontifical States, when, by the official recognition of an usurping power, kings and emperors made themselves the accomplices of Italian brigands. He even obtained from the Congress of 1873 a national subsidy in favour of the captive and despoiled Pontiff. At the same time, he consecrated the Republic to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He found the country in a state of bankruptcy and ruin : but in ten years he managed to realized such marvellous improvements in the finances, as well as in the material and intellectual condition of the people, that the most vivid imagination was surpassed by the reality.

“ Naturally the Socialists and Freemasons whom he had dismissed from the Government, and even the theorists who believed in ‘ a Free Church in a Free State ’ were mad with rage against him, and finding that they could not overturn one who was looked upon as the Father of his people, his death was decreed by the Masonic Lodges. He was warned of his danger, and wrote these beautiful words to the Pope : “ May I be deemed worthy to shed my blood for the cause of the Church and of Christian society ? ” God thought him worthy. On August 6, 1875, he fell under the daggers of the assassins. His last words were the cry of a martyr :