

Archbishop of the Roman Province. As Vicar-General of the Pope, Cardinal Parocchi has to attend personally to all ecclesiastical and civil matters regarding the administration of the Diocese of Rome. He stands in the same relation to the Pope as Bishop of Rome, as does the Vicar-General of any diocese to his Bishop. It is his duty to administer the sacrament of confirmation in all the city parishes and to preside at the various ceremonies at which the Pope is no longer able to attend by reason of the present political conditions. It is also part of the official duty of the Cardinal Vicar to preside at the various ordinations that are held so frequently throughout the year, and when we consider the number of students who are ordained every year from the Propaganda and other colleges, we can form an idea of the vast amount of work that falls to the lot of Cardinal Parocchi.

Despite the multifarious duties of his sacred ministry he manages to find time to reorganize and support the various departments of education. As the government had taken forcible possession of all primary and intermediate secular schools existing at the time of the occupation of Rome, the Pope had to create out of his own crippled resources a system of schools able to counteract the influence of the others. When Cardinal Parocchi, then Bishop of Bologna was appointed Cardinal Vicar of Rome he threw into the work of organizing a thorough system of secular and religious instruction in the primary schools of the city all his intelligent zeal, experience and characteristic energy. He was in his native element when occupied in promoting advancement and excellence amongst the youth en-

trusted to his care. Not one portion of the children of Rome, not even apprentices and young artisans imperfectly educated could escape the fatherly solicitude of the Cardinal Vicar. Schools and boarding houses for the poorer classes are established in almost every street of the city, and the best of all is that the majority of these schools, from the great universities down to the elementary schools, are free. According to the most recent statistics given by his eminence the Cardinal Vicar it is shown that out of nearly thirty-four thousand pupils attending the various schools of Rome, thirty thousand are educated gratuitously, while in the elementary schools 12,900 children receive gratuitous instruction out of a total of 14,500. If the ordinary Roman tourist would consult his English guide book less and examine Roman authorities more he would think twice before repeating the trite old calumny that "Rome is the mother of ignorance." The centre of Christendom, thanks to the energy of such men as Cardinal Parocchi, will always remain what it has been in the past, the capital of the Christian scholar and the home of the Christian artist. The Roman Church, stripped of all the material advantages which she possessed when her Bishops were temporal sovereigns, can still repeat the earnest words of one of her own Pontiffs, St. Gregory, "I leave to others fortune, birth and every other material good. I value only science and learning and prefer them to all earthly riches, and hold nothing dearer on earth next to the joys of paradise and the hopes of eternity."

Every Saturday evening the Cardinal Vicar has a special audience with the Pope to report on the