

the "kept" press of the syndicate, hooted by the mob at Bristol, publicly attacked in his Edinburgh speech by Mr. Chamberlain, refused permission to defend himself by Mr. Brodrick, this old hero has won a moral triumph greater than all the Spion Kops and Paardebergs could give him. It was his sin that he warned his country of the pitfalls before her, of the vultures waiting her loved ones, and for this England allowed him to be hunted down to obloquy.'

POPE PIUS X.

FURTHER INTERESTING PARTICULARS

In addition to those which have already appeared in our columns regarding Pope Pius X., the following further particulars, taken from an article in the September number of the 'Contemporary Review,' will be read with interest:—

Guiseppe Sarto is now 68 years of age, as was Cardinal Pecci when he first donned the tiara, having been born on June 2 1835, in Riese, a little village of about 4000 inhabitants in the district of Treviso, and the province of Venice. The house in which he was born was an unpretentious building, which may be seen in Riese, where it bears the number 5. In one of the rooms still stand the bed, the chest of drawers, the prie-dieu, and the washstand, and in the chamber in which Pius X first saw the light of the world there are the benches and a few religious prints. It may have been the recollection of that modest dwelling which inspired the Sovereign Pontiff, when lately giving his instructions to the architects and upholsterers who were about to fit up his apartments in the Vatican, to say: "Above all things, don't make



Mother of Pope Pius X.

them too beautiful, and let there be no mirrors! " As a boy he was distinguished for a lively, cheerful, and even playful disposition, which never left him in after years. These qualities, and the broad sympathy which underlay them rendered him a favorite alike with his playfellows and his teachers, with whom he first came into contact in the place of his birth. His father found it uncommonly difficult to make both ends meet, and his mother was obliged to take in work as a seamstress in order to help to keep the bodies and souls of the ten members of the family together. Sarto senior was a man of a

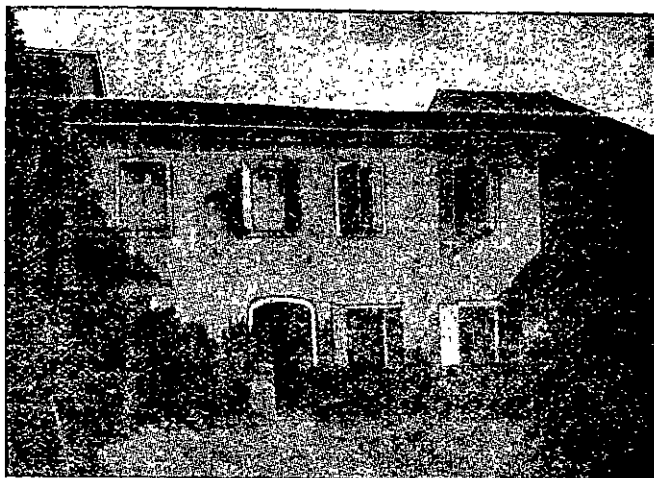
Religious Turn of Mind,

who devoted to his favorite child, Joe, as he was called (Beppo), all the time and care he could spare from his daily avocations. When Beppo was twelve years old, his parents moved to the district town of Castelfranco in order to give the boy, who was as yet scarcely capable of expressing himself in grammatical Italian, a chance of obtaining instruction. There a parish priest named Fusorini, who chanced to make the lad's acquaintance, taught him the elements of Latin, as disappointed priests in Italy and Spain still do. Beppo was a boy of more than average intelligence, and if he was not, like his predecessor, first in all his classes, he was certainly one of the most promising of the pupils. For a long time, too, he was the fun-purveyor of his comrades, his boisterous spirits, ready wit, and practical but harmless jokes endearing him to everyone. It was no easy matter for his parents to provide the wherewithal to pay for his education, and a story is

told which, whether fact or fiction, is characteristic of the lad and the man. His mother was obliged at some period of his studies to sell a strip of land belonging to the family in order to pay for his tuition and his keep. "And now, Beppo," she said, "how shall we manage to get on without it?" "Don't despond, mother, God will look after us," was his reply. Thanks to the powerful protection of the Cardinal Patriarch of Venice, Jacob Monico, he was enabled to continue his studies, being sent to the Seminary of Padua, and told to don the clerical soutane (1850-1851). Here he obtained

The Chief Prize of his Classes

during the first, second, and third years. In September, 1858, he received the doctor's degree in the theological faculty, and to the delight of his sisters and brothers, who stood around him in the picturesque garb of peasants, their faces wreathed in smiles, he was ordained priest by the Bishop of Treviso. His first Mass was a great event for the little village of Riese. Under such auspices Sarto entered the ministry, and Tombolo was his first parish—a tranquil spot containing some 3000 inhabitants, nestling among green hills and far removed from the din and turmoil of the world. By the peasants of the district the young and zealous priest was



House in which Pius X. was born.

about adored, for he took a sympathetic interest in their work, had balm for their sorrows, and freely shared their innocent joys. The moral status of his flock was gradually but perceptibly raised, his superiors appreciated his efforts and finally rewarded them with promotion to the post of Vicar of the diocese of Treviso and

A Canon's Stall in the Cathedral.

Early one autumn morning of the year 1881, Sarto entered the dwelling of the Bishop to discharge his duties as was his wont, and was informed by his superior that the Bishop of Mantua had just been transferred to the archiepiscopal See of Udine, "and now I defy you to guess the name of his successor," he added. "I give it up," replied the vicar. "Well, come with me and I will confide it to you," and taking him into an inner apartment he laid before him the Papal brief, nominating Sarto himself to the episcopal See. The shock which the unsuspecting vicar received at this signal mark of confidence was severe, and as soon as he had mastered his emotions he earnestly besought his friend to help him to withdraw from the great responsibility. But entreaties were bootless: Sarto was obliged to accept the mitre, and to set out for his diocese, which he governed with admirable results for a period of nine years. He then received the Cardinal's hat, and was appointed three days later to the patriarchal See of Venice, where he soon gained the high esteem and popularity of all classes, especially the poor, by whom he was idolized.

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