

THE CORONATION OF PIUS X.

multitude. The two Cardinal deacons attendant at the throne retired (their places being taken by others) to assume white dalmatics, while the Cardinal bishops vested in white copes, the Cardinal priests in white chasubles, the bishops and abbots of the Latin rite put on white mitres, those of the Greek and Eastern rites their proper vestments. Terce was then sung, at the close of which the Pope prepared to celebrate solemn Pontifical Mass. As he was borne in state on the sedia gestatoria, outside the chapel of St. Gregory (the Clementine), a master of ceremonies knelt before him, holding in his hands a silver wand, to the forked top of which was attached some tow. A cleric set fire to this with a candle, and, as it vanished in a thin puff of smoke, the master of ceremonies raised the wand aloft and sang: 'Sancte Pater, sic transit gloria mundi'—'Holy Father, thus the glory of the world passeth away.' This little ceremony was performed three times in succession during the Pope's processional progress to the great papal altar. At the altar the Pope descended from the sedia gestatoria and began the solemn Mass proper to the coronation, facing the people as in the Greek rite. After the Confiteor the pontifical pallium (the sign of papal authority) was placed upon his shoulders by the Cardinal deacon, and he received the homage of the Cardinals, bishops, abbots, and penitentiaries. A Litany was also sung imploring the help of the Saviour of the World on the new Pontiff. When the Popes held the temporal sovereignty of Rome, the new Pontiff was, after the Mass, carried on the sedia gestatoria to the large central balcony or loggia over the arcade of St. Peter's. Palestrina's motett, 'A crown of gold upon his head,' was sung, and, some prayers having been recited, the second Cardinal deacon re-

world. When the editor of the 'N.Z. Tablet' travelled over this part of Northern Italy last October the country appeared to be 'a land flowing with milk and honey.'

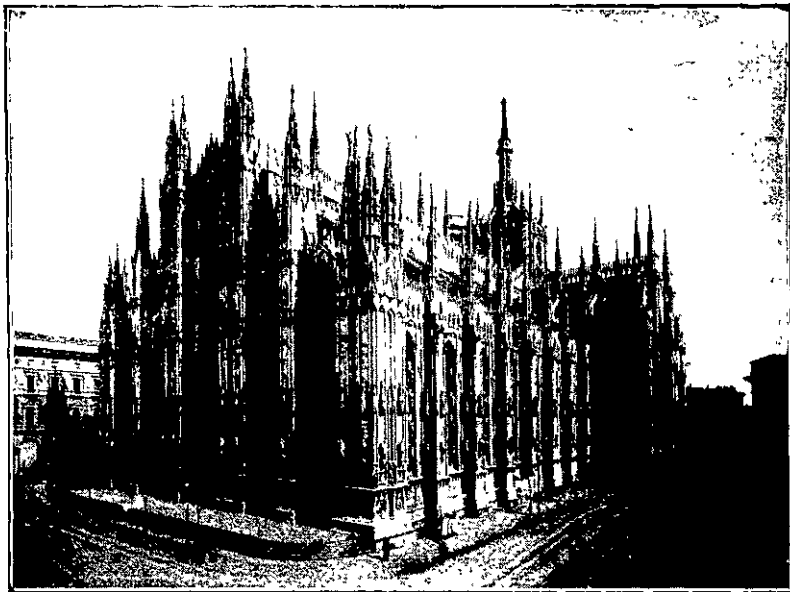
'The clustering grapes from tree to tree
Hung in their rosy pride.'

To the traveller the country seemed one vast vineyard, with groves of mulberry trees, patches of maize, and plots of great pumpkins, scattered here and there. All over the fertile plain are to be seen towns and villages with their quaint buildings and red-tiled residences, all in keeping with the varied character of the landscape and the light and shade so admirably blended in Northern Italy.

MANTUA

Mantua, of which Pius X. was appointed Bishop on November 10, 1884, was at one time, and is perhaps still, the strongest fortress in Italy. It was one of the four forts of the famous 'quadrilateral,' which figured so prominently in the campaign against Austria in 1859. It is a fine city, well built, and bristling with fortifications for miles around. Among its most prominent architectural features are the Cathedral, rebuilt in 982, having been burned down in 894, with its fine naves and splendid colonnades, and the vast 'T Palace,' so called from its shape.

Mantua was the seat of a duchy, and was at one time ruled by the Gonzaga family, a branch of which gave St. Aloysius Gonzaga, the patron of studious youth to the Church. St. Aloysius Gonzaga studied for a time at Mantua. He died in 1591, and was canonised in 1726. Many illustrious men were born in Mantua, among them being the poet Virgil, to whose memory there is a splendid monument in the city. It was near Mantua—at Gov-



The other great architectural glory of the Church in Northern Italy. Milan Cathedral.

moved the mitre from the head of the Pope, and the first Cardinal deacon (whose office it is to crown him) placed the tiara or triple crown upon his head. The newly-crowned Pope then recited the customary prayers after Mass and imparted the solemn triple blessing. This was the signal for the booming of the cannon in the Castel S. Angelo, the crash of military music, the ringing of the bells all over the city, and the joyous 'evvivas' of the dense crowds that had gathered together in and around the great square of St. Peter's. The present Pope, however, gave his blessing inside St. Peter's and not on the outside balcony or loggia. After the blessing the Pope, accompanied by the Cardinals, was brought by his bearers to the sacristy, where the Cardinal Dean offered, in a brief discourse, the congratulations and good wishes of the Sacred College. The Pope suitably replied, and prayed for the blessing of God and their ready help during his pontificate. The ceremonies of the coronation were then over, and he retired to his apartments.

Places associated with Pius X.

RIESE

Riese, where his Holiness was born, is a small town in the diocese of Treviso, situated some 25 miles or so from Venice. Treviso, the episcopal city, is about 18 miles from the Queen of the Adriatic on the railway leading to Udine, and on to the Austrian frontier, and to Vienna. Riese, like Treviso, is situated in a beautiful plain, with the spurs of the Alps to the north and west looking like buttresses to the main ranges, and making a splendid background to a picturesque landscape, which it would be difficult to surpass in any part of the

ercole or the Mincio—that Pope St. Leo went to meet Attila and his invading hordes of northern barbarians, and by the majesty of his presence and address sent the conqueror back from his march on Rome.

VENICE

His Holiness was appointed to the patriarchal see of Venice in 1893. The 'Queen of the Adriatic' is one of the most interesting cities in Italy outside of Rome. It played a very important part in international affairs during the Middle Ages, and was noted for its commercial supremacy. Venice was made an episcopal see as far back as 1170, and a patriarchal see in 1451. One of the glories of this city is the Basilica of St. Mark, an illustration of which is given on opposite page. The Basilica stands in the piazza of St. Mark, and has always been of great interest to all lovers of the beautiful in marble and stone and mosaic, as it is one of the architectural glories of the Church. In the front of the building rise three tall red flagstaffs surmounted by winged lions. The magnificent campanile, which stood in the piazza close to the basilica was destroyed last year through the foundations giving way, much to the sorrow of lovers of art all over the world. At the time of our visit to Venice in October last year, the piazza was strewn with the debris of this noble structure, which had withstood storm and stress since its completion in 1510. Its foundations were laid in 902. The tower was 323ft high, and from its summit there could be got a magnificent view of Venice, the lagoons, the surrounding country, and the blue Adriatic. The Campanile is to be rebuilt at the nation's expense, supplemented by funds subscribed by members of art societies in other lands.