

Leo XIII Passes Over to Join the Silent Majority

His Mind Was Clear at the Fatal Moment—Cardinals Surround His Couch and Received His Parting Blessing

Rome, July 20.—At 4 o'clock this afternoon, according to the official announcement, Pope Leo XIII's long struggle with death, came to its inevitable end.

Tonight Catholic and non-religious Rome alike unite in respect for the brave and devoted spirit of the grand old man. His end was peaceful, undisturbed by delirium, an end, in fact, such as he desired.

A few minutes later the pope's breathing became most difficult. Dr. Laponni administered pure oxygen, but it had no effect.

Dr. Laponni evidently believed so, for he went to the door of the ante-room, where the cardinals and prelates were assembled.

Cardinal Vannutelli was among those who entered. He began to repeat the prayers for the dying, the others whispering the responses.

The Pope Pronounced Dead. Rome, July 20, 4 p. m.—It was four o'clock when the bronze gates of the Vatican were closed to signify that the pope was dead.

Vatican officers say of the last scene that the pope was in a deep coma all day. Life simply faded away without a rally or incident.

The old ceremony of striking the forehead of the dead pontiff three times with a silver hammer was not performed, nor was it when Pope Pius IX. expired.

The great space in front of the Vatican rapidly filled with a great silent throng, who uncovered their heads when the death of his holiness was announced.

Cardinal Oreglia is now in sole control of the Vatican functions. The authority of Cardinal Rampolla, papal secretary of state, and the other executive officers of the church ceased with the death of the pope.

By Mgr. Bisleti and was handed to Cardinal Oreglia, in whose custody it will remain until it is produced at the conclave.

Parting Moment Was Peaceful. Rome, July 20.—Soon after eleven o'clock it became evident that the end was at hand.

According to the Observatore Romano the pope regained consciousness during his last hours, and recognizing that his end was near, commended the interests of the church to Cardinal Oreglia.

About noon his holiness had a relapse and was again unconscious. Half an hour later all the cardinals assembled at his bedside.

When the death of the pope was officially announced most of the shops in the Vatican quarter closed their doors, but business continued almost as usual in other parts of the city.

Those present at the death of his holiness were Cardinal Vannutelli, Sacristan Piffser, Count Camille Pecci, Dr. Laponni and Pio Centra.

The dying pontiff speaks. Rome, July 20.—When during the alarming crisis, about noon, the pope was lying on his bed, perfectly motionless, while around him knelt the cardinals and other members of the papal court, praying and not knowing whether the pope was not already dead.

When Mgr. Bisleti, the master of the chamber, asked for the pope's benediction for the court, which the pontiff granted, adding: "Be this my last greeting."

The silence of the sick room was occasionally broken by a hacking cough, due to the gathering of phlegm in Pope Leo's throat.

"This time, doctors, you will not win in your brave fight with death." "It is your holiness who is brave," replied Dr. Laponni; but before the remark was uttered the pope was again unable to understand what was said.

The pope continued now and then to mutter phrases, although unconscious. His mind evidently returned to the events which impressed him most before his illness began.

"What crowds, what devotion, my dear people." Then, falling back inertly, he sighed and said: "Oh, the weight of these robes; can I hold out until the end?"

In one fit of delirium he spoke three languages—Italian, French and Latin. His words, which seemed to be addressed to Bavarian pilgrims, closed with the sentence, spoken in Italian, "We are happy."

Honoring the Departed Pontiff. Rome, July 20.—When it was realized that the last breath had been drawn Dr. Laponni closed the pope's eyes and folded his hands upon his breast.

als, diplomats and other had filed past the body, each kissing the pope's hand as they passed, and left the chambers except the nephews of his holiness, Dr. Papponi, Centra, the valet, the majordomo and two members of the noble guard.

Immediately Cardinal Oreglia took up office the Swiss guards rendered him sovereign honors, accompanying him in state to his apartments. Subsequently when he went to the papal apartments to verify the death of the pope he was accompanied by Vice Camerlengo Passerini and the clergy of the apostolic chamber, all wearing violet vestments as a sign of mourning.

Afterwards the body was robed in the usual vestments, a white cassock, a crimson velvet cummerbund, and white capote and sash, in the presence of Mgr. Passerini, Dr. Laponni, a notary of the apostolic chamber and the pontifical master of ceremonies.

The windows of the room were curtained and the chamber, which is hung with dark red tapestries, was only lighted with candles.

Doctors Mazzone and Laponni will superintend the embalming of the body after which it will be exposed in the hall of the noble guard for three days, during which the members of the papal court, relatives and a few privileged persons will be allowed to see it.

FOILED IN ATTEMPT. Midnight Visitor Fled, but Was Captured. Asheville, N. C., July 20.—Special. For many people in the northern section of Buncombe county the Sabbath proved a day of excitement and unrest.

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I repeat, no such arrangement has been made by me. What has been done by the charge d'affaires since my departure, fourteen days ago, I do not know.

Regarding the Israelite petition, the United States government already knew that such petition would be received. No such petition would be received by any independent state.

Washington, July 20.—Special.—The annual report of the auditor for the treasury has made some remarkable disclosures as to the salaries of collectors and surveyors at our naval ports.

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Pay Without Work in Customs Service

North Carolina Shares in the Soft Snaps—Real Estate Deals on a Big Scale. Justice Pritchard's Judicial Duties

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side over the criminal court No. 1 since his appointment as a district judge, held circuit court for the first time today and tried several equity cases. He is relieving Judge Anderson, who takes a vacation. It is Judge Pritchard's intention to take his vacation in August, when he will go to his old home in Marshall, N. C.

North Carolina Elks flocked to Washington today on their way to Baltimore. Nearly all of them spent the day here. Tomorrow morning a special train filled with Charlotte Elks will arrive via the Seaboard.

The post office department has accepted a proposal from Robert Koneguy to lease quarters for the post office at Mount Olive, including furniture, heat and light.

Rural route No. 1 from Thomasville, Davidson county, established to commence September 1, covers eighteen square miles, is twenty-one in length, serves population 630, and includes 110 houses.

A MILLION A YEAR. Forecast of Immigration Statistics by the Head of the Bureau

Washington, July 20.—One million immigrants to the shores of the United States in 1904. These are the figures, absolutely without exaggeration—alarming as they may be—that are forecasted by the statistics for the fiscal year 1903, just made public by Frank P. Sargent, commissioner general of immigration.

In 1902 the number of immigrants was 648,475. For the fiscal year 1903, ended June 30, the number had leaped to 877,046. This is an increase in 12 months of 208,571, or 32 per cent.

If this rate is maintained the total for the next fiscal year will be above 1,000,000. Even should the rate fall to an average of 25 per cent, the 1,000,000 mark in the flood of aliens to these shores will be passed.

Referring to past records, the only other year in American history which approached the figures of 1903 was 1852. Then this country had very lax immigration laws and the foreign flood was encouraged. The figures went to 786,992. That remained the high-water mark until the last fiscal year.

Venezuelan Troops Give Battle to Revolutionists

Heavy Fighting at Break of Day Sunday—Ciudad Bolivar Fiercely Attacked and Stoutly Defended

Noledao, Venezuela, Sunday, July 19, 3 p. m.—At 5 o'clock this morning an engagement between the government forces and the revolutionists occupying Ciudad Bolivar began in two different directions.

The revolutionists opened the battle. At 6 o'clock the smoke over Ciudad Bolivar was so thick that it was impossible to see the city. At 7 o'clock the government troops, after a terrible fight, in which they lost more than 100 men, captured the cemetery.

At 8 o'clock the revolutionists' flag had disappeared from the government building, and at 11 a. m. all the streets near the building were captured by the government forces and a charge of all the government soldiers on the city was ordered.

The wounded were then beginning to arrive at the government headquarters from all directions and the fight was general; but the movements could not be followed from here in consequence of the smoke caused by the fire of the artillery of the revolutionists, which seemed formidable. It was answered vigorously by the government troops.

block of houses opposite the government building was captured by storm. The revolutionists seemed to be resisting desperately.

The correspondent will follow the advance with General Rivas. The latter is waiting for a signal from General Gomez, the Venezuelan commander-in-chief, who conducted the attack from Miraflores, to enter Ciudad Bolivar with all his resources and fourteen guns.

The spectacle in the streets of Ciudad Bolivar when the smoke cleared away was heartrending. There were over two hundred dead revolutionists in the streets, not counting wounded.

ONLY WHITE MEN. Telephone Company Respects Madison County Sentiment

Asheville, N. C., July 20.—Special. That is a most remarkable situation which obtains in Madison county where citizens have decreed that negroes shall not be employed by the construction corps of the American Bell Telephone Company.

Working Day and Night. Fayetteville, N. C., July 20.—Special. The employees of the Spencer shops and of this division of the Southern Railway were paid off today.

Fracas at a Funeral. Fayetteville, N. C., July 20.—Special. Yesterday afternoon at a negro church near Manchester, in the western part of Cumberland county, where funeral services were held, Robert and Lawrence Williams, negroes, appeared, one with a breach loader and the other with a musket, and had a quarrel.