

Gregory, VII. in maintaining the rights of the Church, proof of which he gave on several occasions, and particularly on that of the well known visit of the Emperor of Russia. In proportion to his readiness to grant temporal favours was his reserve and economy in granting indulgences, matrimonial dispensations, privileges, and other spiritual favours lest he should be prodigal of the treasures confided to him by God. When he felt himself called upon to refuse a favour he refused it equally to all even though the postulants might be persons of great eminence. He was great even as a temporal sovereign. Endowed as he was with much talent and penetration, his reign was ever the reign of equity and of justice, and therefore he was beloved by his people. At the moment a revolution was about to break out in Rome in the beginning of his Pontificate, he by a simple notification, well conceived, and affixed to the corners of the streets, dissipated in an instant all the plots of the revolt. The people of Rome wishing to give to the Holy Father a proof of their fidelity and attachment, when the city was considered in danger, whilst he was passing with his usual suite of carriages through the streets of the city, in the midst of their heartfelt acclamations stopped his carriage, and, taking out the horses, proceeded to draw it with their own hands and all the leaders of the people turning towards him exclaimed that they were ready to give their lives and shed their blood for their Sovereign.

He was the protector of science and the arts.—He built a new wing to the museum of the Vatican, and was engaged in the construction of a new museum in the place of the Lateran. A large double tunnel, constructed through the hill of Tivoli, to give a different direction to the River Anio, and thus free that city from threatened ruin, will be a perpetual monument of his munificence. He beautified Rome with various edifices and embellishments of marble; he gave to the School of Fine Arts attached to the Pontifical Academy of St Luke a new and magnificent site; he opened in the neighbourhood near the capital, one of the celebrated sea ports of Ancient Rome; he promoted the interests of agriculture, and particularly had determined that a part of the youths of the Asylum of Sta. Maria degli Angeli should apply themselves to pasturage and agriculture. His life was always innocent, spotless, and regular. He had a strong constitution and drank a great deal of coffee. His person was tall, his aspect venerable. In short, he was pious, learned, clement, and liberal—the Mæcenas of the arts and sciences—the firm defender of ecclesiastical rights, full of faith, who, during fifteen years, ruled the Church with the charity

of an Apostle, and governed the State with the heart of a father.

(From the Journal de Bruxelles.)

As soon as the reigning Pope had ceased to breathe, the Cardinal Camerlingua, followed by the Clerks of the Apostolic Chamber, is introduced, and approaches the bed of the defunct Pontiff. He takes cognisance of his mortal remains, and receives from the hands of the Maestro della Camera the Fisherman's Ring. Three days afterwards this ring and the seal for Bulls, called the leaden Seal, are broken by the First Master of the Ceremonies in presence of all the Cardinals. The Cardinal Camerlingua then holds a congregation with the same Clerks as before, and at this meeting he appoints to all the offices of the Chamber.

Twenty-four hours after the death of the Pope, his body is embalmed. In the evening of the third day it is carried into the Church of Saint Peter with the same pomp that surrounded the Sovereign Pontiff in Solemn Ceremonies, but with a detachment of Artillery forming part of the cortege. The body, thus embalmed, remains for three days exposed in the Chapel of the Holy Sacrament, the head turned towards the altar, and the feet touching the grille, or iron gate, which closes the chapel. The people approach, and offer the last homage of respect and sorrow before the mortal remains of the Pope, kissing his feet through the bars of the grating.

A lofty and rich catafalque is, during this time elevated in the middle of the principal nave of the Basilica of the Vatican. The portrait of the deceased Pope, and the most memorable events of his reign painted in distemper, adorn the different sides of the mausoleum.

The obsequies commence on the evening of the third day by the Ceremony of Coffining, which is done with the assistance of the Cardinal Camerlingua, the Cardinals appointed for that purpose by the deceased Pope, and the Clerks of the Chamber. The body, enclosed in a triple coffin, is then deposited near the choir of the chapel, and remains there until the time of sepulture.

The funeral ceremonies continue nine days; the Prelates the Magistrates of Rome, the Officers of the Pontifical Palace; all those who constantly attend the Papal Chapels at Present. Before the Funeral Mass the Sacred College meets in the sacristy of St. Peter's to distribute the public employments and offices, as well for the Government of Rome and the Affairs of State, as for the Conclave. In every assembly all orders are given by the Cardinals, who take all the measures, circumstances, and the maintenance of the public peace requires.