

DEATHBED OF THE POPE

Passing of the Aged Pontiff Marked by Profound Sorrow—His Last Moments Comparatively Peaceful and Painless—Franciscans Watch Body.

Pope Leo's last moments were comparatively peaceful and painless and were preceded by a period of insensibility. When it became known that the pope's journey through the valley of death was almost finished, Cardinal Vannutelli hurried again to his bedside, and was followed shortly afterward by what is called in vatican parlance the "papal secret family" and the "noble family," besides the "personal family," including the late pope's nephews, Comte Ludovico, Riccardo and Camillo, and also all the cardinals at the vatican, who afterward retired to the adjoining library after they had been allowed to kiss the pontiff's hand and pass along, presenting another of those pictures which will live in the memory of all those participating in it.

The aged pontiff was lying prone and unconscious, propped up to assist him in breathing, one hand laid on the red silk coverlet, the heavy pontifical ring being in danger of falling from the shrunken finger, while the other hand clutched his rosary and crucifix. Though he was entirely unconscious, gleams of intelligence seemed to flicker across the worn face, and the shadow of a smile fell over the pallid lips when the nephews passed and reverently knelt and kissed the pope's hand.

No word was spoken. The only sound which broke the silence of the death room was the rattle of the arms of the noble guard, who were stationed at every door of the pontiff's private apartments, it being their privilege and right under the circum-

stances to take possession of the apartments and guard the body of the pope.

The final scene in the death chamber was profoundly impressive. The pope's death having been expected since noon, his deathbed was surrounded by practically all the members of the sacred college now in Rome and the whole papal court, while the pontiff's nephews remained in the papal library until they received word from the doctors which announced that his last expiring breath was approaching. Then they moved silently within the death chamber, some standing, some kneeling, all awaiting the awful moment of dissolution.

In the ante-chamber had assembled the high ecclesiastics, members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of the papal aristocracy, awaiting the announcement that the final moment had come.

Profound silence reigned in the pope's bedroom, only broken by the doctors rising to render their expiring patient more comfortable, by the sobs of the ever-faithful valet, Pio Centra, or the murmured prayers of Mgr. Piffard, the papal confessor, himself 84 years of age, who had to be assisted to the bedside.

Softly he recited the prayers for the dying, the pontiff at one moment appearing to follow them as though conscious of what was transpiring, but he could not speak. Then the dying pope murmured something to himself as though these bending over him heard the words "father" and "mother."

Dr. Lagoni, who almost constantly had his fingers on the pope's pulse, said he knew "gradually weaker and weaker, and at the same time the pontiff's extremities began to get cold, his face became blue, his eyes sank more deeply into the head, his breathing became even more difficult, and there were some strange rattlings in his throat."

Finally the pope was asked to bless his nephews and all the others present. He attempted to raise himself, and the extreme emaciation of his person, covered with a fine nightshirt, was rendered more pronounced by the effort. The portieres dividing the room were drawn back to the extent to admit of as much air as possible, while the light filtering through the green shades of the window showed the pope's eyes and shrunken features absolutely ghastly.

It was a most solemn moment. The head of the pontiff, with its white skull cap, no whiter than the fringe of silvery hair rising above the crimson coverlet, his hand raised in the familiar gesture of benediction, the kneeling assemblage being too earnestly absorbed in deep affliction, veneration and weeping, to even make a movement.

The doctors again examined the dying holy father, and this time found that he was at the extreme limit of his powers of respiration. His eyes began to become dull and clouded, and Leo XIII entered into the real agony of death, which was recognized by all present kneeling. The last conscious act of the pontiff was to turn his eyes toward the great crucifix on the wall, after which he suffered from a paroxysm of choking, during which he passed away.

Then the silence of the awe-stricken assemblage was broken by the sonorous, solemn voice of Cardinal Serafino Vannutelli, the grand penitentiary, intoning the requiem aeternam (rest eternal). This was the signal for an outburst of tears and the sound of weeping which could no longer be repressed, all the kneeling prelates and others kissing the dead hand—that hand which had dispensed so many benefits, charities and benedictions.

The occurrences in the death chamber immediately following the Pope's demise were of impressive solemnity. Couriers had been dispatched to summon those who are delegated to per-

BY HIS OWN WORDS.

The young minister had got his first charge, and when he conducted the services for the first time in his church before the large and critical congregation he acquitted himself very well and his sermon was evidently well liked. Still, underneath his smooth and glossy new coat his heart was beating with a painful nervousness, and when the sermon was over and he began to read the usual notices he was so flurried despite his outward calm that he overlooked the notice of the mothers' meeting.

He was about to announce the last hymn when the old deacon, who liked the young man very much, came down the aisle and whispered to him not to forget the notice. "You must please the women, you know," said the wise old man.

The young minister blushed and read the notice, and then turned to the hymn, the first line of which he read aloud, as was the custom of the church. And then he blushed harder than ever, and the congregation could not forbear to smile. The line ran: "Lord, what a thoughtless wretch am I!"

He Feels Good.

Caldw, Ky., July 20th.—"I believe I could climb a mountain without drawing a long breath" is the way William Ball of this place describes how he is feeling.

As Mr. Ball has been on the sick list for a long time, this declaration from him comes as quite a surprise.

When asked to explain how he had become so strong in such a short time, he says:

"I did have Kidney Trouble very bad, in fact I had to get up four or five times every night to urinate. I had shortness of breath which distressed me terribly. I was badly used up, and was really of no account for anything.

"I used three boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills, and that's what has made me well. I can sleep all night without having to get up. I feel splendid and as I said before, I believe I could climb a mountain without drawing a long breath. Dodd's Kidney Pills did it all."

Oldest West Point Graduate.

The oldest graduate of West Point is Col. John Beardsley, now living in Athens, N. Y. He was born in Fairfield, N. Y., in 1816, and graduated from West Point in the class of 1841. He was appointed lieutenant in the Eighth regiment of infantry, served in the Seminole war in Florida, afterward in the war with Mexico, and was wounded in the battle of Molino del Rey, and compelled to resign his commission on account of inflammation of his eyes, which threatened loss of sight. When the civil war broke out he was appointed colonel of the Ninth New York volunteer cavalry and served as such.

The Face of the Ruler.

In England a subject if he wishes to have a portrait of his majesty must buy one. In France every peasant and artisan is compelled to look upon that of the president each time he votes at an election or marries a wife or registers a birth in the mairie. The first act of the Minister of the Interior after the election of a new president is to request him to have his portrait taken, that it may be reproduced and exhibited in the 40,000 communes of France and Algeria.

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Irish immigration to the United States has increased to 35,000 a year.

FITS permanently cured. No more convulsions after last day's use of Dr. King's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE 25-cent trial bottle and treatment. Dr. R. H. Knapp, Ltd., 103 East Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Last year America imported only 8,000,000 bushels of potatoes.

Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. 7-cents box. Fully 2,500 persons commit suicide in Russia every year.

Half's Catarrh Cure is a constitutional cure. Price, 75c.

There are 144,000 Mormons in the United States.

McC. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, soothes the gums, reduces the inflammation, cures colic, cures whooping cough, cures all the ailments of infants.

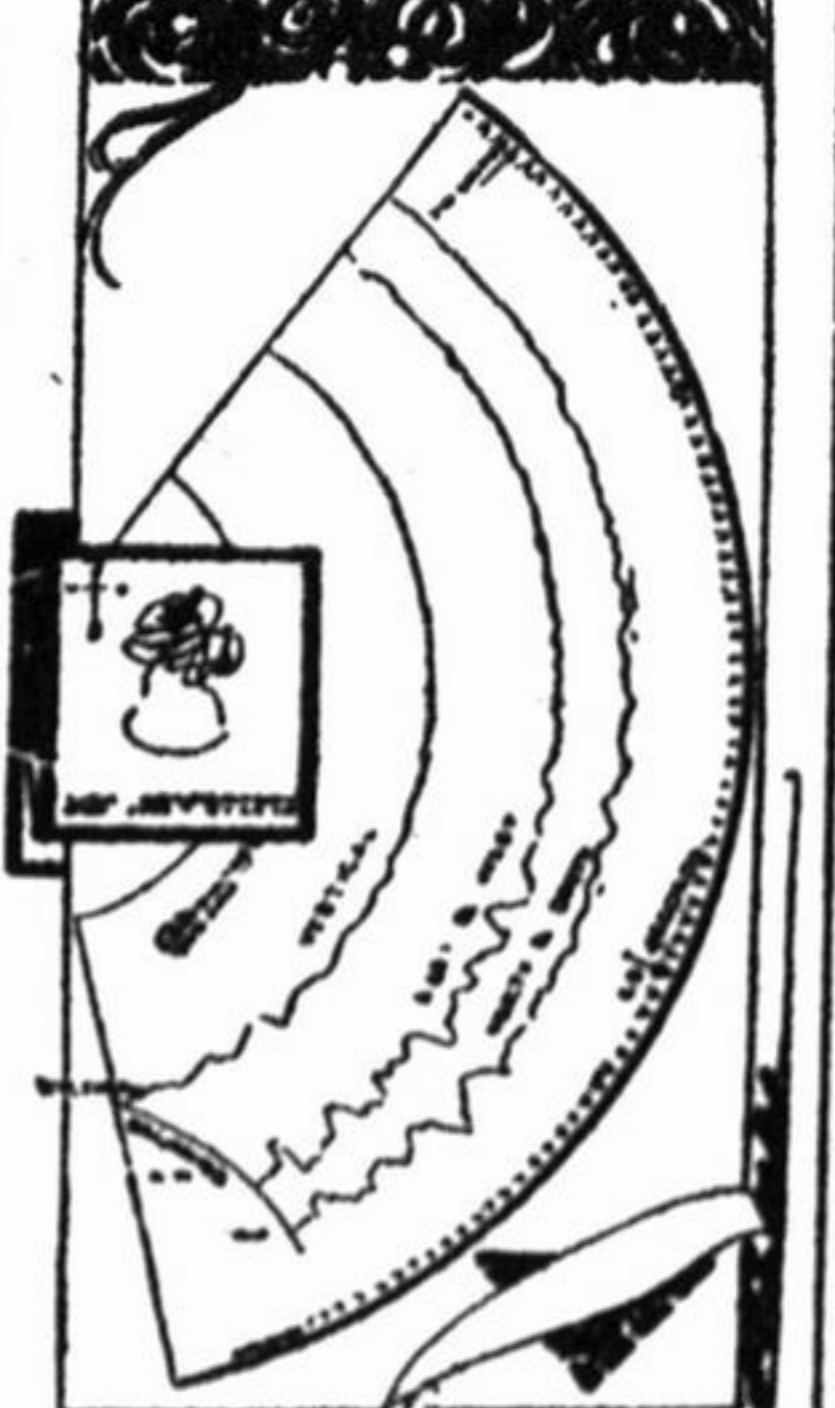
EARTHQUAKES PUT ON RECORD.

Lick Observatory Scientists Secure Valuable Records

The earthquake of June 11 was perhaps the most severe one felt on Mount Hamilton in the past thirteen years; though no damage was done the safety limit must have been nearly reached.

The accompany illustrations are copies of the records traced on the smoked-glass plates of two seismographs on that occasion. The smaller one was made by an instrument constructed on a very simple plan. A massive weight is suspended from the top of the seismograph by means of a slender wire. Attached to the weight is a multiplying lever carrying a pin point, which rests upon a smoked-glass plate. The frame of the instrument, the fulcrum of the multiplying lever, and the smoked-glass plate are rigidly connected and are secured to the top of a massive brick pier running down through the floor of the observatory to the solid rock of the mountain. Motions of the earth are communicated to all parts of the instrument except the massive weight, which tends to remain fixed. The relative motion of the framework of the instrument and of the weight is a direct measure of the earth's displacement. To make the record more legible the lever carrying the point which traces the curve is designed to multiply the earth's displacement by 41.2.

It will be seen from the illustration that the movement of the earth was very complex and in all directions. For some reason the east and west components seem to have inflicted the most effective shocks, as one of



the fine astronomical clocks, whose pendulum swings in the east and west, lost ten seconds of time, whereas the other four delicate astronomical clocks, with pendulums swinging in the north and south, were not affected.

VASE 1,000 YEARS OLD.

is a Beautiful Specimen of Ancient Mexican Art.

Among the strange and valuable objects which have been recently installed in the Mexican hall of the American Museum of Natural History is a wonderful terra cotta jug or jar, designed and decorated in imitation of a turkey. This is considered the most magnificent specimen of ancient American ceramics so far discovered. Besides the artistic turkey-head handle, the most extraordinary feature of the jar is its ornamentation of solid



Mexican Turkey Jug.

gold leaf, with which it was profusely decorated in former times, many layers of which still remain on the jar. It is considered to be a priceless example, illustrating the culture and workmanship of that mysterious civilization which flourished a thousand years ago in Mexico. The jar is thought to have been a funeral or votive offering, which was one of the essential mortuary rites of the people of that time. Its age cannot be accurately stated, but it probably reaches back for a thousand years or more. It was found by Carl Lumholtz during one of his exploring expeditions. It came to light while digging in a private garden in the city of Tepic, which had evidently been in remote times the site of some temple or wealthy burial place. Two skeletons were unearthed. Around the neck of one were found twenty balls of solid gold, also a large breastplate ornament of gold.

Coral of Our Own Coast.

It is a common notion that corals grow only in tropical and sub-tropical waters and that no coral reefs are to be found along our own familiar coasts. As a matter of fact, coral formations stretch all along the Atlantic coast of the United States, although the reefs do not rise so high that they project from the water. Some of the most beautiful of the living corals now on exhibition in the New York aquarium was dredged up from the Atlantic ocean almost within sight of the city of New York, and there are many coral patches still closer to the shore. Generally the northern coral is snow-white, although sometimes it has a delicate brown tint. Pink coral is found occasionally, but it is rare.

A LAND OF OPPORTUNITY.

The Big Horn basin of Wyoming is a land of opportunity. It is a "new" country with thousands of openings for men of energy, in farming, ranching, mining, etc. It has irrigation canals, schools, churches, towns, thousands of acres of grazing and farming lands, many kinds of minerals, an equable climate, good water, and other advantages. What it needs is more intelligent, energetic people.

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P. S. EUSTIS, Passenger Traffic Manager, C. & N. Q. Ry. Co., Chicago.

Her Generous Excuse.

Dr. Charles Wood, pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, Philadelphia, once delivered a lecture on Sunday evening on "Spurgeon." Said he: "I spent a solid month in preparing that lecture in order to make it as thorough as possible and had it announced several weeks in advance. After it was over and I was feeling pretty well satisfied with the results of my endeavors, an old lady in my congregation came up to shake hands. 'Dr. Wood,' she said, 'I think I know why you delivered that lecture this evening.'

"Why?" said he, his face beaming with gratification at the reference to it.

"Well, I suppose it was because you didn't have time to prepare a sermon."

A Profitable Crop.

General Passenger Agent George Morton of the "Katy," St. Louis, received the following letter from one of the company's land and immigration agents at Rock Island, Texas:

"I send you by express a box of cigars manufactured from tobacco grown at Hallettsville, Texas, on Post Oak sandy land, by one W. B. Hawkins. Mr. Hawkins raised 800 pounds per acre. It takes 15 pounds to make 1,000 cigars selling at \$30 per thousand. The cost of manufacture and sale is about \$13.00 per thousand, leaving net profit per one thousand cigars (or 15 pounds of tobacco) of \$17.00. There is in this (Altair) county thousands of acres of the same kind of land which can be purchased at \$4.00 to \$6.00 per acre."

The Adirondack Mountains.

The lakes and streams in the Adirondack Mountains are full of fish; the woods are inviting, the air is filled with health, and the nights are cool and restful. If you visit this region once, you will go there again. An answer to almost any question in regard to the Adirondacks will be found in No. 20 of the "Four-Track Series," "The Adirondacks and How to Reach Them," sent free on receipt of a 2-cent stamp, by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, Grand Central Station, New York.

Work and Rest.

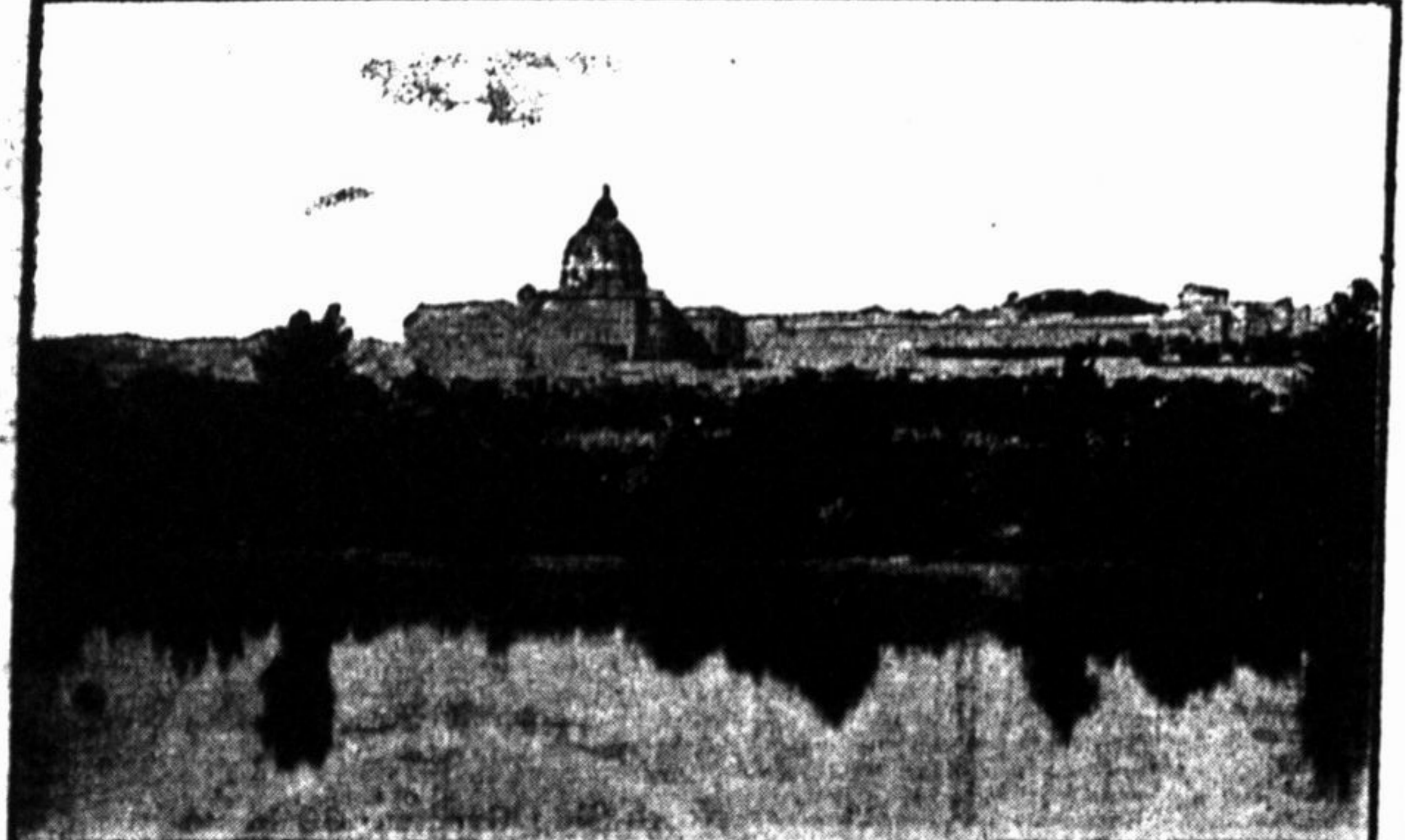
To live happily in this world it is not enough to know how to work; a man must also know how to rest. The man who knows only how to work will soon wear out. If he doesn't wear out immediately his work will suffer in some way. No man can do his best work unless he alternates it with a little play or a little rest. A man who can't drop his work from his mind had better take a few weeks off to study the rest question. His nerves are not what they should be.

Giant Students at Yale.

There are twelve Yale students who, because they are more than six feet one inch tall, are eligible to membership in the new club of Broddingnags of the University. The president is Frederick W. Wilhem, of New York; the secretary, George A. Gross of Waterbury, Conn., and the vice-president and treasurer, Stuart B. Sulphin of Cincinnati. The tallest man of the club is Thorn Baker of Cincinnati, who stands six feet five inches in his stockings.

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PALACE OF THE VATICAN, FROM THE TIBER.

The talk to the effect that certain foreign powers may exercise the right of veto in the conclave is unfounded. What the powers desire is not that the new pope should be friendly to any particular power, but that he should conduct the affairs of papacy in a peaceful, equitable, religious manner without stirring up international strife.

It is supposed that the rumor that Austria might attempt to exercise the right of exclusion against Cardinal Rampolla was started by the friends of the latter in order to have him appear as a persecuted martyr.

The death of the pope brings about a widespread change in all the administrative departments of the church and considerably influences questions of church policy. The change within the vatican affects practically all the officials from the highest to the lowest. Cardinal Rampolla retires from the post of secretary of state. Other high officials are similarly affected, the master of the chamber, the under-secretary of state, the vicar of Rome, the vice chancellor, the grand penitentiary, the librarian of the vatican and a host of lesser officials. These will continue to exercise their functions until the new pope is elected, when he will designate his own secretary of state and other officials.

Thus there is a complete transformation of apostolic authority, the death of the pope meaning the nominal death of all the officials under him. The prefect and entire machinery of the propaganda, however, are unaffected.

The chief international questions which may be affected by the death of the pope are those connected with the suppression of religious orders in France, the change of the clergy in the new Spanish-American possessions, the selection of the successor of the late Cardinal Vaughan and attendant questions connected with the administration of the church in England. Emperor William's visit to the pope created a new bond of sympathy between Germany and the vatican.

Among vatican officials the Philippine question, involving transfers from the Spanish to the American hierarchy and the elimination of the friars, is regarded as one of the most important. The present Philippine policy had the hearty approval of Leo XIII and there is no reason to believe that it will be changed.

MANY CARDINALS IN FAVOR.

Genevieve May Be Long in Selecting Pope Leo's Successor.

Great interest is now centered in the work of the holy see, which is in session, the successor to Leo XIII. Speculations, prophecies and predictions come from every direction in

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