

The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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Register of the Week.

The following account of the Pope's Jubilee is taken from the special report of *L'Univers*:

Rome, Feb. 19.—The ceremony of this day in St. Peter's, for grandeur, nobility, majestic simplicity and hearty outburst, passes all imagination; and those alone at a distance can form an idea, approximate, not adequate, who had the pleasure of assisting at the sacerdotal jubilee of our Holy Father the Pope some five years ago.

But what was new was that the Pope was five years older, and yet appeared younger, resplendent with glory and with majesty, and surprised the whole world by his grace and activity. He was no longer an old man of 88 years, but a man of mature age, with a quick and penetrating eye, of rapid and majestic gesture, of brisk and vigorous step. But let us not anticipate events.

The doors of the great Basilica were thrown open at six o'clock to receive the throng of faithful who were crowding on the threshold, and from five o'clock in the morning all the thoroughfares leading to the bridge of Saint-Angelo, or rather to the iron bridge that lies provisionally at that place, were crowded with carriages. The line extended more than a thousand yards within the interior of the city, and thus they remained until half past nine.

The large nave of the Basilica was divided into two parts, separated by a broad corridor, through which the Pope made his entry. The Italian pilgrims and those of other countries were seated on the right, the faithful of Rome, on the left. At the four corners of the Confessional, beside the pillars of the cupola, were galleries, of which one was reserved for the Grand Master of Malta, and his officers; a second for the chanters of the Sistine chapel; and the two others were for distinguished personages.

The two transepts at the right and at the left were likewise crowded with people as far as the interior of the chapel. Finally, the part from the altar of the Confessional to the Chair of St. Peter had been reserved for the distinguished officials and the Pope's retinue. At the base beside the Chair a large gallery was reserved for the invited guests. On the right was the gallery for the diplomatic body, with all the ambassadors, all the illustrious deputies, and the *personel* of the embassies and of the orders, in full uniform and covered with decorations, also the ladies of the diplomatic body.

On the left were all the Roman nobility: in front the Prince Orsini, assistant Prince at the Throne, with his family. In the centre, between the two galleries of the diplomatic body, and of the Roman nobility, were

seats for the prelates, for the bishops, who numbered more than 150, and finally the cardinals, 87 in number. The armed officials, Palatine Guards and beadles formed a line and guarded all the exits, while the Chamberlains of the Pope and the young gentlemen of Saint Peter's took tickets and assigned the assistants their respective places. Around the Confessional were grouped a large number of distinguished personages.

At 9.45 there entered a large detachment of the Royal Guards in holiday attire, who, having arrived before the Confessional, parted in two lines to take their position on the right and on the left of the altar. Soon the (Sacred) trumpets sounded and the pontifical procession entered the Basilica by way of the altar of La Pietà, the first on the right on entering St. Peter's. The following was the order observed. The prelates of the pontifical ante-chamber; the canons of St. Peter's, one canon bearing the Papal processional cross and another the tiara; the clergymen of rank chosen from the chapter of the Vatican to assist the Holy Father at the altar; the second prefect of the pontifical ceremonies, and then the bishops and cardinals.

The Holy Father, in chasuble and mitre, was carried in the *Sedia gestatoria* with the two great ostrich fans and peacock feathers, *fabelli*. On all sides stood the officers of the Royal Guards, beadles, and the Palatine Guard in their rich regalia; the Pope's chamberlains in their magnificent Spanish uniforms, the priests, and next the major-domo, the assistant prince at the throne, and all the priests, the laity of the pontifical court; while the beadles, carrying their large, glittering swords on their shoulders, formed the line. The head of the procession had already reached the Confessional when the Pope appeared in the Basilica. The spectacle then became magnificent. From one end to the other of the church there were, wavings of handkerchiefs, clapping of hands, and enthusiastic shouts, while the Pope, glowing with majesty and youth, on every side called down blessings on his faithful children, rapt in admiration, deeply moved and weeping with joy and consolation. It would be impossible to describe in words so grand a sight. Such a spectacle did not seem earthly: it was a glimpse of paradise; and, like the divine Lamb, the Pontiff, resplendent with majesty and kindness, attracted to himself all hearts, and saw tears sparkle in every eye.

When they had arrived before the altar from the right side of the Confessional, the Pope descended from the *Sedia gestatoria* and knelt on the balditorium placed at the foot of the

steps, and soon after the holy Sacrifice was begun, while the Sistine chapel choir sang various anthems. The Holy Father was assisted at the altar by four canons of Saint Peter's, and the second master of ceremonies, Mgr. Riggi, at the *Lavabo* and the postcommunion the Cardinals Ricci, archpriest of the Vatican church, and Verga and Mazzella, deacons, mounted the steps and assisted the Sovereign Pontiff in the ablutions.

At the elevation the silver trumpets poured forth from the dome their sweet symphony, which re-echoed through the Basilica like an angelic murmur, and immediately after a chorus of children stationed on the lower balcony of the dome, and the Sistine chapel choir sang in solos and in unison the magnificent anthem composed for the occasion by the celebrated Mustafa. Nothing could be more beautiful or touching than this music: *Jubilate Deo omnis terra cantate et exultate et psallite, etc.* It was the whole world that were praying and rejoicing, and the angels mingled in these rejoicings and prayers, bearing them to the heavens and laying them before the Eternal Throne.

The Mass finished and the usual prayers of thanksgiving said, the Holy Father withdrew an instant behind the gallery of the choir to partake of a light collation. Then His Holiness returned and, kneeling down at the foot of the altar, intoned the *Te Deum*, which was sung alternately by the chapter of St. Peter's and the large multitude that filled the church. Nothing can be conceived so grand as these 50,000 voices repeating in chorus the sublime verses of the Ambrosian hymn. The prayers over, the Sovereign Pontiff again ascended the *Sedia*, robed in a cope. No longer having the mitre, but the tiara, he was carried, preceded by the same retinue as on his arrival, this time passing along the left side of the Confessional until they arrived before the grand nave. Here, rising in the *Sedia* the Holy Father recited the *Confiteor* and the accustomed prayers, and in a clear and resonant voice gave the solemn benediction, *Urbi et Orbi*, which did not fail to drown the enthusiastic bursts of applause and the cries of *Long live the Pope*, that came from the thousands of faithful, delirious with joy and emotion—bursts of applause and shouts that afterwards continued for more than ten minutes, until the figure of the great and much loved Pontiff disappeared behind the *Pieta* altar.

Ad multos annos, very Holy Father, and may God deign to preserve you for many years for the love of your faithful children, for the greater good of the Church and of the world, and for the confusion of your enemies.

The remembrance of this splendid and touching ceremony will ever remain stamped in indelible letters in the hearts of all those who had the happiness to assist at it.

What can be said of the magnificent spectacle of this enormous multitude quitting slowly the large Church of St. Peter, and unrolling itself, like an endless spiral, to the Bridge of St. Angelo, and from thence over the whole city of Rome? In order to have an idea of it, one would have to be an eye-witness, for the crowd were fully two hours in making their exit.

On Saturday last the ceremony of the induction of the new President of the United States took place at Washington. President Cleveland in delivering his inaugural deemed it proper "to refer to the existence of certain conditions and tendencies among the people which seem to menace the integrity and usefulness of their Government." The first of these points upon which he touched was the Silver Question, for "nothing is more vital to our supremacy as a nation and to the beneficent purposes of our Government than a sound and stable currency. Its exposure to degradation should at once arouse to activity the most enlightened statesmanship, and the danger of depreciation in the purchasing power of the wages paid to toil should furnish the strongest incentive to prompt and conservative precautions." Another danger confronts us. "I refer to the prevalence of a popular disposition to expect from the operations of Government especial and direct individual advantage." After setting forth the evils arising from "this progeny of paternalism" President Cleveland considered that this waste of the people's money by chosen servants was attended by prodigality and extravagance in the home life of the people. Good Government requires that public expenditure should be limited by public necessity. He then touched upon the question of official appointment which he considered should be made not on account of partisan activity but to those whose efficiency promises a fair return of work. To secure this, "Civil Service reform has found a place in our public policy and laws."

The question of combines and monopolies was next touched upon, which interfered with legitimate strife in business, and which really constitute conspiracies against the interests of the people and are opposed "to our American sense of fairness." "Loyalty to the principles upon which our Government rests positively demands that the equality before the law which it guarantees to every citizen should be justly and in good faith conceded in all parts of the land." The Indians until they are led into the civilized paths of self-sustenance should now as the nation's wards be promptly defended against the cupidity of designing men, and shielded from every influence or temptation that retards their advancement." The people of the United States have by their vote given the control to those who in the executive and legislative branches are most positively pledged to tariff reform.