

CURRENT COMMENT

How pleasing it is to read about all the tributes of admiration that have already been paid to the memory of the illustrious Pope Leo XIII.; how consoling to see the deep interest shown by all our separated brethren in the election of successor to the See of Peter.

Truly is the Catholic Church a great institution. Apart from its divine origin, which to us Catholics is the chief feature that makes it so dear, there is in its grandeur as viewed by those who believe not as we do, a very strong motive to be proud of being members thereof. Thanks to the glorious pontificate of Leo XIII, the Church to-day stands a greater institution before the nations of the earth than it ever was at any time of its existence. Thanks to the just appreciation made by people of all social classes and religious denominations, the Catholic Church has won the admiration and respect of the whole world.

Protestant ministers praying for the Pope, that it devotes editorial attention to the matter, and declares that it is "indicative of a change in the attitude of Protestantism toward the Roman Catholic Church, which is one of the most remarkable religious developments of recent years." It points to the fact that even not more than a quarter of a century ago the Catholic Church, by far the greatest in Christendom, was usually excluded from consideration by Protestants when they were discussing the means and agencies for the propagation of Christianity; and it says that the article on the Pope in the Westminster Confession, in which he was described as "that anti-Christ, that man of sin and son of perdition," represented the prevailing Protestant belief. The Sun notes further the political movements against the Catholic Church which have occurred in this country, and says:

"That Church, then comparatively feeble, has now grown into the strongest in the republic, yet, instead of the bitterness of hostility against it, proclaimed and predicted by the old Know-Nothingism, there have come harmony and re-

means would not permit them to take advantage of this improvement.

We know that in a great many other parts of the city, where the same facility of water connection exists, the pumps are still doing the friendly turn to the poorer class. Why should such discrimination be made? In the name of humanity, we protest against such an action, and we hope that the local press will stand with us in demanding the re-opening of the pump above mentioned. Let a long enough notice be given, let the landlords be forced to make the water connections in their houses, and then may the city carry out its laws, which shall nevertheless still prove very obnoxious to the poorer class of citizens.

THE NEW POPE.

Upon being asked who was likely to be the successor of Leo XIII, we had repeatedly answered that no human prediction in this wise could be credited. We were right, for few there were who would have thought Cardinal Sarto to be the



THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS BALLOTING FOR POPE LEO'S SUCCESSOR AT THE VATICAN.

But why should there be any discordant note in this universal concert of so well merited praise and honor? We were reading the other day of a certain writer in Montreal, that he attempted to belittle the glory of Pius IX., by exalting that of Leo XIII., but finding out what he no doubt considered his mistake, he immediately took back in a way parts of all that he had said to the praise of Leo XIII. That is certainly not going to affect the glory of either Pius IX. or Leo XIII. for of Pius IX. Leo himself had said that as Pius IX. had surpassed all the Roman Pontiffs by the long duration of his pontificate, so he had obtained of all, the most manifest testimonies of respect and veneration, which were never contradicted; and as to Leo XIII. we only need to add to all that has already reached our readers the following, which ought to be being shame to the ungrateful wretch that revile the noble and great name of their own Mother:

"INCREASED RESPECT FOR THE CHURCH.

"So remarkable does the spectacle appear to the New York Sun of

spect. In Protestant churches prayers were offered up for the suffering and dying Pope. The Roman Pontiff has become a Christian brother, and Protestants join with Catholics in celebrating the spiritual exaltation of his character and the services he has rendered to Christianity."—Catholic Citizen.

We noticed the other day that the pump at the corner of Austin and Lusted streets had been closed, so that the poor people who live in the immediate neighborhood have now to go a long distance in order to obtain the water they need. Why such a step should have been taken almost without a warning, we cannot understand, neither can we explain how the alderman representing the interests of that ward could have been so injudicious as to allow such an act of cruelty to the poor to become an accomplished fact. A great many poor, mainly foreigners, are living in that part of the city, and nobody could be ignorant of the fact that even if the water connection had been made in the houses they occupied, which is not the case, their limited

elect. Now that we have a Pope, comments will no doubt go their way as to his future attitude and doings. All we can say is that Pius X. shall be a good Pope, because the Holy Ghost will be with him as with his predecessors.

OBITUARY.

We deeply regret to have to record the death of the mother of the Very Rev. Father Dugas, Vicar General of St. Boniface, which took place on the 23rd ult. at St. Jacques l'Achigan, P.Q. Deceased had reached the advanced age of 87 years.

Although the loving son had left St. Boniface immediately upon receiving the telegram which conveyed the sad news of his mother's dangerous attack of illness, he could not reach home in time to receive his revered parent's last breath of life.

The Review extends its sincerest sympathy to the Very Rev. Father Dugas in this his hour of affliction and sorrow. May God receive the soul of his departed mother into the mansions of bliss.

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