

BOLT STRIKES 20 CHILDREN.

THEY WERE PLAYING UNDER BIG TREES IN THE BRONX.

Nine Burned and Made Blind for a Time by Lightning, and Clothing Torn From One—The Storm Started in New Jersey and Took Tornado Track—Hail Falls.

Twenty children playing under trees in a yard of one of the finest residences in the Bedford Park section of the Bronx were struck down yesterday afternoon by a bolt of lightning, the opening gun of the sharpest storm that has hit this section in some time.

The bolt struck every one of the score of playmates, burned nine of them severely and tore the clothes completely off thirteen-year-old William McComb, son of William J. McComb, the superintendent of the building firm of Sloane & Moller, at 328 East Sixty-fourth street.

The children were playing in Mr. McComb's rear yard. When the shadow of the approaching shower darkened the sky the group gathered under two trees that stand in the back yard, a big chestnut and a large oak, which grew up by chance nearly six feet apart.

While the children were playing they were being watched more or less by their parents, all of whom live near the McCombs. They also had two other interested spectators, Fathers Daniel F. X. Burke and Patuzzi of the Roman Catholic Church of St. Philip Neri, right across the way. The priests had been drawn to the window by the happy laughter of the children.

One of the girls in the party, Carrie Tobias, was sitting in the swing that was suspended from a branch of the chestnut tree, and the rest of the group were swinging her.

With not a raindrop as a warning, the bolt then struck fairly in the centre of the crowd of children. The priests, who were almost blinded by the flash, say that every child was struck down. Half of the group got up and staggered away a few steps and then ran for their homes. The rest lay still on the ground.

The priests were the first to reach the yard. They expected to find every child dead. The first sign of life came from Willie McComb's little dog, Carlo. The dog had been knocked unconscious and the fur had been burned off four inches of his tail. The pain in that member apparently brought him to. The dog jumped up and ran like mad in the streets of Bedford Park for an hour and a half. Then he went calmly into his home and straight to the bed where Willie McComb had meanwhile been taken.

The dog's master, Willie, had the most wonderful escape of the whole party. Every stitch of his clothing was torn from his body by the lightning. The priest carried him, naked, into his home, while the rain descended in a torrent. Willie's undershirt and one of his stockings were burned or blown completely away. Not a shred of them could be found. Every other piece of clothing he wore looked as if it had been through a meat grinder. Even his shoes, which were torn from his feet, were all chopped and torn up.

Willie's sister Sadie and brother Harold got a little better. Sadie's shoes were torn from her feet and Harold lost every button on his clothes.

The bolt, which gouged a strip three inches deep from the chestnut tree, broke the swing ropes and Carrie Tobias was left unconscious on the ground. Her clothes weren't burned, but the lightning left a broad streak of vivid red on her back.

The first thing that the priests and other persons who ran to the yard did was to carry the unconscious children into the McComb house. While Dr. D. J. Dunn and other physicians were being summoned the priests went back to their house and got lint and bandages.

All of the children except Willie and Sadie McComb soon revived. Willie was the last to be brought to his senses. For two hours after that he couldn't see a thing, although his mind was apparently clear even at that time. The lightning had struck his body at the right shoulder. It scattered from that point, leaving burned patches all over his body. It got together again on the inside of his left leg and ran down that leg to his foot in a path of red six inches wide.

When Willie was asked last night how it had felt, he said: "I didn't feel anything. All of a sudden, though, I saw a lot of angels." The doctors say he will suffer no serious consequences. His sister Sadie couldn't walk last evening, but the doctors say her feet were paralyzed only temporarily. She, too, was blind for a couple of hours.

The children seriously injured are: LOUIS WILLIAM, 13 years old, of 3082 Villa Avenue; burns of face, body and arms. WILLIAM, 12 years old, of 2044 street and Anthony Avenue; burns of face, body, right arm and hand; blind for two hours after he became conscious. MISS MARY, 15 years old, sister of above; burns of face, body and neck. MISS MARY, 10 years old, brother of above; burns of face and neck. MISS MARY, 10 years old, sister of above; burns of face and neck. MISS MARY, 10 years old, sister of above; burns of face and neck.

Several children who were in the group but got away before the priests reached the yard, were treated at their homes by doctors last evening. It is said that none of these children was seriously hurt. One or two of them were burned slightly.

The rain that followed the stroke of lightning drenched some of the Bronx. It came down in a limited area of the borough but it was very wet.

Lightning struck the steeple of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Mount Vernon and badly damaged it. In New Rochelle there was a heavy hailstorm. Telegraph and telegraph wires in the county were blown down and the service crippled.

HAILSTORM IN NEW JERSEY. The storm that passed to the north of the city populated part of this city appears to have travelled up from New Jersey, following the tornado track, which is from southwest to northeast.

A high windstorm passed over Morris-town, N. J., about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Hailstones as large as marbles fell and broke the windows of several houses.

In Chatham, trees were uprooted and small houses blown over. When a train on the Lackawanna railroad, scheduled to arrive there at 3:15, was within half a mile of town, three trees and a large telegraph pole fell across the track a short distance in front of the engine. The engineer stopped the train before it reached the obstruction and the train crew went to work clearing the track. It took them an hour to do it, and all the afternoon trains were delayed an hour. Several small wash-outs were reported.

WAR NEAR IN FAR EAST.

Unofficial Statement at the Russian Legation in Peking.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. PEKING, July 20.—Mr. Conger, the American Minister, to-day had an interview with Prince Ching, head of the Board of Foreign Affairs, in accordance with instructions from Washington, inspired by what is believed here to be the meaningless representations of Russia, for the purpose of forcing China's signature to the American commercial treaty. Since the first refusal of M. Lessar, the Russian Minister, to assist in securing the signing of the treaty, no communications have been exchanged with the Russian Legation regarding the convention.

It is, therefore, unknown at the American Legation whether Mr. Lessar has been instructed according to the assurances given to the Washington Government. These assurances, as reported here, are regarded as entirely inadequate to the necessities of the case. It is reported among the legations that Japan has sent inquiries to St. Petersburg which are calculated to determine immediately the question of peace or war.

It is unofficially stated at the Russian Legation to-day that war is near. Prince Ching professed to hope for a peaceful settlement. The Chinese declaration that Manchurian ports will be opened is regarded as worthless.

SET ADRIFT AT SEA. Two of a Ship's Crew Say They Were Put Off the Vessel in the Gulf.

NEW ORLEANS, July 20.—William T. Hendrick and John Drew, mate and able seaman of the small sailing ship Richard Bingham of Pensacola, arrived here to-day from Belize with a tale of being set adrift at sea. They came on the steamer Auselen, having been sent to New Orleans by the United States Consul at Belize.

According to Hendrick's story, Capt. R. L. Merritt of Pensacola, master of the Richard Bingham, has been on a continuous drunk for several months. While crossing the Gulf of Mexico, in the early part of July, the captain's rum gave out. This left him in a nervous condition, and with the idea that the mate and crew intended to mutiny and kill him. He armed himself with a rifle and two pistols, and was never seen without them. Growing worse, he chained Hendrick and Drew to their bunks. They were kept chained for four days, when Capt. Merritt informed them that they were to be turned adrift in the middle of the Gulf.

This was done on July 8, the men being lowered into a yawl, with three cases of corn, two of tomatoes, two pounds of pork, two of crackers and five gallons of water. Hendrick succeeded in getting the yawl to Cozumel Island, off the coast of Yucatan, just as the provisions ran out. They then got to St. Michaels, where they were taken by a British schooner. The men announced their intention of prosecuting Capt. Merritt, and have started for Pensacola, from which place the Bingham carries coal to Belize.

ARCHBISHOP MATZER DEAD. Illness of Ten Months Aggravated by Troubles in His See.

FOND DU LAC, Wis., July 20.—After an illness extending over a period of ten months, Archbishop Matzer died at St. Agnes's convent in this city to-night at 8:30 o'clock. The Archbishop came to Fond du Lac about four months ago for rest and treatment, but it was soon learned that there was no hope for him.

The Archbishop retained all his faculties to the last. It is believed that the work of the diocese and worry incident to it hastened the end. One of the things which caused him annoyance was the libel suit and action for damages brought by Father Hollister and which case was to have been tried at the next term of the Circuit Court here.

Papers were served on the Archbishop after coming to the convent, and the thought of being taken into a secular court seemed to have a depressing effect on him.

The remains will be taken to Milwaukee next Monday, where they will lie in state at the Cathedral till 10 o'clock on Thursday morning. Mass will be celebrated, Mgr. Falcon singing the requiem and Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia preaching the sermon.

GEN. GREENE TO BE SUE'D. Specific Order Issued in Asphalt Co. Alleged Irregularities.

TRENTON, July 20.—Judge Kirkpatrick signed an order in the United States Circuit Court to-day, which, in pursuance of his order of July 6, gives to Receiver Henry Talnal of the Asphalt Company of America specific authority to begin suit in any State Territory to recover profits alleged to have been illegally made by the promoters of the trust.

It is understood that suits will follow immediately in New York and Pennsylvania.

Judge Kirkpatrick's order of July 9 directed Receiver Talnal to bring suit against Police Commissioner Greene, Anzi Barber, George W. Elkins, George D. Widener, William J. Latta and others to recover profits alleged to have been illegally made from the formation of the Asphalt trust. The receiver reported that the stock of the constituent companies was purchased at fabulous prices and inflated and sold at a profit among the stockholders and promoters of the trust. He recommended that suits be brought against the stockholders for \$24,000,000, alleged to remain unpaid on the stock issued to them.

Mr. Radus Can't See Why the Negro Should Be Locked Up. Mrs. Erna Radus of 449 West 123d street, white, got a southbound Columbus Avenue trolley car at 104th street late yesterday afternoon. So also did a young negro, Harry Minor.

"I want him arrested," said Mrs. Radus, pointing to the negro and talking to Policeman Gonhale. "He followed me from the station to the street and was carrying a Columbus Avenue car and he still followed. Here he is yet."

"A man gave me \$5 to follow her," was the negro's explanation at the West 100th street station, where he was locked up. Last evening a man who said he was Radus went to the station. He said he had given the negro the \$5 to follow Mrs. Radus. "I don't see why he's locked up," said Radus.

Sergt. McGloin did, however, and Radus went away. A reporter who went to the flat house at 449 West 123d street last night was told that the Radus had moved out in the afternoon. They had been there only two months, it was said.

Remember all R. R. tickets bet. N. Y. and Albany are good via Day Line Steamers. Music—A. O.

LITTAUER GLOVES FOR INDIANS.

SELLERS, WHO GOT CONTRACTS, HAILS FROM 715 BROADWAY.

That's Littauer's Place—Date of Last Contract With United States, June 2, 1902.—Chairman of House Committee on Indian Affairs, James S. Sherman.

In fulfillment of treaty obligations, the United States Government buys gloves for the Indians. The gloves are bought on contracts awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. Bids for one of these contracts were opened at the United States Indian Warehouse, 119 Wooster street, on May 19, 1903. There were present, among others, when the bids were opened the following persons:

William A. Jones of Wisconsin, Indian Commissioner, and the following members of the Indian Commission, of which Darwin R. James of Brooklyn is the chairman: Archibald Ryan of Philadelphia, Joseph F. Jacobs of Detroit, Mich.; Albert K. Smiley, Phillip C. Garrett of Philadelphia and Charles J. Bonaparte of Baltimore, who was recently appointed by President Roosevelt special counsel to prosecute indicted Post Office officials.

Bids were invited for 3,070 pairs of boys' buck gloves, "No. 1, standard quality, or oil-tanned sheep or goat," and 3,025 men's buck gloves, "No. 1, standard quality, or oil-tanned sheep or goat." The bids were opened in the presence of the persons named above and others, and the contract was awarded to Charles B. Sellers, who gave his address as 715 Broadway, N. Y.

In compliance with the specifications, the bid of Mr. Sellers was accompanied by a certified check for 3 percent of the amount of supplies proposed to be furnished, the check to be forfeitable to the United States in case the bidder "shall fail to execute promptly a contract, with good and sufficient sureties, according to the terms of the bid."

The contract between the United States Government and Charles B. Sellers was executed on June 2, 1903. The name of Charles B. Sellers does not appear in the New York city directory or on the directory of the building at 715 Broadway. On the first floor of that building, however, is the New York office of Littauer Bros., manufacturers of gloves at Gloversville, N. Y. The senior member of this firm is the Hon. Lucius Nathan Littauer, Representative in Congress from the Twenty-second New York district.

One of those who were present when the bids on this contract were opened was asked by a STX reporter yesterday who Charles B. Sellers was. He replied: "Oh, he is an old-time bidder for glove contracts, and has always been regarded as the representative of Littauer Bros. The address attached to his latest bid is 715 Broadway, where Littauer Bros. have their New York office. A contract similar to this was awarded to him by the Indian Commission in 1900 and 1901. He was underbid in 1902 by Marshall Field & Co., but that firm had to buy the gloves of Littauer Bros., because Littauer Bros. are the only firm in the country that turn out that kind of a glove at any where near the price bid."

The reporter went to the office of Littauer Bros. at 715 Broadway and asked to see Mr. Sellers. Representative Lucius N. Littauer was in the place at the time. The man who met the reporter asked: "Who wants to see Mr. Sellers?" "I do," said THE STX man. "Well," was the reply, "he isn't in. He'll be here in a day or two."

"Out on the road!" asked the reporter. "Yes, he's on the road."

The amount of Mr. Sellers' contract was, according to his bids, \$326,775. Article 7 of the contract which Mr. Sellers signed provides that "neither this agreement nor any interest therein shall be transferred to any other party or parties, and that any such transfer shall cause the annulment of the agreement, so far as the United States are concerned." Article 11 provides that the contract is made subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and Article 9 reads: "agreed by and between the parties hereto that no member or delegate to Congress, officer, agent, or employee of the Government shall be admitted to any share or part in this agreement, or derive any benefit to arise therefrom."

The Revised Statutes of the United States provide that any Representative in Congress who shall be directly or indirectly interested in a Government contract shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined \$3,000. The Government may also recover any money paid on such a contract. The statute of limitations does not prevent a prosecution under this section unless three years have elapsed since the offense.

The chairman of the House Committee on Indian Affairs is the Hon. James Schoolcraft Sherman of Utah, Representative from the Twenty-fifth Congress District. On July 6 Congressman Sherman called at the War Department in Washington. Failing to see the Secretary of War, who had already ordered an investigation of Representative Littauer's connection with contracts for army gloves, Mr. Sherman called on the Judge Advocate-General of the Army and discussed various features of the Littauer case. At that time, as a Washington despatch to THE STX said, "Mr. Sherman was of the opinion that Representative Littauer's interest in the glove contracts was only that of a manufacturer selling to a jobber, and that he had not violated the spirit of the law."

Possibly Mr. Sherman knew nothing at that time of the Indian glove contract of Charles B. Sellers of 715 Broadway, New York, at which address is the New York office of Congressman Littauer's glove firm.

SAM PARKS AGAIN ARRESTED. This Time for the Assault on Friday's Meeting—Let Out on Bail.

Samuel J. Parks, walking delegate of the Housewives and Bridgemen's Union, was arrested again last evening in Barney Lynch's saloon, Fifty-ninth street and Third Avenue, this time on a warrant issued by Magistrate Breen in the Tombs police court, charging him with assaulting Charles Lawson, a member of the union at the meeting in Maenneroth Hall last Friday evening. Parks was taken to the East Fifty-first street station, Lynch accompanying him. Bail was fixed at \$1,000 and was promptly furnished by Lynch.

At the union meeting, which broke up in disorder, the intention of the anti-Parks faction was to propose a resolution calling for the appointment of a committee to meet the employers and talk over the arbitration agreement. Parks, it is charged, knocked Lawson down.

WALES TO VISIT ROOSEVELT?

Report That Prince and Princess Have Accepted Invitation From the President.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. PORTSMOUTH, July 20.—It is reported here that the first-class cruiser King Alfred will, after the forthcoming annual manoeuvres, be held in readiness to take the Prince and Princess of Wales to New York, they having, it is said, accepted an invitation to visit President Roosevelt.

The report cannot be confirmed, but naval officers consider that it is extremely probable.

CAPT. EWEN CAME IN A BOX. Chief Fend Witness Arrives in Jackson, Ky., by Express.

JACKSON, Ky., July 20.—Capt. B. J. Ewen arrived here to-night in an express car concealed in a small box. He had come from Lexington in the box, leaving it only when a long stretch of country was being traversed by the train and there was no danger of being seen. To-night he remained in the car alone, going to his home about 10 o'clock.

Ewen's trip was a success and no one recognized him. The military officials feared the plan would be found out and the car blown up with dynamite and did not approve of it, but Ewen insisted upon coming in that way instead of under a military guard.

Judge Redwine impelled the special Grand Jury to-day to investigate the feud matters, appointing C. M. Bailey and the man who was foreman of the jury that indicted Jett and White to summons witnesses. The Ewen arson case was first taken up.

FINE SUBMARINE WORK. Adder and Moccasin, While Submerged, Fire Torpedoes Straight and True.

NEWPORT, R. I., July 20.—The submarine torpedo boat Adder has never before been known for such craft, and the matter will be the subject of a report to the Navy Department. During the spring the two boats at the station, Adder and Moccasin, were put through daily tests and manoeuvres and the crews have become very proficient.

On Saturday, target practice was in order, and the Adder was taken out first. For a period of 22 minutes she ran submerged at a depth of 30 feet. She then rose to within eight feet of the surface and fired a torpedo at a target at a range of from 500 to 700 feet, it being a good line shot. The Moccasin then was put through a similar test, and, when submerged at a depth of 15 feet, fired a torpedo at a target at a range of 1,200 yards. It was an unusually fine shot, and to the surprise of all, it went through the target.

The range was taken from the Adder's cope sight. Lieut. Binney being in command. These two boats have been running submerged at a depth of from 30 to 40 feet, and have stayed below the surface for an hour at a time.

MASQUERADED AS A MAN. Court Case Caused "William Ray" to Reveal That He Was a Woman.

NEW ORLEANS, July 20.—A criminal trial revealed the sex of Miss Willie Ray, the young woman who succeeded in passing herself off for a man in Prentiss county, Miss., for eight years. Jim Gatlin, a farmer of the neighborhood, was arrested and placed on trial for assault and battery on William Ray. The testimony was conclusive. Ray's eyes were blackened, and his face badly cut. A verdict of guilty seemed probable when Gatlin threw himself on the mercy of the jury with a plea, always strong in the South, that Ray had been too intimate with Gatlin's wife and he had assaulted him on that account.

Ray was not nonplussed, but met the charge by declaring and proving that he was a woman. Gatlin was bound over to the circuit court under bond. Miss Ray is giving the Bonvillier authorities much annoyance by insisting on going back to her home in Mississippi. A verdict of guilty in the Gatlin case was arrested, but there is no law in Mississippi forbidding a woman from masquerading as a man. She was released.

"COMRADES" HELENE MORA DEAD Sang Herself and the Grand Army Song Into Prominence.

Helene Mora, the singer, who was known as "Comrades" because she made popular the song of that name, died yesterday in her home in Twenty-third Avenue and Eighty-second street, Bensonhurst, from a complication of diseases. She had been ill since Jan. 17, when she was singing at the Elks' Theatre in Chicago.

Helene Mora was born in Birmingham, England, about forty-two years ago and came to this country when she was 27 years old. She was a barytone singer and travelled all over the country singing "Comrades" and other popular songs. She was one of the only two women in this country who were members of the Elks. She first sang in this country at Koster & Bial's.

Her last request was to ask that her body be cremated. She picked out the clothes, white, in which she wished to be buried, and asked that none of her friends wear mourning at the funeral, which will be held from her home on Thursday.

5 HURT IN CAR COLLISION. Or Madison Avenue and Second Avenue Cars in Centre Street.

A northbound Madison Avenue car, No. 983, ran into an open switch at Leonard and Centre streets late last night and struck a Bloecker street horse car. Before matters were straightened out a Second Avenue car, No. 2272, also northbound, came along and ran into the rear of the Madison Avenue car, injuring five people. The two electric cars were so battered that it was impossible to move them. The emergency crew cleared the tracks after half an hour's work. The injured people were: Samuel Black, Mrs. E. Cohen and Mrs. L. Cohen of 90 East 100th street, Herbert Pearson of Third Avenue and Twentieth street and Mrs. M. J. Williams of 325 East 117th street. All had contusions. An ambulance surgeon attended to them and they went home.

Steamship Bostonian Has a Close Call at Sea on July 15.

BOSTON, July 20.—The Leyland Line steamship Bostonian, Capt. Foote, arrived here this morning from Liverpool after a narrow escape from collision with an iceberg at sea, on July 15. The starboard quarter just grazed it. The berg was 90 feet high and very long.

LEO XIII. DEAD.

Pope's Fight Against Death Ends.

GIVES FINAL BLESSING

Called Cardinals to Him Just Before Death Came.

"THIS IS THE END," HE SAID.

Ceremony of Tapping Forehead With Silver Hammer Omitted.

Cardinal Oreglia Calls "Peccati, Answer!" and, Getting No Response, Says: "The Pope is Indeed Dead"—Solemn Ceremony of Preparing the Dead Pontiff for Burial—Death Came as He Desired It, With His Mind Clear—End Had Been Foreseen for Many Hours.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. From THE SUN Correspondent at Rome.

ROME, July 20.—At 4:04 o'clock this afternoon, according to the official announcement, Pope Leo's long struggle with death came to its inevitable end. So many premature reports had been circulated, including one from an official source earlier in the day, that the first news was hardly credited. A half a dozen times within a fortnight his physicians and attendants believed that the fatal hour had come, but each time his inflexible will conquered physical disability for the moment until there almost grew up in Rome confidence in his power to defy the great destroyer.

To-night Catholic and non-religious Rome alike unite in respect for the brave and devoted spirit of the grand old man. His end was peaceful, undimmed by delirium, an end, in fact, such as he desired. The clouds that eclipsed his mental faculties yesterday drifted away, and he bade a calm farewell to those about him, with full knowledge that his last hour had come.

THE DEATH SCENE. It was 11 o'clock when the final change indicated its approach. The Pope signified to Mgr. Angelini, his favorite secretary, that he desired to speak. Mgr. Angelini leaned over him, but was unable to hear the faint words that the Pope uttered. A second time the dying man endeavored to make himself understood, but failed. His eyes became anxious, but, with an evident effort, his third whisper into his attendant's ear was comprehended.

Señor de Aguera, the Spanish Ambassador to the Vatican, who was on the other side of the couch, asked what the Pope said. Mgr. Angelini, instead of replying, shook his head and dropped on his knees at the bedside in prayer, the expression in the dying Pontiff's face showing that his request had been comprehended.

A few minutes later the Pope's breathing became most difficult. Dr. Lapponi administered pure oxygen, but it had no effect. Signs of life suddenly disappeared.

The Pope's valet, in alarm, exclaimed: "Doctor, what is it? Is he dead?" Dr. Lapponi evidently believed so, for he went to the door of the anteroom, where the Cardinals and prelates were assembled. His face was so full of grief that although he did not speak those assembled believed that the end had come and crowded into the room, and the report spread through the Vatican that the Pope was dead.

Cardinal Vannutelli was among those who entered. He began to repeat the prayers for the dying, the others whispering the responses. Presently the Pope stirred, his pulse again beat and he breathed faintly, but easily. Nearly all those in the room stole out quietly, and the Pope opened his eyes and presently, to the amazement of all, he whispered a wish to see the Cardinals. Once more they all came into the room, and the Pope whispered an adieu to each of them.

OLD CEREMONY OMITTED. Vatican officials say in the last scene that the Pope was in a deep coma all day. Life simply faded away without a rally or incident.

About an hour after Dr. Lapponi pronounced life extinct, Cardinal Oreglia di Santo Stefano entered the death chamber to perform the solemn ceremony of officially verifying his death. He lifted the cloth from the face of the dead Pope and in an impressive voice called three times: "Peccati, answer." Then in an impressive voice he declared: "The Pope is indeed dead."

The old ceremony of striking the forehead of the dead Pontiff three times with a silver hammer was not performed.

HONORS TO THE DEAD POPE. When it was realized that the last breath had been drawn, Dr. Lapponi closed the Pope's eyes and folded his hands upon his breast. Cardinal Vannutelli knelt at the bedside and intoned the prayers for the dead, those present joining in the responses in broken voices and some of them weeping. After the relatives, Cardinals, diplomatists and others had filed past the body, each kissing the Pope's hand as they

passed, all left the chamber except the nephews of his Holiness, Dr. Lapponi, Centra, the valet; the major-domo and two members of the Noble Guard. The major-domo covered the Pope's face with a fine white cloth and stooped to kiss the dead hand, weeping uncontrolledly meanwhile.

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. They were accompanied by the Noble Guard. Parties of the Swiss Guard headed and closed the procession.

Upon arriving at the entrance to the Papal apartments the party were met by dignitaries of the Pontifical Court and the masters of ceremonies. After entering the chamber the door was closed and the ceremony of verification was performed.

Afterward the body was robed in the usual vestments, a white cassock, a crimson velvet camail, a white colotte and sash, in the presence of Mgr. Passerini, Dr. Lapponi, a notary of the Apostolic chamber and the pontifical master of ceremonies. The body was then laid upon a bed covered with red damask cloth.

The bed was then lifted by eight servants, and preceded and followed by torch-bearers, Noble Guards and Swiss Guards and headed by the master of ceremonies, it was borne to the room where Pius IX. lay in state. Four lighted candles were placed at each corner of the bed. Two Noble Guards, with swords reversed, then took up the watch. They will be relieved from time to time by others. The windows of the room were curtained and the chamber, which is hung with dark-red tapestries, was only lighted with candles. Wreaths are forbidden in accordance with pontifical ceremony.

THE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS. Drs. Mazzoni and Lapponi 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 time members of the Papal Court, relatives and a few privileged persons will be allowed to see it. It will then be placed in the Chapel of the Sacrament in St. Peter's, where the public will be allowed to take a last look at the Pontiff. The Noble Guard will be stationed around and the Pontifical Guard will be mounted duty.

On the night of the third day the body will be placed near the gate of the Capella del Choro, after which there will be funeral ceremonies, lasting three days.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEATH. At the end of the verification ceremony the Prototary, kneeling, read the following official account which he had drawn up: "At 4 o'clock in the afternoon of July 20, 1903, his Most Reverend Eminence, the Cardinal Camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church, accompanied by the body of clerks of the chamber, by Monsignor the Vice-Camerlengo, by Monsignor the Auditor of the Apostolic Chamber, and by the Procurator-General and two secretaries and the Chancellors of the Chamber, repaired to the private apartments of His Holiness, in one of which he found on the death bed his Holiness's body.

"He confirmed the death of the Holy Father, and recited the prayers appropriate to the occasion. His Eminence asked Mgr. Bisleti, Master of the Chamber, for the annulus piscatoris, which was immediately handed to the Cardinal Camerlengo, who received it in order to display it at the first congregation of Cardinals. His Eminence acknowledged to the Master of the Chamber the receipt of the ring.

"Thereupon, at the request of the most eminent Camerlengo, this solemn act was drawn up by Monsignor the Doyen of the College of Prototaries, and was signed by the Cardinal Camerlengo, other prelates and two secret valets of chambre of his Holiness as witnesses."

The reading of this document concluded the function, and Cardinal Oreglia withdrew to an adjoining room and sent telegrams announcing the death to the absent Cardinals, who will later receive instructions concerning the plans for the Conclave.

Cardinal Rampolla had meanwhile performed the last act of his Ministry by officially sending notice of the death to the diplomatists accredited to the Vatican, the Nuncios at foreign courts and Cardinal Vicar Respighi. The latter immediately directed that notices of the Pope's death be printed and affixed to the doors of all the churches in Rome.

The Camerlengo has ordered that all visitors be admitted to the Vatican tomorrow, when the first congregation of Cardinals will be held to take note of any directions the Pope may have left respecting the Conclave and to appoint a secretary of the Consistorial Congregation to replace the late Mgr. Volpini.

To some extent this meeting will serve as a measure of the strength of the parties. Cardinal Oreglia's candidate for the secretaryship is Mgr. Gasparri, while Cardinal Rampolla supports Prototary Mgr. Marfini.

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.

More than twenty Cardinals were admitted to the Vatican Bank.

Keep your account with the Irving National Bank, corner Chambers and Hudson streets. It is safe, conservative and progressive.—Ad.

mitted to the death chamber this afternoon. A little later the body was given over to the embalmers.

The Fisherman's Ring, the Pope's insignia of office, was removed from the dead Pontiff's hand by Mgr. Bisleti and handed to Cardinal Oreglia, in whose custody it will remain until it is produced at the Conclave.

HIS LAST WORDS. According to the Osservatore Romano, the official Vatican organ, the Pope regained consciousness during his last hours and, recognizing that his end was near, commended the interests of the Church to Cardinal Oreglia. Mgr. Bisleti, head of the Vatican prelates, begged the dying Pontiff to bless them. Leo tried to raise his hand in benediction, and whispered: "This is the end." He touched the hand of each of those present.