

procurable, he would not hesitate at sacrificing even personal commodities if there was question of alleviating their miseries.

"When, in August, 1903, it was announced that the Sacred College had chosen Cardinal Sarto as successor to Leo XIII, very little was known of him outside of Rome and Venice, but today all Christendom is unanimous in sounding the praises of his noble character, and, during the eleven years in which he has so gloriously guided the destinies of the Holy Church, he has discharged his numerous duties in such a manner as to earn for himself the profoundest admiration.

"Pius X struck the keynote of his pontificate with these simple, but pregnant, words: 'Let us restore all things in Christ.' It was an exhortation that placed before mankind the loftiest of ideals, an ideal which, if realized to any extent, would revolutionize the whole world. And, needless to state, midst all the trials and tribulations of the intervening years, he has ever kept before him that lofty standard he himself raised. Scarcely had these words been uttered when the storm that had been threatening his immediate predecessor burst forth in all its fury; but, never quailing, never compromising with wrong, and with penetrating insight that made it impossible for the enemies of the Church to deceive him, he stood as immovable as Gibraltar in the defence of right.

"You are all cognizant of the diplomatic manner in which he conducted himself in the conflict between church and state precipitated in France and Portugal by the enemies of Christianity, and with what intrepidity he condemned and brought to naught the heresy of Modernism which at that time threatened to gain predominance over the Christian world. These two controversies, the church and state in France and Portugal, together with Modernism, seem to have been the chief sorrows which have marred, to a certain extent, a reign of happiness for the Parish Priest of Christendom: but these events seem to have stimulated rather than deterred the restoration program of the venerable White Father, for in the midst of all this trouble we find him receiving pilgrims from all parts of the world, dictating encyclicals and decrees, which reveal the heart and soul of a man whose beautiful life has touched the heart-strings of the public, without regard to race or creed.

"Veneration, love and loyalty for the Sovereign Pontiff have ever been manifested by Irishmen the world over, and our sincere hope and prayer this evening is that they ever retain these lofty