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Pope Pius X



IN the year 1835, at Riese, was born Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto, a man of lowly origin, little known outside of his diocese, and much less known to the intelligent world. Yet he succeeded, by dint of hard work and practical ability, in rising to a position of such eminence as he has attained.

His brilliant talents were first remarked by Don Fusarim, who taught him his primary Latin lessons, as well as his mass answers. His mother, after much persuasion, sent him to school at Castlefranco, to which place he, always happy, often travelled barefooted. While here he was awarded a scholarship at the Seminary of Padua by Cardinal Monico, of Venice. He was given the tonsure in 1851, and in 1853 he was ordained priest.

He was sent as curate to Tombolo, where, for the space of nine years, he was successful in raising the somewhat uneducated people to an enviable position. Then he was removed to Salzano, a town near Venice, where, as parish priest, he commanded the respect and love of his subjects through his devotedness. His generous and compassionate efforts were the causes of his gradual ascent in the priestly dignity, until, in 1884, he was consecrated Bishop of Mantua by Leo. XIII. Through his self-denying zeal, patience and wit, he implanted religion and good-fellowship where anti-