

# Career of Leo and His Influence on the World and Church



The Popes Grandfather



His Grandmother



His Father



His Mother

## PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS OF LEO XIII.

## LIFE AND ACTS OF THE DECEASED PONTIFF

Story of a Busy Career in Which Events of World Importance Crowded Each Other in Leading Leo to the Pontifical Throne—His Boyhood and Rapid Advance in the Church—His Great Fight for Church Education.

### THE ROMAN PONTIFF.

- Leo XIII. (Joachim Vincent Raphael Lodovico Pecci) born at Carpineto, Italy.....Friday, March 2, 1810
- Enters college at Rome.....1824
- Matriculates at Gregorian university.....1830
- Enters college of Noble Ecclesiastics.....1837
- Appointed domestic prelate by Gregory XVI.....1837
- Referendary to Court Segnatura.....March 16, 1837
- Order of priesthood conferred.....Dec. 31, 1837
- Apostolic delegate at Benevento.....1837-1841
- Governor of Spoleto.....1841-1843
- Papal Nuncio at Brussels.....1843-1845
- Made Archbishop of Perugia.....1864
- Created Cardinal.....Dec. 19, 1853
- Made Cardinal Camerlengo.....July, 1877
- Elected Pope by vote of forty-five of the cardinals.....Feb. 20, 1878
- Revives Roman Catholic Hierarchy in Scotland.....March 4, 1878
- Directed the introduction of Canon law into the United States, heretofore a missionary field.....July 20, 1878
- Encyclical condemning communism, socialism and nihilism.....Dec. 28, 1878
- Recognition of the power of the press, by reception of a large number of Catholic Journalists.....Feb. 22, 1879
- Encyclical against heresy, socialism, etc.....Nov. 5, 1882
- Recognizes unity of Italy.....Oct. 7, 1883
- Encyclical condemning liberalism.....Nov. 6, 1885
- Celebrates grand jubilee.....1888
- Encyclical on socialism and labor.....May 16, 1891
- Celebrates Episcopal Jubilee.....1893
- Encyclical on study of the sciences.....Nov. 8, 1893
- Appeal to England for reunion of Christendom.....April 14, 1894
- Encyclical to the Church in the United States commending its work.....Jan. 20, 1895
- Celebrates sixtieth anniversary of his first mass.....Feb. 13, 1896
- Declares 1900 a year of universal jubilee.....May 11, 1899
- Holds consistory and creates eleven new cardinals.....June 19, 1899
- Celebrates ninetieth birthday.....March 2, 1900
- Celebrates Pontifical Silver Jubilee.....Feb. 20, 1903
- Anniversary of Consecration.....March 3, 1903

Joachim Vincent Raphael Lodovico Pecci was born March 2, 1810, at Carpineto, in the diocese of Anagni, then the state of the church. He was the son of Count Ludovico Pecci and Anna Prosperi. The Pecci family came originally from Siena, and his mother was directly descended from the celebrated Cola di Rienzi, the last of the Roman Tribunes. At the age of eight, with his brother Giuseppe, Vincent was sent to the Jesuit college of Viterbo, and upon the death of his mother in 1824, he was sent to Rome and put in charge of an uncle and entered at the Jesuit schools of the Roman college. Here, and at all the schools, the young Pecci took the highest honors and showed a more than ordinary aptitude for study and intellectual pursuits. Even at the age of twelve he wrote Latin verse and prose and was particularly interested in his scientific studies. By his biographers he has been called another Pascal, to which was added the governing quality which made it natural for him to manage men.

#### Is Ordained Priest.

He was ordained to the priesthood on Dec. 23, 1837, and Gregory XVI at once put him to the work. His first appointment was apostolic delegate at Benevento and later at Perugia and Spoleto. It was in these places that the young priest first showed his capability for practical government. He had not that blind tolerance for things that were old that is a tradition in Italy and his progressiveness was first shown in the manner in which he dealt with brigandage. Brigandage is so sold in Italy that it is almost time-honored, but when young Pecci went to Benevento he would not come to terms with the brigands that infested that section of the country. While not favoring hunting any men to death he said in so many words that he would not allow brigands in his territory. The result was that for the first time in hundreds of years, Benevento became a safe place for travelers.

#### Sent to Brussels on Mission.

The next honor that fell to the lot of the young Pecci was to be made Nuncio to Brussels, a very important post and in order to him for the position the pope made him archbishop of Damietta, in partibus infidelium. The

position of Belgium at the time made it most important that the nuncio should be a man with a good grasp of affairs. Pecci was well received by the king and queen and records somewhere in his journal that he was well treated and enjoyed his stay in Belgium. Here he made the acquaintance and formed friendships with some of the most famous men of the times, who remained his staunch friends during their lives, for it is notable that the late pope outlived most of his generation. It was in Belgium that he became interested in the development of the railway system, being agitated, and it was during this mission that he became well acquainted with the public questions of the day and which helped to make him what he became as pope, one of the best read and most fully informed public men of his day. It is told of him that when he received this appointment he had but slight knowledge of French, and knowing this language to be the one commonly used in Belgium he set himself to study and spent the days of his journey to Brussels—a much longer time than the trip now takes—to this task and by the time he reached his destination was able to understand and make himself understood in French. This shows not only his ability but his indomitable will power for which he was always noted.

#### Becomes Bishop of Perugia.

After most successful labors in Brussels he was sent to Perugia as bishop, but before going Pecci traveled quite extensively, going to London for a month where he was cordially received by Queen Victoria, and stopping in Paris he waited upon King Louis Philippe whose throne was then tottering under him though he was unaware of it at this time. The subject of this sketch arrived in Rome just in time to hear of the death of his old friend and patron, Pope Gregory, and to see Cardinal Mastai Ferretti raised to the papacy under the title of Pius IX. Well received by the new pope and given many proofs of his friendship, Bishop Pecci went on to his See of Perugia where he resided for more than thirty-two years. In recognition of his diplomatic honors in Belgium, and because of his great labors in his new field, he was given the title of Archbishop. He worked as hard as any day laborer in pursuance of his calling, building churches, schools, hospitals, orphanages and other charitable institutions. Perugia, while very beau-

tiful in itself, as are most Italian cities, took on new interest and added beauties during the reign of its art loving archbishop. He worked, read, studied, loved and labored and it may be said that the best years of his life were spent at Perugia among the people who loved and who by his great ability and indomitable energy, he elevated and refined. It was here he first began to write Latin verse for which he became still more famous in his old age, and it was here that he received the honor of a cardinal's hat. In 1877 he was still further honored by the pope by being appointed Cardinal Camerlengo and later it was in that capacity that, on the death of Pius, he was called upon to act as temporal head of the church until the conclave met to elect a successor, and which, when done, ended in his own elevation to the papacy.

#### Ascends Papal Throne.

When Leo the Thirteenth ascended the papal throne it was during the quiet that followed the death of Pius, when the state of the church had been wrested from it by the people and the new pope found himself only the spiritual head of the faithful, clothed in a mantle of mourning and dismayed him. Leo determined to follow the political policy of Pius IX. limits of the Vatican and has ever since government or touch the allowance made for him. While not proclaiming himself a prisoner, nevertheless he became a voluntary prisoner within the limits of the Vatican and has ever since so remained. Upon the contrast of Leo with his predecessor Justin McCarthy in his fall and just estimate of the late pope Leo was, however, a very different man from Pius IX. Leo understood the world as it is. He was a scientific man; he thought much, he was accustomed to analyze the dispositions of people and of race; he well knew that he had to work by wit and not by witchcraft. Therefore while he maintained irrevocably the position taken up by Pius IX, and refused to give any sanction to the political conditions, he did not thrust himself into prominent struggles against them. There was a great deal of the practical about him, in the higher sense. The time of protest, it seems to have thought, has passed away. One of the first acts of the new pope was to publish a bull re-estimating the Catholic hierarchy in Scotland. Pius IX had done the same thing in England. Small troubles resulted from this, but it was a peaceful tone of reconciliation in the pope's letter which disarmed the hotheads. The great difference was that Leo was always a diplomat. He knew how to deal with people. His first encyclical letter appeared April 21, 1878, and its subject was the evils arising from modern society. This was somewhat a disappointment to many, as it had been hoped he would issue something in the shape of a manifesto against the Italian states. In the Catholic church alone did Leo find a cure for all disturbances of modern society and the disquiet of the times. This was well received in some places, unnoticed in others.

#### Leo's Greatest Victory.

It was soon after this Leo engaged in the first great struggle of his reign, which raged fiercely for a time and finally was settled in a way eminently satisfactory to the Catholics of the world and remains to this day the greatest victory of Leo's life. It was following each other round the world, the Kaiser-Kampf, or the fight in Germany for the cause of Catholic education. It is not necessary to go into details of that world-famous struggle, when Bismarck and Leo—the two greatest statesmen of the time—were pitted against each other in deadly combat and which resulted in the triumph of the German lion to the will of the pope. It is a defeat admitted by Protestant and Catholic alike. It marked the apex of Leo's success as a diplomat and moulder of men. He obtained for the German Catholics the right to educate their children according to the dictates of their consciences.

From this time more particularly, Leo XIII established his reputation as the greatest statesman and diplomat in Europe, and that position he has ever since held. In considering the age of the papacy, Justin McCarthy has said: "We talk of great empires—of England with her drum-taps following each other round the orb of the earth. We talk of Russia and Germany of France. May I point out to my readers that the empire of the papacy is much greater than any of these? What hold has the Russian empire over Germany? What hold has the German empire over England? What hold has the czar, except for occasional political alliances and fantasies, over any? Is much greater than any of these powers—what hold have all of them combined—over the great republic of America?"

#### His Influence Everywhere.

"But the papacy is an influence everywhere, and it has to look after everything. Its dominion is seated in the consciences of men—of its followers to be sure, but then, its followers are everywhere. . . . The pope is understood to have an influence and right of intervention, so far as advice goes,

in every country in the world. There is not a Catholic bishop named in any country in the world, civilized or uncivilized, without his authority and his approval. He nominates the men who are to risk their lives in preaching the gospel in China, and the men who are, as missionaries, to brave the terrors of death in spreading the light of Christianity over countries still less civilized. . . . The Vatican is compelled to have its eye and its intellect on its heart fixed on every nook and corner in the world. There is no administrative system on earth which has anything like the same widespread and watchful and necessary superintendence. . . . The Vatican is, in this sense, the center of the earth. I am well aware that a great many of my readers may think a deplorable fact. I am not concerned to argue this question. My present purpose is fully satisfied if I can persuade them to admit that, whether deplorable or not, it is still the fact. Civilization has to reckon with that vast all-pervading influence. The innermost glooms of fanaticism cannot outdrive themselves from some gleams of its light."

#### Pope's Empire is Great.

The empire of the pope is not only greater than any earthly empire but it is older than the oldest yet existent. Its traditions tell of a time when Christ sent twelve men forth to battle in His name, down the ages through the birth, life and death of empires and civilization now extinct, to the present day, when with undiminished vigor it still lives though its ablest and latest representative is no more. The encyclical letters of Leo from time to time during his pontificate have made a profound impression on the world, both inside and outside of his jurisdiction; the letters on communism and nihilism, on the question of education in France and Belgium, on the political situation in Ireland, on liberty, on the duties of Christian citizens, and on the duties of the labor have been read by everyone with great attention and interest and conceded to be the profound wisdom of one of the greatest of modern minds. Not the mind of one government only by medieval tradition, or of one living in the past, but of an up-to-date statesman there is a likeness, a fellow feeling, which may account for the warm friendship which Leo ever showed to Mr. Ireland. One of the brave acts of Leo during his long pontificate was the recognition of France as a republic. As eldest daughter of the church, France had been known for many years, and many of the best interests of the Vatican were bound up in the French monarchy. Diplomats freely predicted that the papacy, far from endorsing the republic, would, by intrigue, strive to destroy it. But again the wisdom of Leo shone clearly forth. In a letter fully setting forth his views, he recognized the republic of France, though his words did not imply an approval of that form of government for France, nor, indeed, does the church approve or disapprove of any particular form of government; it recognizes all forms, but its business is not primarily with governments.

#### His Warm Recard for Ireland.

It was during the reign of Leo XIII. that the Catholic University of America was conceived, given an impetus and finally made an established fact. It is safe to say nothing during his pontificate gave Leo more pleasure than this university and in nothing was he ever more interested, not alone because it was a likeness of our own institution, but because it evidenced in the Catholics of the United States a desire for the highest and best of culture in a country which was very near Leo's heart. To no one man has the love and interest in Americans been more evinced by the late pope, than in his treatment of our own archbishop, who has had from the first, in all his undertakings, the cordial and earnest support of the holy see. In the archbishop the late pope saw the embodiment of the best type of progress and of Catholicity combined. To those who have studied these two men there is a likeness, a fellow feeling, which may account for the warm friendship which Leo ever showed to Mr. Ireland.

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#### LOVE SONNETS OF A TELEPHONE GIRL.

One of the linesmen is a chap named Jim. And O, he's just as handsome as can be! And he acts like he was dead drunk on me. And I know I'm completely gone on him. And when they send him out to fix the breaks. And he rings in to see if they're all right. He talks so sweet to me it just makes me want to marry him. And then my head begins to swim and whirl. I hope that I won't be a hello girl. Fare you and I bet so cozy, he would have me now, if I would only say. "Yes, when he smiles and looks at me that way." —E. A. Brinistool in Boston Globe.

## SOLEMN CEREMONY FOLLOWS THE DEATH

Demise of the Pontiff Is Proved With Much Formality—On the Pronouncement of the Departure of Life the Body Is Divested of the Insignia of Office—Preparation of the Remains for Removal to the Basilica.

On the official notification by the pope's medical attendants, that his holiness was in a critical condition, the sacrament was set forth in all the churches in Rome. At St. Peter's it was exposed on the high altar, covered with a cloth of white lawn, which is only removed on the death of the pope. Meanwhile summonses were sent by telegraph to

body, which is committed to the charge of the papal chamberlains, is first of all taken to the Sistine chapel and thence by a covered way to the great Basilica, where it lies in state for three days in the chapel of the holy sacrament, reposing on a richly draped couch. Four members of the Noble Guard watch over the remains, day

and secrecy. When this accomplished all the members of the sacred congregations go in solemn procession, two by two, and followed by the long retinue of attendants, to the conclave, while the inspiring strains of the "Veni Creator Spiritus" are chanted. Once within the confines of the conclave the massive doors are shut with double locks and from that moment until the new pontiff is elected, no person is permitted to pass in or out. The meals for the assemblage are prepared within the walls of the Vatican and are delivered through a wicket gate, or rather casement, let into the great door. It is here, also, that on the first day of the conclave a committee of cardinals, appointed by the whole body, gives audience to the foreign envoys. This, however, takes place before the conclave assembles for the election of the new pontiff. If precedent is followed, the conclave is held at the beautiful Sistine chapel within the walls of the Vatican.

The late Pope Leo was elected on the second day of the conclave by acclamation. The system of voting, called the scrutiny, is regulated by exact prescription. The proceedings are under the directions of six cardinals, two from each order of bishops, priests and deacons. Every cardinal is provided with a voting paper, on which he writes the name of his chosen candidate, but not his own name. No one is permitted to vote for himself. When the requisite number has passed, each cardinal, beginning with the one of the most ancient creation, leaves his staff and advances to the high altar. Amid a solemn hum (the elector prays for a while in the altar steps, and then, declaring aloud that his vote is given according to his conscience, drops his voting paper in the chalice. When all have done in like manner, the six scrutineers examine the papers and proclaim the result. If no cardinal has obtained the required number of votes—sixty-six—the number of cardinals present plus one—the result is declared void, and the voting papers, collected together, are burned in a brazier with damp straw, the dense smoke from which issues through a particular chimney, visible from the outside, and proclaims to the world that no election has taken place. Under these circumstances, on the afternoon of the same day a second vote takes place, supplementary to the first, and called the accessit vote. In this procedure embodies the theory that the cardinal who has obtained the largest number of votes in the morning is the most acceptable to the electors. Consequently his name is the only one considered for the moment, and each cardinal votes for him by writing the word "accedo" and his name on a voting paper, or signifies his dissent by the words "accedo nemini."

If this new vote leads to no result, the papers are burned as before and the conclave adjourns to the following morning, when the election begins afresh and quite irrespective of the previous day's proceedings. When, at length, the determining vote is cast and the cardinal deacon, as scrutineer, announces that a certain candidate has been elected pope, there is a departure from the procedure adopted hitherto. The cardinal deacon opens each folded voting paper fully, and, reading the Latin motto, which each cardinal has to inscribe on it for the purpose of ultimate identification, makes known how each member of the conclave has voted. In old days, when much depended upon the favor of the pontiff, the knowledge that the newly elected pope would learn the names of his opponents was frequently a determining factor when the voting became close, and induced waverers to rally to a candidate who appeared to have a good prospect of success. The election being over, a summons is at once sent to the prefect of ceremonies, who speedily enters the chapel, hearing the fisherman's ring. An interval then occurs during which the canopies are removed from the stalls of all the cardinals except that of the newly elected pope, and his first solemn benediction to the members of the sacred college from the steps of the altar. Then, taking his seat on the sedia gestatoria, the pope receives the homage of their eminences and communicates the names which it is his pleasure to assume as pontiff. Next, the first cardinal deacon takes the oath of obedience, and hastening to the grand loggia, or balcony, of St. Peter's, looking onto the great piazza, announces to the expectant multitude the election of the pope, using the form of words consecrated by immemorial usage, "I bring you tidings of great joy. We have a pope, the most high and reverend lord (here insert Christian and surname of the new pope), who has taken upon himself the name of (Pius X. or Leo XIV.)."



the foreign or absent cardinals, and those in Rome are called to the Vatican.

On the death occurring, the first step to be taken is the official verification that the vicar of Christ is no more. This act, which is performed with a certain prescribed ceremony, devolves upon the cardinal camerlengo (chamberlain), to whom, on the demise of the holy father, the supreme authority for the holding of the conclave are being conferred.

Connected with the chapel, which is itself on the floor of the Vatican, are the large galleries which are fitted up for the reception of the cardinals and their attendants and the arrangements are such that when their eminences have entered the place of conclave, the entire section of the Vatican set apart for the purpose can be shut off entirely from the outside world, the intention being that the members of this exalted council shall be subjected to no mundane influences. Each cardinal is allowed the services of a secretary and an attendant, who while the conclave lasts, occupy rooms adjacent to the particular cell allotted to their master. On the day fixed for the meeting of the conclave, the cardinals assemble to hear special mass of the holy spirit and to take the oaths of faithfulness

and night, with drawn swords. The body is so exposed that the faithful, in deifying past can kiss the feet of the dead pontiff. Every church in Rome is draped in mourning and masses for the repose of the soul of the departed, together with the special prayer for the guidance of the church and of the new pope, are said constantly. During this time the arrangements for the holding of the conclave are being perfected.

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