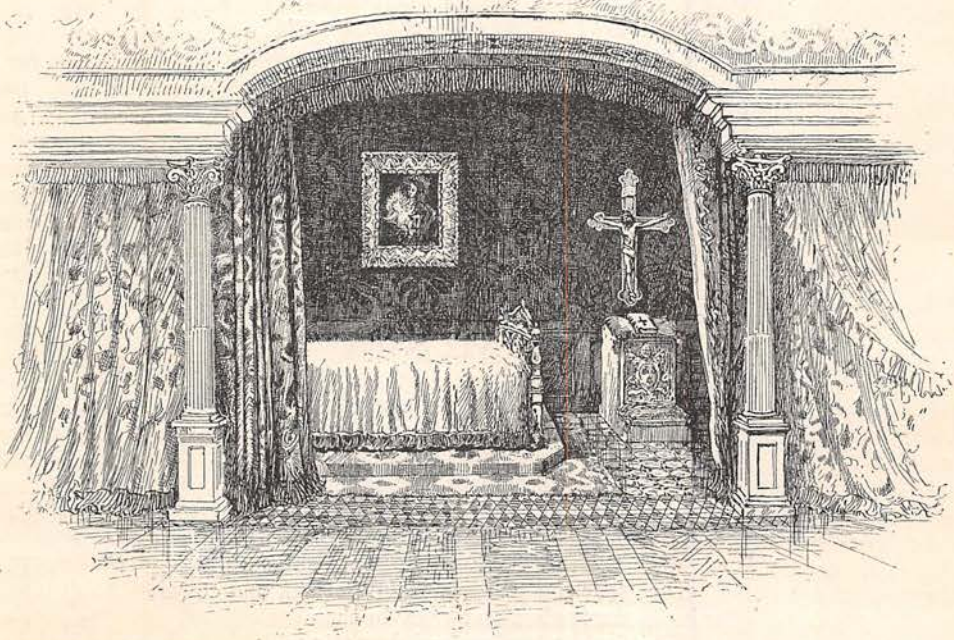


POPE LEO XIII. AND HIS HOUSEHOLD.

WITH RECENT PHOTOGRAPHS OF HIS PRIVATE APARTMENTS.¹



DRAWN BY HARRY FENN, AFTER PHOTOGRAPH.

BEDROOM OF THE POPE.

IT is not always true that «straws tell which way the wind blows.» Most proverbs have a double meaning, and may be compared to sand thrown by wise men into the eyes of fools. It is not always true that a man's character is indicated by his daily habits, nor that his intellectual tendency is definable by the qualities of his temper or by his personal tastes. Carlyle was one instance of this; Lincoln was another; Bismarck is a great third, with his iron head and his delicate feminine hands. All men who direct, control, or influence the many have a right to be judged by the world according to their main deeds, to the total exclusion of their private lives. There are some whose public actions are better than their private ones, out of all proportion; and there are others who try to redeem the patent sins of

their political necessities by the honest practice of their private virtues. In some rare; high types, head, heart, and hand are balanced to one expression of power, and every deed is a function of all three.

Leo XIII. probably approaches as nearly to such superiority as any great man now living. As a statesman his abilities are admitted to be of the highest order; as a scholar he is undisputedly one of the first Latinists of our time, and one of the most accomplished writers in Latin and Italian prose and verse; as a man he possesses the simplicity of character which almost always accompanies greatness, together with a healthy sobriety of temper, habit, and individual taste rarely found in those beings whom we might well call «motors» among men.

¹ The photographs of the Pope's private apartments accompanying this article were taken, with the special permission of his Holiness, by my friend Thomas Hamilton Wood, a private chamberlain, who died suddenly within a week after he had completed the work. He told

me before he died that while he was taking the photographs the Pope moved from room to room, to make way for him. No photographs or drawings have ever before been made, to my knowledge, of the inner rooms, and the negatives of these are at present in safe keeping.

It is commonly said that the Pope has not changed his manner of life since he was a simple bishop. He is, indeed, a man who could not easily change either his habits or his opinions; for he is of that enduring, melancholic, slow-speaking, hard-thinking temperament which makes hard workers, and in which everything tends directly to hard work as a prime object, even with persons in whose existence necessary labor need play no part, and far more so with those whose little daily tasks hew history out of humanity in the rough state.

Of the Pope's statesmanship and Latinity the world knows much and is sure to hear more—most, perhaps, hereafter, when another and a smaller man shall sit in the great Pope's chair. For he is a great Pope. There has not been his equal, intellectually, for a long time, nor shall we presently see his match again. The era of individualities is not gone by, as some pretend. We of middle age have seen, in our lifetime, Cavour, Louis Napoleon, Garibaldi, Disraeli, Bismarck, Leo XIII., and the young Emperor of Germany. With the possible exception of Cavour, who died—poisoned, as some say—before he had lived out his life, few will deny that of all these the present Pope possesses in many respects the most evenly balanced and stubbornly sane disposition. That fact alone speaks highly for the judgment of the men who elected him, in Italy's half-crazed days, immediately after the death of Victor Emmanuel.

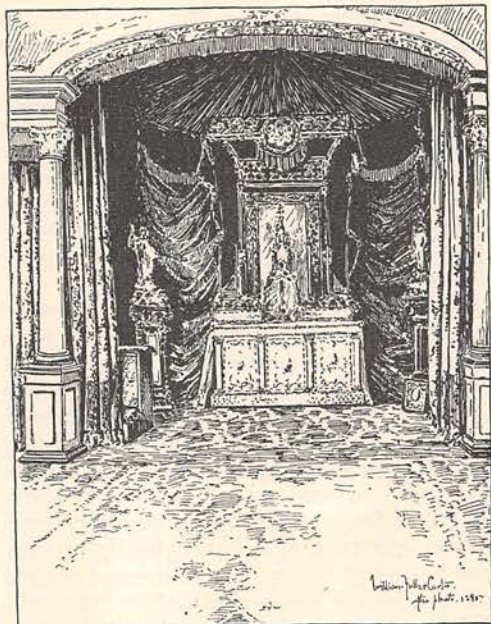
At all events, there he stands, at the head of the Holy Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church, as wise a leader as any who in our day has wielded power; as skilled, in his own manner, as any who hold the pen; and better than all that, as straightly simple and honest a Christian man as ever fought a great battle for his faith's sake.

Straight-minded, honest, and simple he is, yet keen, sensitive, and nobly cautious; for there is no nobility in him who risks a cause for the vanity of his own courage, and who, out of mere anger against those he hates, squanders the devotion of those who love him. In a sense, to-day, the greater the man the greater the peacemaker. And so it should be; for if peace be counted among blessings, the love of it is among the virtues. «Blessed are the peacemakers.»

Leo XIII. was born and bred in the keen air of the Volscian hills, a southern Italian, but of the mountains, and there is still about him something of the hill people. He has the long, lean, straight, broad-shouldered frame

of the true mountaineer, the marvelously bright eye, the eagle features, the well-knit growth of strength, traceable even in extreme old age; and in character there is in him the well-balanced combination of a steady caution with an unerring, unhesitating decision, which appears in those great moments when history will not wait for little men's long phrases, when the pendulum world is swinging its full stroke, and when it is either glory or death to lay strong hands upon its weight. But when it stops for a time, and hangs motionless, the little men gather about it, and touch it boldly, and make theories for its next unrest.

Those who have been to Carpineto have seen the blank old pile, with its tower, which tops the town, as the dwellings of the small nobles always did in every hamlet and village throughout the south of Europe. For the Pecci were good gentlefolk long ago, and the portraits of Pope Leo's father and mother, in their dress of the last century, still hang in their places in the mansion. The Pope is eighty-five years old, or thereabouts, so that the count and countess must have been born about the time of the French Revolution. His Holiness strongly resembles both, for he has his father's brow and eyes and his mother's



DRAWN BY W. F. CURTIS, AFTER PHOTOGRAPH.

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF THE POPE.

mouth and chin. In his youth he seems to have been a very dark man, as clearly appears from the portrait of him, here shown,

painted when he was nuncio in Brussels at about the age of thirty-four years. The family type is a strong one. One of the Pope's nieces, the young Countess Moroni, might have sat for a portrait of his mother. The extraordinarily clear, pale complexion is also a family characteristic. Leo XIII.'s face seems cut out of live alabaster, and it is not a figure of speech to say that it appears to emit a light of its own.

He spent his childhood in the simple surroundings of Carpineto, than which none could be simpler, as every one knows who has ever visited an Italian country gentleman in his home. Early hours, constant exercise, plain food, and farm interests made a strong man of him, with plenty of simple common sense. As a boy he was a great walker and climber, and it is said that he was excessively fond of birding, the only form of sport afforded by that part of Italy, and practised there in those times, as it is now, not only with guns, but by means of nets. It has often been said that poets and lovers of freedom come more frequently from the mountains and the sea-shore than from a flat inland region. Leo XIII. ranks high among the scholarly poets of our day, and is certainly conspicuous for the liberality of his views. As long as he was in Perugia it is well known that he received the officers of the Italian garrison and any government officials of rank who chanced to be present in the city, not merely now and then, or in a formal way, but constantly and with a cordiality which showed how much he appreciated their conversation. It may be doubted whether in our own country an acknowledged leader of a political minority would either choose or dare to associate openly with persons having an official capacity on the other side.

But the stiff mannerism of the patriarchal system, which survived until recently from early Roman times, gave him that somewhat formal tone and authoritative manner which are so characteristic of his conversation in private. His deliberate but unhesitating speech makes one think of Goethe's «without haste, without rest.» Yet his formality is not of the slow and circumlocutory sort; on the contrary, it is energetically precise, and helps rather than mars the sound casting of each idea. The formality of strong people belongs to them naturally, and is the expression of a certain unchanging persistence; that of the weak is mostly assumed for the sake of magnifying the little strength they have.

The Pope's voice is as distinctly individual as his manner of speaking. It is not deep nor

very full, but, considering his great age, it is wonderfully clear and ringing, and it has a certain incisiveness of sound which gives it great carrying power. Pius IX. had as beautiful a voice, both in compass and in richness of quality, as any barytone singer in the Sistine choir. No one who ever heard him intone the «Te Deum» in St. Peter's, in the old days, can forget the grand tones. He was gifted in many ways—with great physical beauty, with a rare charm of manner, and with a most witty humor; and in character he was one of the most kind-hearted and gentle men of his day, as he was also one of the least initiative, so to say, while endowed with the high moral courage of boundless patience and political humility. Leo XIII. need speak but half a dozen words, with one glance of his flashing eyes and one gesture of his noticeably long arm and transparently thin hand, and the moral distance between his predecessor and himself is at once apparent. There is strength still in every movement, there is deliberate decision in every tone, there is lofty independence in every look. Behind these there may be kindness, charity, and all the milder gifts of virtue; but what is apparent is a sort of energetic, manly trenchancy which forces admiration rather than awakens sympathy.

When speaking at length on any occasion he is eloquent, but with the eloquence of the dictator, and sometimes of the logician, rather than that of the persuader. His enunciation is exceedingly clear both in Latin and Italian, and also in French, a language in which he expresses himself with ease and clearness. In Latin and Italian he chooses his words with great care and skill, and makes use of fine distinctions, in the Ciceronian manner, and he certainly commands a larger vocabulary than most men.

His bearing is erect at all times, and on days when he is well his step is quick as he moves about his private apartments. «*Il Papa corre sempre*» («The Pope always runs»), is often said by the guards and familiars of the antechamber. A man who speaks slowly but moves fast is generally one who thinks long and acts promptly—a hard hitter, as we should familiarly say.

In spite of his great age, the Holy Father enjoys excellent health, and leads a life full of occupations from morning till night. He has in no respect changed his habits since the time when he lived at Perugia as cardinal. He rises very early, and when, at about six o'clock in the morning, his valet, Pio Centra, enters his little bedroom, he more often finds him risen than asleep. He is accustomed to

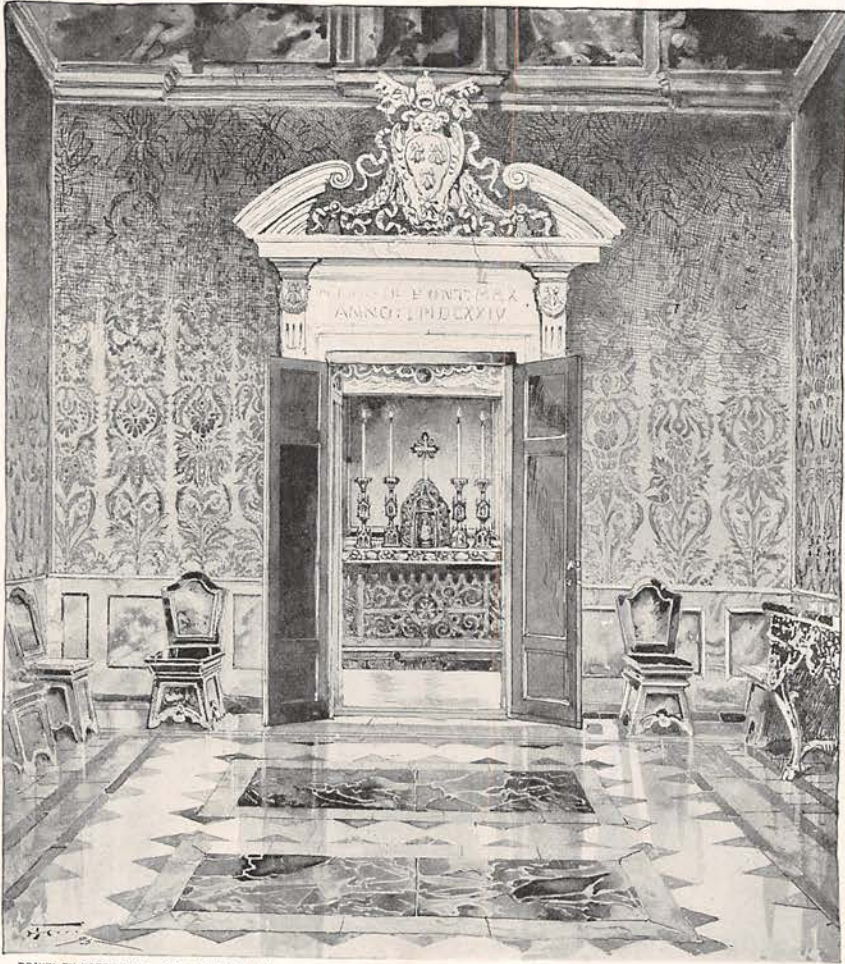


PORTRAIT OF LEO XIII. AS BISHOP (1844).

sleep little—not more than four or five hours at night, though he rests awhile after dinner. We are told that sometimes he has been found asleep in his chair by his writing-table at dawn, not having been to bed at all. Of late he frequently says mass in a chapel in his private apartments, and the mass is served by Pio Centra. On Sundays and feast-days he says it in another chapel preceding the throne-room. The little chapel is of small dimensions, but by opening the door into the neighboring room a number of persons can assist

assist. Frequently he gives the communion with his own hand to those who are present at his mass. After mass he breakfasts upon coffee and goat's milk, and this milk is supplied from goats kept in the Vatican gardens—a reminiscence of Carpineto and of the mountaineer's early life.

Every day at about ten he receives the Secretary of State, Cardinal Rampolla, and converses with him for a good hour or more upon current affairs. On Tuesdays and Fridays the Secretary of State receives the



DRAWN BY HARRY FENN, AFTER PHOTOGRAPH.

CHAPEL WHERE THE POPE SOMETIMES SAYS MASS.

at the mass. The permission, when given, is obtained on application to the «Maestro di Camera,» and is generally conceded only to distinguished foreign persons. After saying mass himself, the Holy Father immediately hears a second one, said by one of the private chaplains on duty for the week, whose business it is to take care of the altar and to

Diplomatic Corps in his own apartments, and on those days the under-secretary, Monsignor Rinaldini, confers with the Pope in his chief's place. Cardinal Mario Mocenni, acting prefect of the «Holy Apostolic Palaces,» is received by the Pope when he has business to expound. On the first and third Fridays of each month the Maggiordomo, Monsignor



DRAWN BY HARRY FENN AFTER PHOTOGRAPH.

VIEW OF CARPINETO, BIRTHPLACE OF LEO XIII.

della Volpe, is received, and so on, in order, the cardinal prefects of the several Roman congregations, the under-secretaries, and all others in charge of the various offices. In the papal antechamber there is a list of them, with the days of their audiences.

During the morning he receives the cardinals, the bishops «ad limina,» ambassadors who are going away on leave or who have just returned, princes and members of the Roman nobility, and distinguished foreigners. At ten o'clock he takes a cup of broth brought by Centra. At two in the afternoon, or a little earlier, he dines. He is most abstemious, although he has an excellent digestion. His private physician, Doctor Giuseppe Laponi, has been heard to say that he himself eats more at one meal than the Holy Father eats in a week.

Every day, unless indisposed, some one is received in private audience. These audiences are usually for the cardinal prefects of the congregations, the patriarchs, archbishops, and bishops who are in Rome at the time, and distinguished personages.

When the weather is fine, the Pope generally walks or drives in the garden. He is carried out of his apartments to the gate in a sedan-chair by the liveried «sediarii,» or chair-porters; or if he goes out by the small door known as that of Paul V., the carriage awaits him there, and he gets in with the Cameriere Segreto Partecipante, who is always a monsignor. It is as well to say here, for the benefit of non-Catholics, that «monsignori» are not necessarily bishops, nor even consecrated priests, the title being really a secular one. Two Noble Guards of the corps of fifty gentlemen known under that name ride beside the carriage doors. His closed carriage is a simple and elegant brougham having his coat of arms painted on the door. In summer he occasionally drives in an open landau. He drives several times round the avenues, and when he descends, the «esente,» or officer of Guards, dismounts, and opens the carriage door. He generally walks in the neighborhood of the Chinese pavilion and along the Torrione, where the papal observatory is built. Of

late, however, he has changed the direction of his walks. Leo XIII. is fond of variety—and no wonder, shut up for life as he is in the Vatican; he enjoys directing work and improvements in the gardens; he likes to talk with Vespignani, the architect of the Holy Apostolic Palaces (who is also the head of the Catholic party in the Roman municipality), to go over the plans of work he has ordered, to give his opinion, and especially to see that the work itself is executed in the shortest possible time. Time is short for a pope: Sixtus V., who filled Rome and Italy with himself, reigned only five years; Rodrigo Borgia, eleven years; Leo X., but nine.

In 1893 the Pope began to inhabit the new pavilion designed and built by Vespignani in pure fifteenth-century style. It is built against the Torrione, the ancient round tower constructed by St. Leo IV. about the year 845. In 1894 Leo XIII. made a further extension, and joined another building to the existing one by means of a loggia, on the spot once occupied by the old barracks of the papal gendarmes, who are still lodged in the gardens, and whose duty it is to patrol the precincts by day and night. Indeed, the fact that two dynamiters were caught in the garden in 1894 proves that a private police is necessary.

During the great heat of summer the Pope, after saying mass, goes into the garden about nine in the morning, and spends the whole day there, receiving every one in the garden pavilion as he would in the Vatican. He dines there, too, and rests afterward, guarded by the gendarmes on duty, to whom he generally sends a measure of good wine—another survival of a country custom; and in the cool of the day he again gets into his carriage, and often does not return to the Vatican till after sunset, toward the hour of Ave Maria.

In the evening, about an hour later,—at «one of the night,» according to old Roman computation of time,—he attends at the recitation of the rosary, or evening prayers, by Monsignor Mazzolini, his private chaplain, and he requires his immediate attendants to assist also. He then retires to his room, where he reads, studies, or writes verses, and at about ten o'clock he eats a light supper.

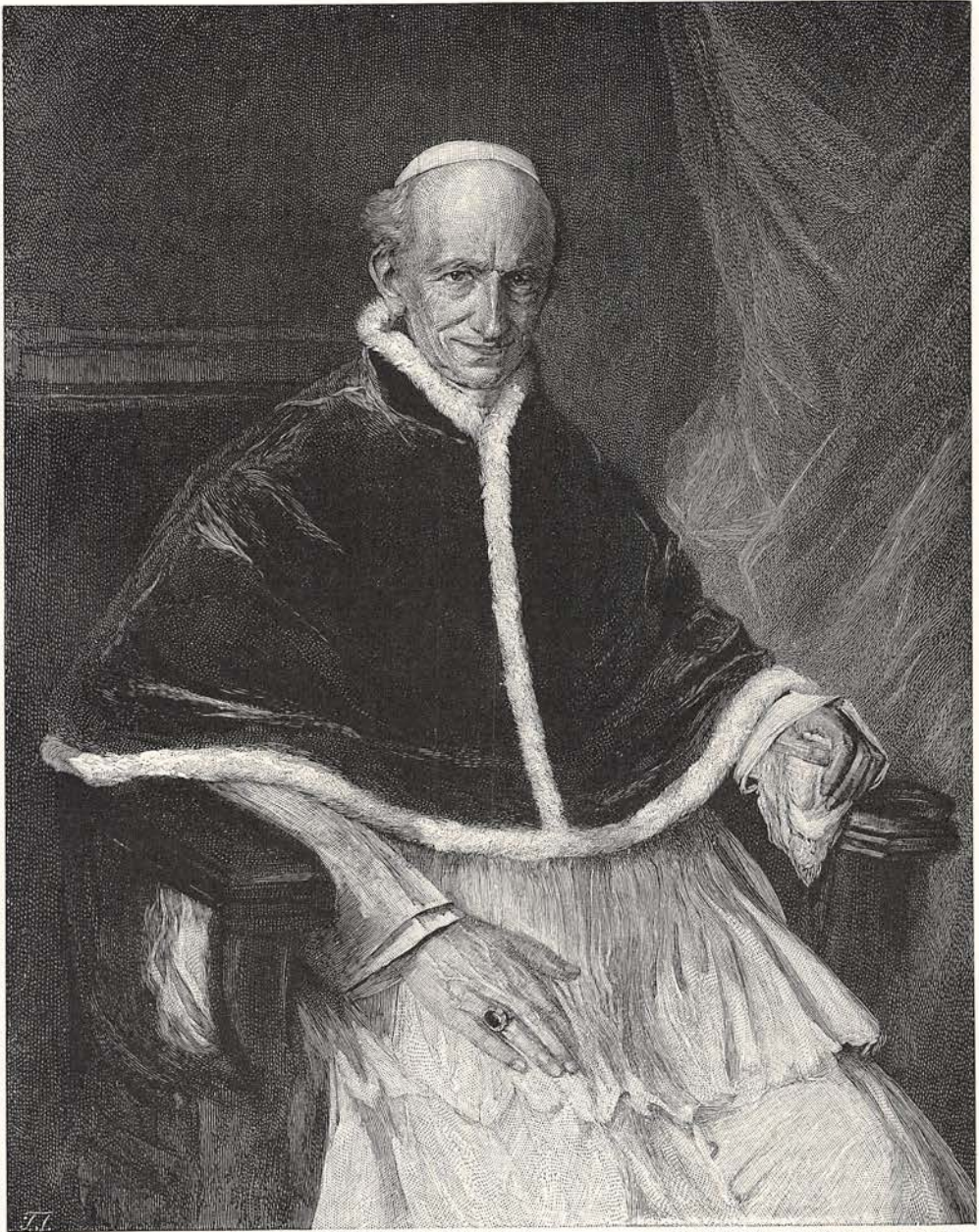
While in the garden he is fond of talking about plants and flowers with Cavaliere Cesare Balzani, the director of the gardens. He walks with the officer of the Noble Guards and with the private chamberlain on duty. He speaks freely of current topics, tells anecdotes of his own life, and visits the gazelles,

goats, deer, and other animals kept in the gardens. From the cupola of St. Peter's the whole extent of the grounds is visible, and when the Pope is walking, the visitors, over four hundred feet above, stop to watch him. He has keen eyes, and sees them also. «Let us show ourselves!» he exclaimed one day, not long ago. «At least they will not be able to say that the Pope is ill.»

The Pope's favorite poets are Vergil and Dante. He knows a great part of both by heart, and takes pleasure in quoting them. When Father Michael, the apostolic prefect to Erithrea, was taking his leave, with the other Franciscans who accompanied him to Africa, his Holiness recited to them, with great spirit, Dante's canto upon St. Francis.

The Pope reads the newspapers, passages of interest being marked for him by readers in order to save him time. He frequently writes letters to the bishops and encyclicals in a polished and Ciceronian style of Latin. The encyclicals are printed at the private press of the Vatican, an institution founded by him, and furnished with all modern improvements. They are first published in the «Osservatore Romano,» the official daily paper of the Vatican, and then finally translated into Italian and other languages, and sent out to the bishops abroad. Leo XIII. writes excellent verses, both in Latin and Italian, and likes to see and talk with men of letters, as well as to read their works. Two years ago he requested Professor Brunelli of Perugia to buy for him the poetical works of the Abbé Zanella. The request is characteristic, for his Holiness insisted upon paying for the book, like any one else.

When great pilgrimages are to be organized, the first step taken is to form committees at the place of origin. The leader of the pilgrimage is usually the head of the diocese, who then writes to Rome to make the arrangements. The Committee on Pilgrimages, presided over by Cardinal Mocenni, and consisting of Monsignor Mazzolini, Monsignor Angeli, Monsignor Ugolini, Cavaliere Attilio Ambrosini, and others, provides quarters for the pilgrims at the Lazaret of St. Martha, or elsewhere, that they may be properly lodged and fed. On the occasion of the celebrated French workingmen's pilgrimage the great halls in the Belvedere wing, including the old quarters of the engineer corps and of the artillery, and the riding-school, were opened as dining-halls, where the pilgrims came morning and evening to their meals; the kitchen department and the general superintendence were in charge of sisters. Everything was



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Leo XIII.



POPE LEO XIII.

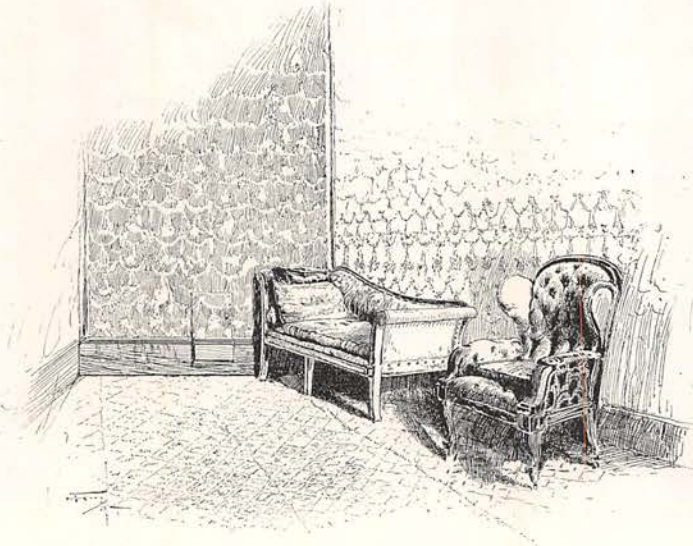
directed by the Roman Committee on Pilgrimages. The visitors were received by the Circolo of St. Peter's and by the First Artisan Workmen's Association, the members of which waited at table, wearing aprons. The Circolo, or Club, of St. Peter's has an office for pilgrimages, which facilitates arrangements with the railways, and provides lodgings in hotels, inns, and private houses in Rome for the well-to-do; but the General Committee on Pilgrimages provides lodgings for the poor. The head of the pilgrimage also makes the arrangements with the Maestro di Camera for the mass which the Holy Father celebrates for the pilgrims, and for the audience which follows. If the pilgrimage is large, the mass is said in St. Peter's; if small, in the Vatican, either in the Loggia of the Beatification or in the Sala Ducale. At the audience the pilgrims place their offerings in the Pope's hands, and he blesses the rosaries, crosses, and other objects of devotion, and gives small silver medals in memory of the occasion.

Since 1870 the Pope has not conducted the solemn services either in St. Peter's or in the Sistine Chapel. The only services of this kind in which the Pontiff takes part are

the Roman nobility, the Knights of Malta, the Diplomatic Corps in full dress, and any foreign Catholic royal princes who may chance to be in Rome at the time. At the «public» consistories, held with great pomp in the Sala Regia, the Pope gives the hat to each new cardinal; but there are also «private» consistories held in the beautiful Sala del Consistoro, near the hall of the Swiss Guards, at the entrance to the Pope's apartments.

Moreover, the Pope appears at beatifications and canonizations, and during the present pontificate these have been generally held in the Hall of Beatifications, a magnificent room with tribunes, above the portico of St. Peter's, turned into a chapel for the occasion, with innumerable candles and lamps, the transparency of the beatified person, called the Gloria, and standards on which are painted representations of miracles. The last of these ceremonies was held in St. Peter's, with closed doors, but in the presence of an enormous concourse, with the greatest pomp, the whole of the Noble Guard and the Palatine Guard turning out, and order being preserved by the Swiss Guards, the gendarmes, and the vergers of the basilica, known as the «sanpietrini.»

During Holy Week, in order to meet the wants of the many eminent and devout Catholics who then flock to Rome, the Holy Father celebrates mass two or three times in the Sala Ducale, which is then turned into a chapel. During these masses motets are sung by the famous Sistine choir, under the direction of the old Maestro Mustafa, once the greatest soprano of the century, but at the same time so accomplished a musician as to have earned the common name of «Palustrina redivivus.» It is to be regretted that he has never allowed any of his beautiful



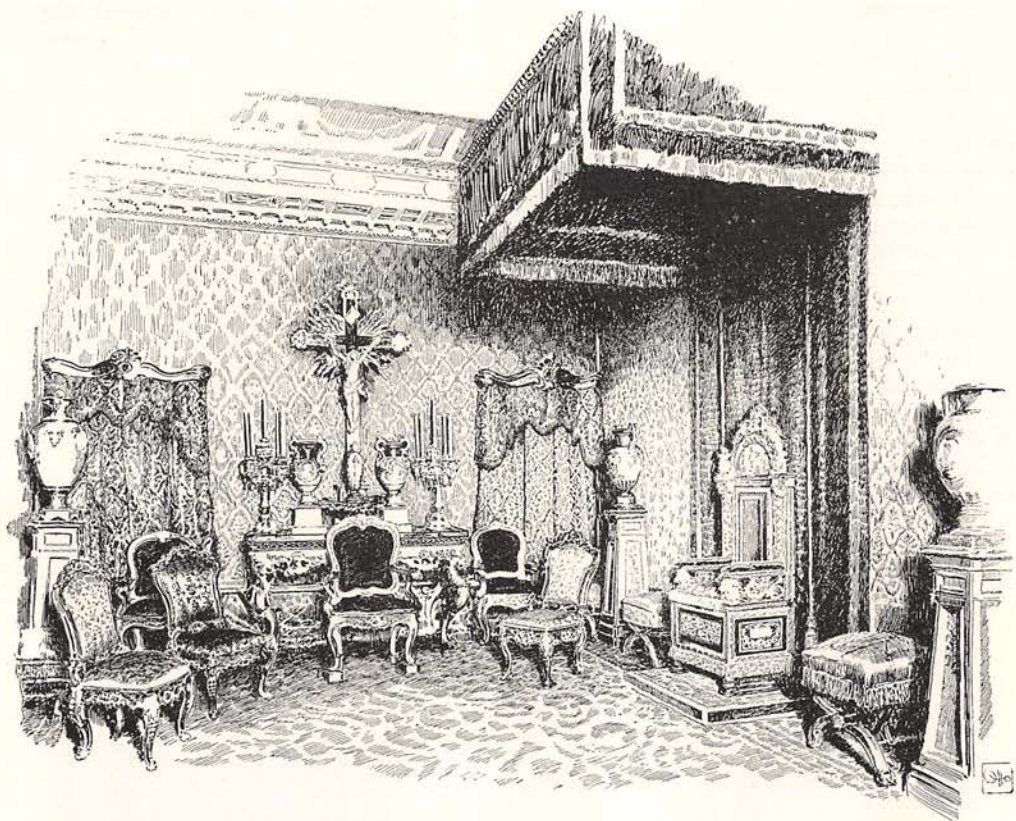
DRAWN BY HARRY FENN, AFTER PHOTOGRAPH.

ROOM IN WHICH THE POPE TAKES HIS DAILY SIESTA.

those held in the Sistine Chapel on the anniversary of the death of Pius IX., and on the anniversary of his own coronation, March 3. At these two functions there are also present the Sacred College, the bishops and prelates,

compositions to be published.

On such occasions as Christmas day or the feast of St. Joaquin, by whose name the Pope was christened, he receives the College of Cardinals, the bishops present in Rome,



DRAWN BY OTTO BACHER, AFTER PHOTOGRAPH.

SITTING-ROOM WHERE THE POPE RECEIVES PERSONS FOR SPECIAL PRIVATE AUDIENCES.

many prelates, the heads of religious bodies, some officers of the old pontifical army and of the Guards, and the dignitaries of the papal court, in his own private library, where he talks familiarly with each in turn, and quite without ceremony.

Reigning sovereigns, princes, and distinguished persons are received in the grand throne-room, where the throne is covered with red velvet, with coats of arms at the angles of the canopy. Upon a large pier-table, in the rococo style, between the windows and opposite the throne, stands a great crucifix of ivory and ebony, between two candlesticks. The carpet used at such times was presented by Spain. Before the Emperor of Germany's visit the Pope himself gave particular directions for the dressing of the throne and the arrangement of the rooms. When great personages are received their suites are also presented, after which the Pope retires with his guest to the small private throne-room.

Before coming to the Pope's presence it is necessary to pass through many anterooms.

The Sala Clementina, the hall of the *pal-frenieri* and *sediarii*,—that is, of the grooms and chair-porters,—the hall of the *gendarmes*, the antechamber of the Palatine Guard, that of the officers on duty, the Hall of the Arras, that of the chamberlains and Noble Guards, and at last the antechamber of the *Maestro di Camera*—there are eight in all. Persons received in audience are accompanied by the "*camerieri segreti*," who do the honors, in full dress, wearing their chains and carrying their staves.

The private library is a spacious room lined with bookcases made of a yellow wood from Brazil, some of which are curtained. Busts of several former popes stand upon marble columns.

To the Pope's bedroom only his private valet and his secretaries have access. It is of small dimensions, and contains only a bed, in an alcove adorned with graceful marble columns, a writing-table, an arm-chair and kneeling-stool, and one wardrobe.

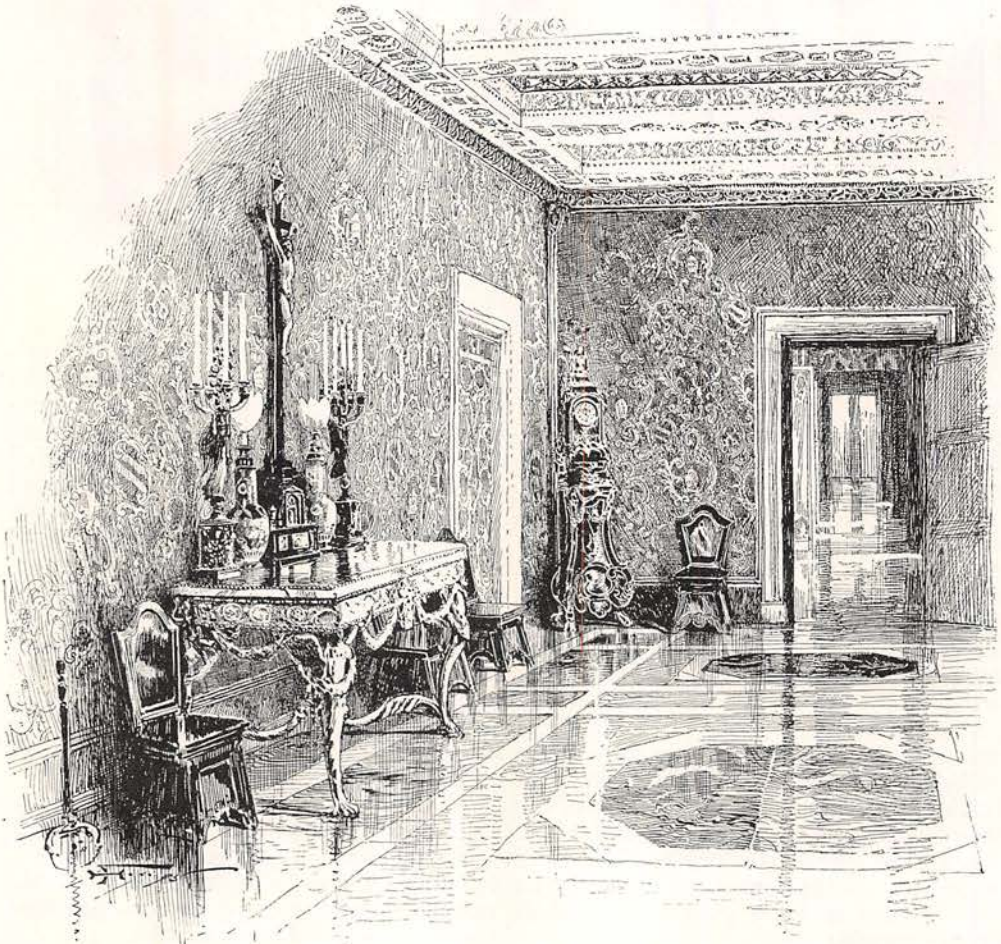
Besides these, there is his private study, in which the table and chair stand upon a

little carpeted platform, other tables being placed on each side upon the floor, together with an extremely uncomfortable but magnificent straight-backed arm-chair, which is one of the gifts offered on the occasion of the episcopal jubilee. There is, moreover, a little room containing only an old lounge and an old-fashioned easy-chair with «wings,» and nothing else. It is here that the Holy Father retires to take his afternoon nap, and the robust nature of his nerves is proved by the fact that he lies down with his eyes facing the broad light of the window.

This private apartment occupies the second floor, according to Italian reckoning, though we Americans should call it the third; it is on a level with Raphael's loggie. The floor above it is inhabited by Cardinal Rampolla, the Secretary of State.

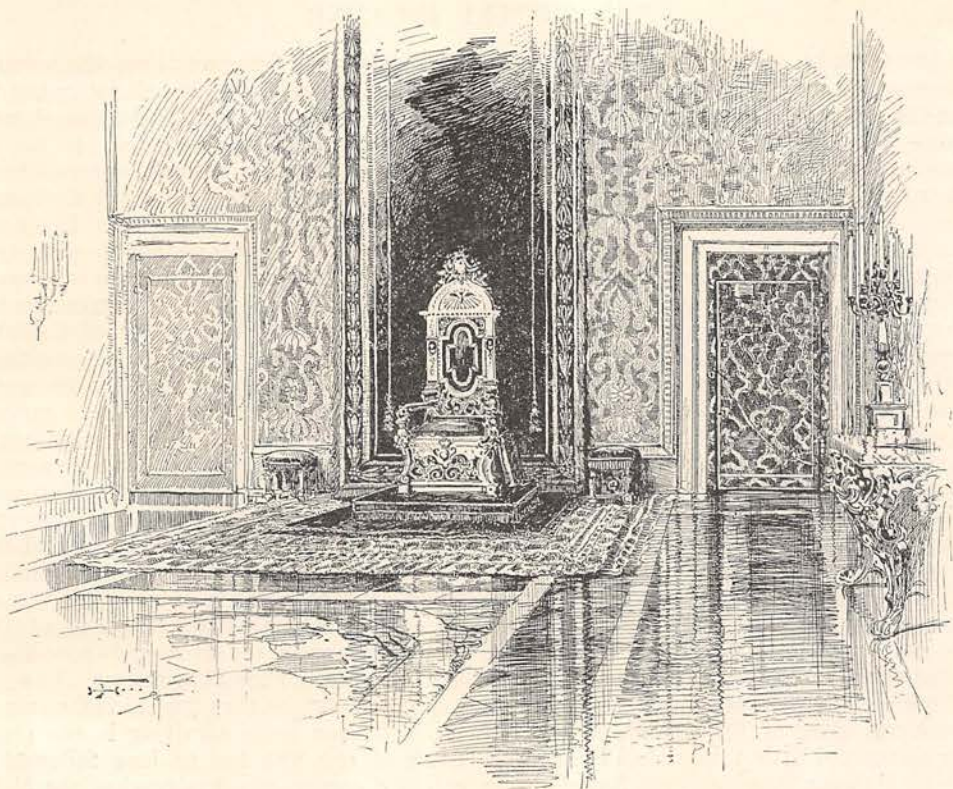
The «pontifical court,» as it is called, con-

sists of Cardinal Rampolla; Cardinal Mario Mocenni, pro-Prefect of the Holy Apostolic Palaces, a personage of the highest importance, who has sole control of everything connected with the Vatican palace and all the vast mass of adjoining buildings; Monsignor Francesco della Volpe, the *Maggiordomo*, who, besides many other functions, is the manager of the museums, galleries, and inhabited apartments; Monsignor Cagiano de Azeoredo, the *Maestro di Camera*, who nearly corresponds to a master of ceremonies, and superintends all audiences; Monsignor Capetta, the almoner and manager of the papal charities, assisted by a distinguished priest, who is also a lawyer, in the person of the Rev. Marcello Massarenti, formerly secretary to the well-known Monsignor de Merode; Father Raffaele Pierotti, of the Dominican order, who supervises the issuing



DRAWN BY HARRY FENN, AFTER PHOTOGRAPH.

PRIVATE ANTEROOM LEADING TO THE POPE'S PRIVATE ROOMS.



DRAWN BY HARRY FENN, AFTER PHOTOGRAPH.

THRONE-ROOM IN WHICH OFFICIAL RECEPTIONS ARE HELD.

of books printed at the Vatican; the chief steward, Commendatore Puccinelli; four private secretaries, who take turns of service lasting a week for each, and are always with the Pope, namely, Monsignor Mery del Val, Monsignor de Croy, Monsignor Riseti, and Monsignor Misciatelli; and finally the chief of the Vatican police, Commendatore Tagliarferro. Moreover, his Holiness has his private preacher, who delivers sermons before him in Advent and Lent, and who is always a Capuchin monk, in accordance with a very ancient tradition.

It must not be supposed by the uninitiated that these few persons in any way represent the central directive administration of the Catholic Church. On the contrary, the only one of them who is occupied in that larger field is Cardinal Rampolla, the Secretary of State. The others are, strictly speaking, the chief personages of the pontifical household, as we should say. But their offices are not sinecures. The Pope's restless energy extracts work from the men about him as one squeezes water from a sponge. In the good days of Pius IX., after the fall of the temporal power, the Vatican was overrun and overcrowded with useless but well-paid offi-

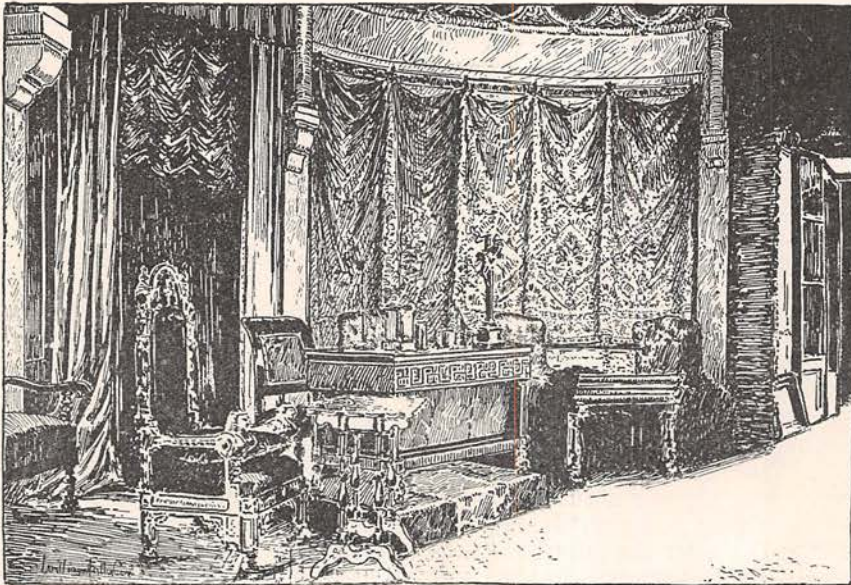
cial, officers, and functionaries great and small, who took refuge there against the advancing wave of change. When Leo XIII. had been on the throne only a few weeks, there was sold everywhere a comic print representing the Pope with a huge broom sweeping all the useless people pell-mell down the steps of the Vatican into the Piazza of St. Peter's. As often happens, the caricaturist saw the truth. In a reign that has lasted eighteen years, Leo XIII. has done away with much that was useless, worthless, and old-fashioned, and much that cumbered the narrow patch of earth on which so important a part of the world's business is transacted. He is a great simplifier of details and a strong leveler of obstructions, so that his successor in the pontificate will find it a comparatively easy thing to keep the mechanism in order, in its present state.

The strictest economy, even to the minutest details, is practised in the Vatican. It appears certain that the accounts of the vast household are generally personally inspected by the Pope, whose prime object in this respect is to prevent any waste of money where so much is needed for the maintenance of church institutions in all parts of the world.

In the midst of much outward magnificence the papal establishment is essentially frugal, for the splendid objects in the Pope's apartments, even to many of the articles of furniture, are gifts received from the faithful of all nations. But the money which pours into the Vatican from the contributions of Catholics all over Christendom is only held in trust, to be expended in support of missions, of poor bishoprics, and of such devout and charitable organizations as need help, wherever they may be. That nothing may be lost which can possibly be applied to a good purpose is one of Leo XIII.'s most constant preoccupations. He has that marvelous memory for little things which many great leaders and sovereigns have had; he remembers not only faces and names, but figures and facts, with surprising and sometimes discomfiting accuracy; and he has the rare faculty of carrying all details, as it were, upon the clear main lines of any subject, instead of smothering the subject itself out of sight under a heap of minutiae—a failing which is especially that of uselessly gifted people. It is better to know something of the proportion between big things and little things than to know all the little things thoroughly and forget all the big ones.

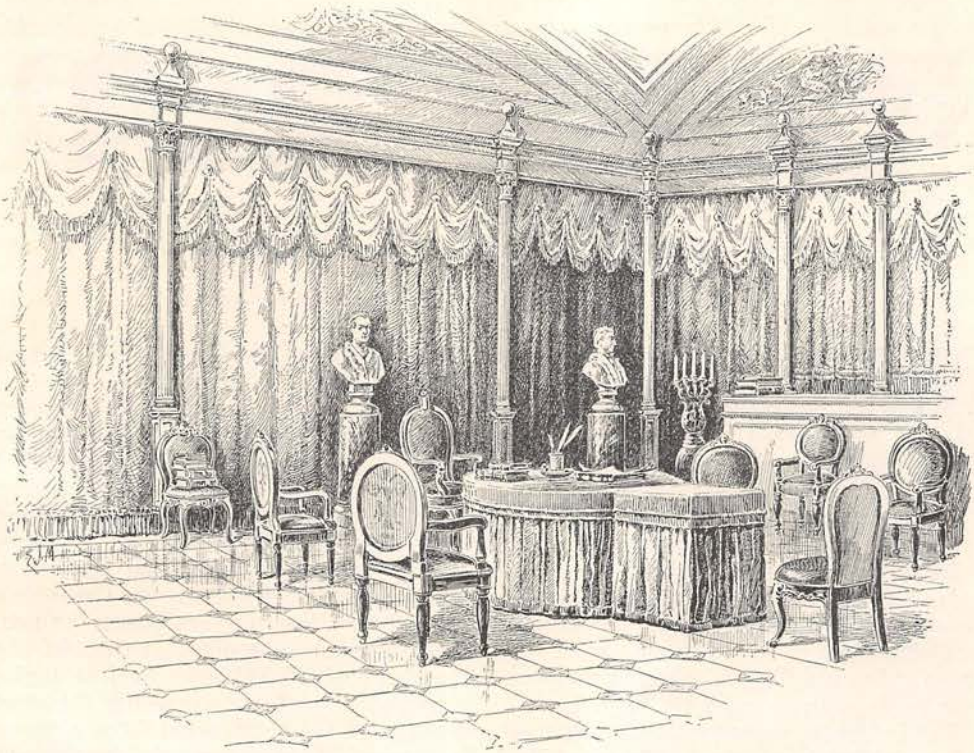
In Leo XIII.'s private life, as distinguished from his public and political career, what is most striking is the combination of shrewdness and simplicity in the best sense of both words. Like Pius IX., he has most firmly set

his face against doing anything which could be construed as financially advantageous to his family, who are good gentlefolk and well to do in the world, but no more. All that he has as pope he holds in trust for the Church in the most literal acceptance of the term. The contributions of Catholics, on being received, are immediately invested in securities bearing interest, which securities are again sold as may be necessary for current needs, and expended for the welfare of Catholic Christianity. Every penny is most carefully accounted for. These moneys are generally invested in Italian national bonds—a curious fact, and indicative of considerable confidence in the existing state of things, as well as a significant guarantee of the Vatican's good faith toward the monarchy. It is commonly said in Rome among bankers that the Vatican makes the market price of Italian bonds. Whether this be true or not, it is an undeniable fact that the finances of the Vatican are under the direct and exceedingly thrifty control of the Pope himself. To some extent we may be surprised to find so much plain common sense surviving in the character of one who has so long followed a spiritual career, who has reached the highest ecclesiastical and temporal distinction in the world, and who has held that exalted position for eighteen years with a force, a dignity, and a skill rarely exhibited in combination by any sovereign. We should not look for such practical wisdom in Gregory



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the Great; we should not have found it in Pius IX. But the times are changed since the days of St. Gregory, and are most changed since yesterday. The head of the Catholic Church to-day must be modern man, statesman, and administrator as well as Holy Father—and he is all four in the august person of Leo XIII.; he must be able to cope with difficulties as well as with heresies; he must lead his men as well as guide his flock; he must be the Church's steward as well as her consecrated arch-head; he must be the reformer of manners as well as the preserver of faith; he must be the understander of men's venial mistakes as well as the censor of their mortal sins.

Battles for belief are no longer fought with books and dogmas, opinions and theories. Everything may serve nowadays, from money, which is the fuel of nations, to wit, which is the weapon of the individual; and the man who would lose no possible vantage must have both a heavy hand and a light touch; a swift thrust and a quick parry are better to-day than Gregory's «swashing blow» or the ax of the king-maker.

Leo XIII. is a leader by his simple nature and energetic character, as well as by his position and the circumstances of the times—the leader of a great organization of Christian men and women spreading all over the world; the leader of a vast body of human thought; the leader of a great conservative army which will play a large part in any coming struggle. He will not be here to direct when the battle begins, but he will leave a strong position for his successor to defend, and great weapons for him to wield, since he has done more to simplify and strengthen the Church's organization than a dozen popes have done in the last two centuries. Men of such character fight future campaigns many times over in their thoughts while all the world is at peace around them, and when the time comes at last, though they themselves be gone, the spirit they called up still lives to lead and conquer, the weapons they forged lie ready for other hands, the roads they built are broad and straight for the march of other feet, and they, in their graves, have their share in the victories that come after them.

F. Marion Crawford.