

The Catholic Register

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THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1903.

DEATH OF POPE LEO XIII.

Pope Leo is no more. The world pleases itself now by praising the wisdom with which he wielded his great power, and wondering about the future Pope.

This sentence is an epitome of the Church militant, whose arms are prayer, whose armor is faith, whose captain is the Vicar of Christ.

Leo XIII. was a model leader of the Church. Marked from his childhood for the holy destiny to which he was called, he gave all mankind assurance of the truth of Catholicity in the world's many-sided contact with his policy.

Over the grave of the dead Pope Christianity has united in human sympathy at least. May this feeling be a presage of a greater blessing in store, and may the personality of the future Pope offer to humanity at large a guarantee that the grand work so universally credited to Leo XIII. in the 19th century will be continued, and perhaps, with the blessing of God, completed in this new century by his successor in the Chair of Peter.

C. M. B. A. GRAND SECRETARY.

Mr. J. J. Behan, of Kingston, Grand Secretary of the C. M. B. A., was a visitor in Toronto towards the close of last week and paid a pleasant call at the Register office.

STOCK GAMBLING.

An excellent discussion took place in the House of Commons at Ottawa on Tuesday, on the initiative of Mr. Bourassa. Stock gambling and its evil effects were held up to the light of public execration.

"A certain amount is put up as a margin, and the purchaser is merely gambling for the difference in price, which is placed to his credit if the price rises. If, on the other hand, there is a decline, the margin is wiped out and the unfortunate purchaser finds himself on the wrong side of the account.

Here then is the kernel of the evil. Brokers who are members of a stock exchange impress their customers with some measure of belief in a possible delivery of the stock; but as a matter of fact there is as much bucketing done by members of stock exchanges as by brokers whose offices are dubbed bucket shops.

THE KING IN IRELAND. King Edward has taken an early opportunity of showing and declaring his personal sympathy with Ireland.

King Edward has taken an early opportunity of showing and declaring his personal sympathy with Ireland. Accompanied by Queen Alexandra and Princess Victoria, he landed on Tuesday at the port of Dublin and was royally received in the Irish capital.

SHINING LIKE A BEACON. But between the successor of Peter who lives high up there, and the hidden bones from which he derives the reason of his existence, communication has never been broken.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Canadians will rejoice in the appointment of Mgr. Merry del Val as Secretary of the Consistorial Congregation.

Manitoba has rejected Greenway's candidates at the polls almost to a man. That Province has had experience of Greenwayism sufficient for the present generation.

At the Catholic Truth Society's Conference at London last week an address was delivered by Abbot Gasquet, the head of the Benedictine Order in England, on "The Religious Troubles in France, their Origin and Development."

Pope Leo's Character

Graphic Sketch by a Distinguished Journalist

(By Vicomte E. M. De Vogue.)

In a character study of the late Pope, the Vicomte de Vogue writes: Events, words, and acts, which are now in all men's minds, have made the Vatican the centre of contemporary interest.

ONE OF THE GREAT WORKSHOPS OF HISTORY.

In climbing up the interminable steps which lead to that height, to those aerial dwelling places whence all the spectacle of the world may be embraced, the most powerful monarch skirts the edge of silent shadows, which have, in spite of him, the power to extend or to limit his authority.

SHINING LIKE A BEACON.

But between the successor of Peter who lives high up there, and the hidden bones from which he derives the reason of his existence, communication has never been broken. The chain of the ages stretches from its origins to this summit; it is perceptible to the eyes, and the mind discovers it on each of the steps by which one mounts upwards in this labyrinth of marble and of travertine.

HE HEARD THE WORD OF HIS MASTER.

A LOWLY BEGINNING.

foreshadowing little, Pius IX., whose life had been so eventful, left an abounding fame and a great void; the despoiled Papacy seemed to be engulfed with him. The heir without a heritage who was shown to us had a look of weakness, and his title to fame was still discussed.

A DIPLOMATIST OF RARE VERSATILITY.

It was enough to give him a great place for his Papal Letters and in the Almanack de Gotha—to little to give him the first place in the world. At this moment the Curia was the centre of very active negotiations, which recalled the fine old times of ecclesiastical policy, but which did not pre-empt a new epoch.

MORE POWERFUL THAN TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNS.

Next, it comes from a proof of intellectual force of which the very expression seems a guarantee. This old man had only made one brief appearance in the outside world—during his Nunciature at Brussels more than half a century ago.

NEVER A BITTER WORD AGAINST HIS ADVERSARIES

IN THE CONVERSATION OF LEO XIII.

Let the dead bury their dead." Nothing could have stopped him. The expressions of the Holy Father's thought followed one after the other with a redoubled vigor and clearness which is absolutely amazing when we think of his age.

FREE MOVEMENT FOR THE SOCIETIES OF OUR TIME.

Those who are shocked at an "Interview with the Pope" ought first of all to ask themselves how a Hildebrand, an Innocent, a Sixtus V would have acted to-day.

NEVER A BITTER WORD AGAINST HIS ADVERSARIES

in the conversation of Leo XIII., and never a doubt of the effectiveness of his action; he had an impregnable basis of confidence and of optimism. When one respectfully observes to him that his hopes on such and such a realization, he answers tranquilly working for the century that is to come.

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XIII. The Anglo-Saxon spirit, the proud independence which is as necessary to that spirit as the air which it breathes. And in all legislation for the United States the Holy Father never missed an opportunity of showing to other Christian communities his comprehension of their conditions of life, his respect for and his charity towards them.

GENTLENESS IN STRENGTH

—that is the dominant characteristic of this great figure. That is what felt strongly in talking with Leo XIII. Twice of late years I had the honor of conversing with him for a long time together.

A DELIGHTFUL ASTONISHMENT.

in presence of the youthful vigor which persists in this weak frame. All his vital energies are concentrated in his voice, which is so strong, and in his look which is so piercing; he is like a lamp, the flame of which continues to shine without any perceptible reservoir to feed it, of mechanism to hold it up.

THE PRIVATE LIFE OF LEO XIII.

It is known to all by the accounts which people have given of it. Methodical and well ordered, it was entirely expended in overwhelming toil; the audience granted to the pilgrims who have come from every quarter of the globe; the transaction of the business of Catholicism; the drawing up of the encyclicals and of the briefs, of which his pen was so prodigal and which remain among the finished monuments of Catholic literature.

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