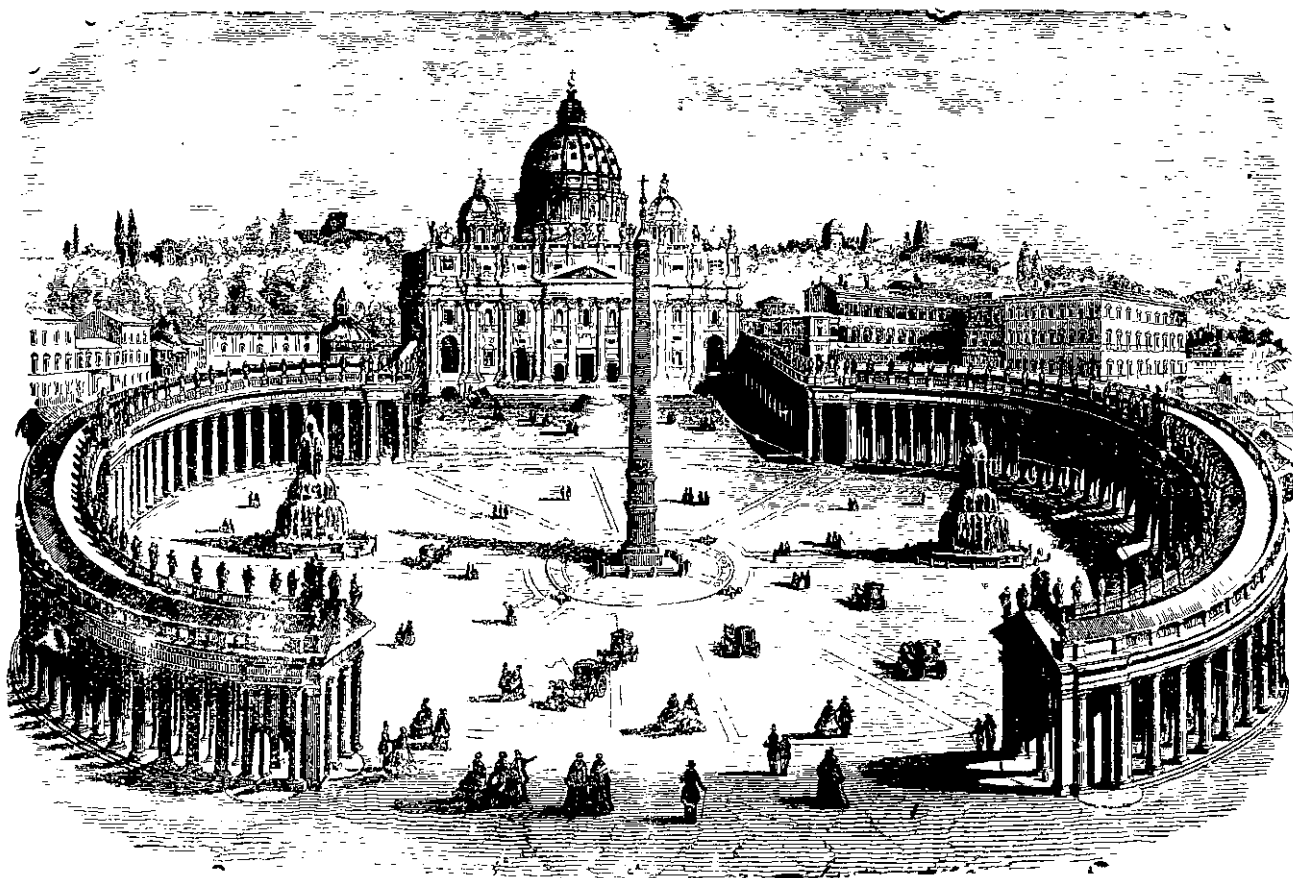


influence, and in the discharge of its ecclesiastical functions. It was a long struggle. But in the end LEO won. The second and final chapter in the struggle ended in the dismissal of BISMARCK, as the first had ended in the fall of Dr. FALK. The Kultur-Kampf was closed; peace settled down upon the Church in Germany; and within the past few weeks the crowned head of that great Empire went in state to the Vatican to do honor to the aged Pontiff who brought 'the Man of Blood and Iron' to Canossa.

It is unnecessary in this place to do more than refer in passing to the marked influence which the late Pope exercised, even outside the limits of his own Fold, in Germany, England, the United States, and even Russia; to his great policy of pacification; to his successful mediation in the dispute about the Caroline Islands and other international difficulties; to his re-establishment of the Catholic hierarchy in Scotland; to his affectionate letter to the English people; and to his strong missionary spirit and the gratifying success with which he watched over the interests of the Faith in every land, but especially among the ancient

Churches of the East. All these things are tolerably fresh in the minds of our readers. His was, indeed, a noble life, fruitful of good deeds. And 'it is hard indeed,' says his ablest biographer, JUSTIN MCCARTHY, 'not to grow enthusiastic as one studies the records of such a career. Statesmanship and philanthropy are combined in it, each at its best and highest. Pope LEO loved the working people and the poor, and strove unceasingly with all his power to lighten their burdens and to brighten their lives. He showed to others the best and most practical way to the accomplishment of such objects. He spread the light of education all around him. As a great leader of men, endowed with unrivalled influence, he made it his task to maintain peace among his neighbors. Better praise no man could have earned; better life no man could have lived.' Death cannot carry away the good that he has done. For (as JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY has said) behind the passage of death 'lives on the faithful labor of the dead man, and the truth, the kindness, the public spirit, the noble example, the good name. These remain as a blessing and a pride, even when the dear hand of the priest closes the eyes, and his prayer ascends over the senseless clay.'



BASILICA OF ST. PETER'S, ROME with its double colonnade enclosing the great Square, adorned with Egyptian obelisk and two fountains. It is in St. Peter's that the remains of the late Pope lie in state and the solemn obsequies will take place, lasting nine days. To the right of St. Peter's is a portion of the VATICAN PALACE, which contains 22 courtyards and 11,000 rooms, exclusive of chapels, halls, museums, and library. The middle row of windows in large square building lights the Pope's private apartments, and about midway on the shadow side is the bedroom where LEO XIII. passed away.

A RECORD OF LEO'S LIFE AND WORK.

Pope Leo XIII. has been placed upon his death-bed, if not confined full many a time and oft by imaginative cablemen. But the end has come at last to the grey and venerable old Pontiff of three-and-ninety years. When we saw him last October he was frail and transparent, but his eye was still the eye of the eagle of his native Voscan Hills, his voice was strong and vibrant to a degree that set the hearers a-marvelling as it rang through the long arched vaults of the Sala delle Carte Geografiche, and his great mind was as fresh and green and virile as it was when he ascended the papal throne five-and-twenty years ago. On Monday, the 6th inst. the daily papers published brief but portentous messages of fainting-fits and adynamic pneumonia. A serious combination, this, for one who has passed so far on the road to centenarianism. For many days he stoutly wrestled with death, displaying throughout a marvellous vitality—even rallying so far that, by a striking effort of will-power and endurance, the pallid and wasted nonagenarian rose from his death-bed, attended to weighty

affairs of the Universal Church, and dictated a Latin ode to the Mother of the Lord and Savior. But he knew, and the world knew, that death was to prevail. And hence the message was not unexpected that came to hand on Tuesday that the soul of LEO XIII., one of the greatest of the long line of Roman Pontiffs had passed away.

Elsewhere we have summed up the characteristics of his long and remarkable career as Pope. Here we take up the role of chronicler and record, as briefly as may be, the main facts of his life and work. His name was Vincenzo Gioacchino Pecci. He was born at Carpineto, in the Papal States, on March 2, 1810—and was thus, for the time being, a subject of the first Napoleon, who lorded it in Rome in that year. He was the

Son of Count Ludovico Pecci

and his wife Anna Prosperi. The Pecci family date far back into the middle ages. They have been the lords of Carpineto and its green valleys and rocky hills