

SIMPLE LIFE OF THE NEW POPE.

Day, Beginning at 5 O'clock, is a Round of Exacting Duties—A Modest, Affable Man.

Rome Corr. in New York Sun.

Pius X. rises very early. When his valet, young Sili, enters the pope's bedroom a little after 5 o'clock the pope is almost always up and reciting his breviary. At 6 he celebrates mass in the little oratory, arranged immediately after his elevation to the papal throne. The oratory is quickly described. Opposite the window is a wooden altar, and above it fastened to the wall, is an ivory crucifix. Six bronze candlesticks are placed on either side of a modest tabernacle of carved wood, gilded. The altar rests on a rug which covers half the room. In this there are also a prie-dieu and a gilded armchair: a wardrobe for the utensils is on the right. From the middle of the oratory hangs a chandelier of the exquisite Murano glass. The furniture of the oratory is quiet but tasteful.

Since the day of his coronation Pius X. has never failed to say mass. On the day after his elevation, as the oratory was not ready, it was thought that the pope would abstain from the celebration; but with the modesty that characterizes him he declared that the pope could surely celebrate mass as the cardinal did, and going into the picture gallery he said mass at one of the altars that had been erected for the use of the conclave.

When Pius X. says mass it is usually served by his private secretary and lasts half an hour. Then, having removed his vestments, the pope kneels on his prie-dieu and listens devoutly to the mass of thanksgiving. Next the pope breaks his fast with a cup of coffee merely.

The morning passes quickly. If the heat is not too great Pius X. goes down into the gardens, where he likes to walk, stopping to enjoy the coolness of the shady path or to look at the magnificent flower beds and the countless variety of plants. Meanwhile he chats with the secret chamberlain on duty and with the officer of the Guardia Nobile. The holy father never fails to go and pray at the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes; he has taken special care to do so in these last days, as he wishes to associate himself in spirit with the pilgrimage undertaken by Italian Catholics to the greatest sanctuary that France has dedicated to the holy virgin.

In the verdure of the splendid vatican gardens Pius X. finds a pleasant distraction from his cares, and he does not hide the fact; but serious occupations call him back to his private apartments, so that his walk cannot last more than an hour. In his study he finds the analysis of the day's correspondence, which is very voluminous and to which he gives up some time. Then he receives the reports of the various congregations and gives an enlightened judgment on all important, complicated or doubtful questions. Pius X. cannot bear carelessness, lack of order, of regularity or of exactness. Extremely conscientious, he does not despise the smallest details.

Next comes Mgr. Merry Del Val, pro-secretary of State, and his holiness studies with him the delicate and difficult relations with foreign governments. After that the official receptions, whether private or for business, begin. According to the day of the week or of the month stated audiences are granted to the monsignor major domo, to the cardinals, to the various congregations, to the secretaries and to the high officials, but it is the special audiences that tire the pope most, though he grants them rather freely—it is the stream of visits from

bishops, prelates, ambassadors, representatives, Italian or foreign persons of note. With one it means merely an interview, with another a matter of business to be settled or a question to be decided; he encourages, comforts, blesses all.

His affability has already won all hearts to Pius X. Those who come in contact with him speak of him as of a father. It suffices to stand for a few minutes in an ante-room and watch those who come from an audience, especially if it be the first one they have obtained, to see what affection the pope inspires at once. The faces of all beam with joy, many even weep with emotion.

The other day an old prelate from north Italy, coming from an audience, stopped, as is the custom, in the hall called the Equerries' hall, in order to lay aside the violet cloak, in accordance with etiquette. While the servant was helping him the prelate was so worked up that he could not hold back his tears. The servant, rather alarmed, asked him the cause of his emotion. The prelate's answer was overheard: "If you could have the happiness of speaking to Pius X. you would be as much moved as I am. That man is a saint!"

Toward noon the pope dines; after that very frugal meal he takes a short nap in his bedroom, a rest that does not last more than an hour. Then he begins to recite his breviary again and takes up his other occupations. At 6 in the evening, accompanied by Don Pescini, the intelligent and sympathetic young priest who for the moment takes the place of Mgr. Bressani as the pope's private secretary; by Mgr. Bisleti, the chamberlain, and by Sili, he takes a walk in the third loggia, where some unknown artist painted the geographical charts of his time and where Mantovani, Galli and Consoni decorated the ceiling and painted some episodes of Pius IX.'s pontificate.

Usually when the pope comes out on the loggia he finds there some 20 persons, men and women, mostly strangers come to Rome in order to kiss the pope's foot. He talks for a few minutes with all, astonishing all present not only by his marvelous knowledge of facts, even of little importance, but also with the extreme kindness and paternal amiability with which he receives the visitors.

When the audiences are over, the pope remains alone with his secretary, the doors opening on the loggia are closed, or, in case for the sake of air they are not closed, a guard is placed at every entrance to keep people out. Then the pope is wholly free and walks up and down talking with the secretary. Often he recalls his own Venice, looks at the paintings and decorations, and above all never fails to cast a glance over Rome and the surrounding hills. Viewed from that height, the hills stretch out in a tangled network, lighted by the sun setting on the horizon under a great canopy of clouds of gold and of fire.

The walk does not last much longer, and the pope withdraws into his modest provisional apartment, taking up again his interrupted labors till about 9; then Pius X. takes his second meal of the day. After half an hour he finishes reciting his breviary and if he has a little time he may read a newspaper, but never later than half past 10, when he goes to rest—and he needs it. Innominate.

Dan Patch, the famous pacer, broke the world's pacing record at Memphis on Thursday, making the mile in 1.56 1/4, clipping three-fourths of a second from the world's record of 1.57, by Prince Alert, and lowering his own record by two and three-quarters seconds.

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