THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, MONDAY, MORNING, JULY 6, 1903. SINGLE COPY THREE CENTS.

BIG PLANT ABLAZE

Hammond Packing Buildings Involved in St. Joseph Conflagration.

FLAMES STILL DEFY HEROIC BRIGADE

Start in Early Afternoon and Rage High Far Into Night.

ONE MAN KILLED AND THREE INJURED

Discredited Story Also Tells of Two More Cremated.

WHOLE STOCK YARDS ARE IMM...

Wind Carries Clouds of Flame and Sparks Over District, Swift and Norris' Structures Being in Imminent Danger.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., July 5.—(Special Telegram.)—The Hammond packing plant in this city, built three years ago at a cost of $600,000, including the machinery, was destroyed this afternoon by fire. The flames at midnight are still raging, and the plants of Swift and Nelson Morris, which adjoin it on the north, are in imminent danger.

The dead:

CHARLES MILLER, fireman of the Hammond Packing company.

The injured:

Charles Cullen, watchman, stunned by a fall and overcome by smoke; may die.

Samuel Ogle, laborer, cut about the head; not serious.

Dan Smiley, laborer, ankle broken.

Miller was killed while trying to play a stream of water upon the building. He was crushed under a falling wall.

That the Swift and Morris plants are still standing is due to a providential fall in the wind, which blew from the south, sending great volumes of smoke, flame, sparks and cinders pouring over the remainder of the packing house district, but even now all danger is not past, and the stock yards may be wiped out.

The fire broke out in the casing department on the east side of the fifth floor and burned fiercely from the start. As to the cause there is some dispute, but it is believed to be due to crossed electric wires. It was discovered by John McLoud, master mechanic, who gave the alarm. At no time did the firemen seem to have the slightest chance to save the building.

Stock Yards Are Threatened.

For a time the entire stock yards district was threatened. By hard work the Nelson Morris plant, 200 feet north of the Hammond plant, was saved and this saved the Swift plant, which is to the north of the Nelson Morris building. The fire started a little after 3, and by 9 most of the building was gone.

The greatest danger was at 6, when part of the north wall fell and the fierce flames were shot toward the Nelson Morris building, on which twenty hoses played. Although the dense smoke was blown against the big buildings, the firemen saved the structure. Many of the firemen were volunteers. There were three city companies out under the direction of Chief Kane of the city department.

The carcasses of 4,500 hogs, 1,800 cattle and 800 sheep were burned. Nearly 100,000 pounds of oleo were destroyed. The contents of the smokehouse were consumed. The entire north building, measuring 120x400 feet, and ranging in height from five to seven stories, was burned out. It was with the greatest difficulty that the south building was saved.

The origin of the fire is a mystery. There was no fire in the casing department in the eastern part of the building where the flames started.

The fatalities occurred about 5, by which time nearly all the building was on fire. A man with a hose, said to have been Miller, was seen at one of the windows. He walked back into the building and a few seconds later those on the outside heard terrible cries, which lasted perhaps half a minute. The man did not appear again and must have been killed.

Two young men who were in the room and left a few minutes before said that two others failed to escape, but they did not give any names and the story is discredited.

Many Fighters Hinder Work.

When Chief Kane arrived there were about ten leads of hose playing on the fire. The men were nearly all put to work on the east side of the building above the third story. Chief Kane attributed this to the fact that there was such a number of leads of hose in use. He said it was impossible, however, to take off some and give more force, as the men at the hose refused to take them off from the fire. By 3 the oleo department, which is at the northeast corner of the building, was involved.

The fire then began to burn fiercely. The beef beds, egg department and other departments in the eastern end of the building, known as the beef house, were soon ablaze. The eastern part of the building was of wood, built to allow of an extension. This portion of the building began to fall apart, especially at the north end, where the oleo department was located. Within a few minutes the flames were in the hog department and the carcasses of 4,500 animals, largely fat, were burning.

From the hog house it was but a matter of a short time before the smokehouse was ablaze, thus making a fiery furnace 400 feet long and 520 feet wide.

Iron Strands Curl in Heat.

The walls began to fall about 5 o'clock. The eastern wooden wall had been gradually dropping away. Long iron strands curled up and fell from the building.

Soon the center of interest was directed to the northeast corner of the building, where nearly 100,000 pounds of oleomargarine, in tierces of 450 pounds each, were adding fuel to the fire. As the eastern wall crumbled away the tanks of oleomargarine fell to the ground, into water which had accumulated. Flames, so intense that it was with difficulty a person could stand 100 yards away would shoot into the air 100 feet or more, making a spectacle which was terrifying in its fierceness. Soon another tank fell and the performance repeated, while the dense black smoke rolled in angry, swirling clouds, chased skyward by the red glaring flames below.

It was not until 6 o'clock that the greatest danger was reached. At that hour a large portion of the southern wall fell with a crash. Several violent explosions had been heard just before, as some oil tanks burst within the building.

The loss will amount to $600,000, divided as follows: Building, $300,000; machinery, $250,000; dressed and packed meats and incidentals, $50,000.

The plant was fully insured and it is likely that the work of rebuilding will begin as soon as the insurance is adjusted.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

For Nebraska—Fair Monday Except Showers in the Extreme East Portion; Tuesday Storms and Cooler.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	62	1 p. m.	80
6 a. m.	61	2 p. m.	81
7 a. m.	64	3 p. m.	83
8 a. m.	67	4 p. m.	82
9 a. m.	72	5 p. m.	83
10 a. m.	75	6 p. m.	81
11 a. m.	77	7 p. m.	79
12 m.	78	8 p. m.	77
		9 p. m.	74

RIVAL MOBS COMMAND TOWN

Whites Would Lynch Negro, Blacks Protest with Guns and Race War Ensues.

...NSVILLE, Ind., July 6.—Twenty-five ... twice prevented a lynching at the ... last night, but their bravery was not sufficient to avert a bitter race war which has already cost three lives.

The mob sought to hang Lee Brown, the negro slayer of Patrolman Lewis N. Massey, and smashed down iron gates and were part way into the jail before they were repulsed by the police. The efforts to lynch Brown aroused the emity of the negroes, who gathered about the jail and threatened.

Shortly after midnight Judge Louis Rach of the circuit court ordered the grand jury to convene on Monday to look into the Brown case. This appeased the crowd, which dispersed at once.

Later, however, the ringleaders collected another crowd, and at 1 this morning the city is in the hands of a mob. Troops have been ordered out by the governor to protect the jail, which is surrounded by 2,000 men. Two negroes have been killed in the race riot, which is rampant. The crowd around the jail, incensed at the Massey murder, is shouting death to all the negroes.

The negro prisoners have been secretly removed to Vincennes, but the mob refuses to believe it and are trying to tear down the jail. Some masons are chiseling out the bars of the windows and a battering ram is being used.

A white boy named Logan has been shot by negroes. An unidentified black woman has been killed and several others severely injured.

A company of negroes, armed with rifles, is marching through the streets threatening to kill all white people.

They have just broken into a hardware store and secured all the arms and ammunition. Three business men have just been fired on and are organizing and arming a party to exterminate the negroes.

The steel bars of the jail windows could not withstand the blows of the battering-rams, and at 1:30 the mob swarmed in and began a search for the murderer.

Police Captain Brennecke tried to check their advance by turning the hose on them. When he appeared holding the nozzle a rain of bullets was sent through the window. The captain retreated and no further attempt was made to keep the mob out.

A mob of 200 white men heavily armed is marching through the streets where negroes may be found.

BATHER DIES IN CUT-OFF

Weeds Hold Swimmer Under Water Till Life is Extinct.

While swimming in Cutoff lake near Swift and Company's ice house yesterday afternoon Henry Hansen, who lived at Twenty-third and S streets, South Omaha, met death by drowning.

Hansen and two companions, John Olson of South Omaha and Samuel Hammerstrom, who is employed by the Lee-Glass-Andreesen Hardware company of Omaha, rented a boat at Courtland beach early in the evening. On the bank of the lake near the ice house is an old steamer, stranded, which used to be in service on the lake, but which has been abandoned. Near this steamer was the spot selected by the party to take a swim.

After they had been in the water some time Hansen proposed they dive off the stern of the abandoned boat, as it projected out into the water. Hansen walked to the end of the boat and plunged off, but did not rise, and after waiting some time for him his companions gave the alarm and steps were taken to get him out.

Some of the employes of the ice house responded, but the body could not be recovered and a professional diver from Courtland beach was finally called, who brought a hook with him, and with this the body was recovered, but not until life was extinct.

The water where the accident occurred is seven or eight feet deep, the bottom being covered with a perfect mat of weeds which extends to within a few feet of the top. Hansen was entangled in these weeds and could not succeed in extricating himself. Men who are thoroughly familiar with Cutoff lake say a certain kind of moss grows there which is worse than quicksand, and they claim that when anyone becomes entangled in it death is sure unless someone is at hand to render immediate assistance. It is said that this variety of moss grows exceptionally luxuriantly at the spot where Hansen met his death.

The dead man's father and mother live in Denmark, but he has some relatives in South Omaha. Coroner Brailey attempted to find them last night, but up to midnight none of them had called at the morgue to give instructions as to the disposition of the body. The inquest will be held at 10 this morning.

Hansen was employed by Swift and Company in South Omaha.

SELLS OUT FOR POLITICS

Senator Hanna Will Leave Private Business Alone in Future.

CLEVELAND, O., July 5.—According to a statement which the Leader will print tomorrow Senator Hanna has disposed of all the business interests which necessitated his personal oversight and is now a stockholder in but one or two of the several large concerns in which he was largely interested.

The reason for this, the Leader will state, is to give the senator more time to devote to politics, the senator having come to the conclusion that he cannot do justice to both business and politics at the same time.

Movements of Ocean Vessels July 5.

At Isle of Wight—Passed: Amsterdam, Rotterdam, for New York.

At Scilly—Passed: Vadarland, New York, for Antwerp.

At Beachy Head—Passed: Koenigen Luise, Bremen, for New York.

At The Lizard—Passed: Mesaba, London, for New York.

At Liverpool—Arrived: Celtic, New York.

Cevic, New York.

At Queenstown—Sailed: Etruria, New York.

LEO'S LONG CAREER

Short Biographical Sketch of the Greatest of Pontiffs.

OF ITALIAN BIRTH AND OF NOBLE FAMILY

Known in His Early Youth as Joachim Vincent Pecci.

STRONG TRAITS INHERITED FROM MOTHER

First Ordained to the Priesthood in the Year 1837.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS IN THE PAPAL CHAIR

Remarkable List of Notable Achievements Accomplished by Him Since Entering the Vatican.

Joachim Vincent Rapnael Lodovico Pecci was born March 2, 1810, at Carpineto. On both the paternal and maternal sides he was of noble blood, his father being Count Domenico Lodovico Pecci and his mother Anna Prosperi-Buzi, of a noble house at Cori. Carpineto is a town of the ancient Volsci, near Segnia, in central Italy. It is situated in a valley of the Lepine mountains, and in the days of the temporal power of the church was in one of the papal states. It is in a classic region, with memories of Cicero and Horace clinging to the surrounding hills.

To find, if it can be found, the secret of the wonderful power displayed even from his earliest years up to the hour of his death by him who was latest and best known as Leo XIII—for during his long life he bore many titles—it is necessary to glance for a moment at the generations which preceded him—at the stock from which he sprang. And it cannot be otherwise than a pleasant view for Americans, and especially for those of the western half of the United States, for though in the biographies which have been written of him much space is given to his father's family it is also well known and written that his mother was a woman of unusual strength of character and attainments, such a woman, in fact, as would not excite remark in America today, but a type not expected in the Italy of today, much less in the Italy of 100 years ago.

His Mother's Influence.

The Pecci family has been one of the foremost in Carpineto since the fifteenth century, coming at that time from Siena. The family, having enlisted under the banner of the Medici in the long struggle between Sienna and Florence, found it necessary to emigrate to the papal states.

Joachim, or Vincent, as his mother always called him, was the fourth son of Count Pecci and his wife, the daughter of a Volscian family, as proud and as old as his own. She died when he was 14 years of age, but not before she had indelibly stamped upon his mind and character its dominating traits. Nor even before with prophetic eye she had seen the heights to which he was to rise. Count Pecci, it is related, desired his son to be a soldier and was ambitious that he become a general. But one day, noticing a religious turn in the boy's thoughts and expressions, he spoke to his wife regretfully of it, at the same time speaking of his own plans for his son. But the mother evidently was satisfied, for with smiling face she answered: "Perhaps he will be a pope."

While at school—the Jesuit college at Viterbo—where also was his brother Joseph, later Cardinal Pecci, Joachim, or Vincent received many letters from his mother. As showing the character of them and of the writer this extract is given: "Formerly people had faith through ignorance; today they are faithless because it is the fashion. But superstition is much more lamentable than incredulity. * * * To love all men one must not envy the great, nor oppress the lowly, nor do evil to one's enemies, nor condemn the wicked * * * Rousseau says that hypocrisy is a homage which vice pays to virtue; yes, a homage which Caesar's murderers paid to him when they knelt at his feet in order to kill him more easily."

Countess Anna belonged to the Third Order of St. Francis, an association of lay men and lay women of the Roman Catholic church. From his earliest years certainly, possibly from his birth, this remarkable woman destined Joachim for the church. He knew the story of St. Francis of Assisi as well as the brown habit and sandaled feet of the members of the order; that is, of the regular monks and nuns, the members of the Third Order, to which his mother belonged, not wearing a habit. Many incidents are told of the early life of the late pontiff, showing clearly that in his case the boy in fact was father to the man. For when, at 14, he followed the body of his mother to its grave in the Observantine Church of the Forty Martyrs, his future course in life was settled.

Education and Ordination.

When only 18 Joachim Pecci was awarded the first prize in physics and chemistry by the Collegio Romano, and he was selected to defend in public, against all objectors, theses chosen from the subject matter of the three years' course. This, owing to having overworked himself, he was forbidden to do by his physician, but the university granted him a certificate attesting his complete preparation and ability for the task.

When 22 Joachim received his university degrees and was ready and prepared to enter holy orders. He was ordained a priest December 31, 1837. From this time forward his progress was rapid, but it was in every position well sustained. Cardinal Scala had taken a great fancy to him while he was still a student in the College of Noble Ecclesiastics, and Cardinal Pacca, who also greatly admired the brilliant young scholar, already a doctor of laws, secured for him, at the hands of Pope Gregory XVI, the appointment of domestic prelate. Soon afterwards he was appointed referendary to the court of Segnatura—and the future opened on his career.

Less than six years later Father Pecci received episcopal consecration at the hands of Gregory XVI. But first he had gained the wondering admiration of his superiors, not only for his scholarship, but also for his great executive ability. Appointed governor of Benevento, a small territory situated in the kingdom of Naples, he drove from it the smugglers and brigands—dealing with them inexorably, yet justly—dealing with the people both kindly and justly. Benevento was an independent principality which had reverted to the Holy See when the French withdrew from Italy and Naples was restored to the Bourbons. After executing Pasquale Colletta and other smugglers and bandits it is related that a nobleman of Benevento, who also

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

BUSY LIFE OF POPE LEO XIII IS RAPIDLY EBBING AWAY

POPE LEO XIII.

Doctors Watch by Dying Pontiff, Whose Hours Now Seem Numbered.

NIGHT RALLY ENDS WITH MORNING LIGHT

Drugs Alone Maintain Strength Through Anxious Sunday Hours.

LAST HOLY RITES ARE ADMINISTERED

Pontiff is Notified of Approaching End and Settles Affairs.

SINKS SLOWLY THROUGHOUT THE DAY

Patient Refuses Wine, Though Urged to Drink by Doctor, Who Indicates His Fears to Family.

Bronze Gates Tell Good News.

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ROME, June 6, 5 a. m.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Leo XIII is still alive, but death is expected hourly, so Baron Meyer, the commandant of the Swiss guard on duty at the Vatican, has just informed the World correspondent. The bronze gate at the Vatican is still open, indicating that the pope is alive. The pope has had three hours' sleep, but awoke with severe pains in the chest. Dr. Laponni gave him relief by changing his position.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

ROME, July 5.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Reassuring reports as to the pope's condition, which became current early this morning, had hardly circulated well throughout the city before it became known that practically all hope had been abandoned.

The pope's condition is desperate. His right lung is completely gone and breathing is difficult. Oxygen is continually applied. The general debility is increasing. Dr. Laponni is in constant attendance. The pope has lost confidence in his own strength, but is resigned to the approaching dissolution, which Dr. Mazzoni expects not later than Tuesday.

Some papers have already announced the pope's death, saying that the Vatican authorities concealed the truth, as in the case of Pius IX. A bulletin published tonight says the pope is getting gradually weaker, but retains consciousness. The last sacraments were administered tonight at 9, the pope receiving them with a Latin verse on mortality. His difficulty in breathing increases. Crowds are gathered before the Vatican and intense anxiety prevails. I am informed that the cardinals now in Rome held a secret meeting under Rampolla to decide upon candidates for the succession. The result is unknown.

During the night he slept fairly well, but with daylight his strength gradually ebbed and was only kept up by frequent doses of chloral and caffeine administered through the mouth for the purpose of strenghtening the heart. Notwithstanding these heroic efforts, however, he sank gradually throughout the day.

Shortly after 10:30 Dr. Mazzoni arrived at the Vatican and was at once admitted to the pontiff's bedroom, where he met Dr. Laponni, the personal physician, and held a consultation with him. At 11:30 the following bulletin was issued:

Doctors Admit Gravity.

Dr. Laponni is deeply concerned by the condition of the pope. He had a consultation with Dr. Mazzoni, who confirmed the diagnosis previously made by his colleague of senile pulmonary hepatization. Dr. Mazzoni approved the treatment already commenced.

The general condition of his holiness is grave, on account of his age, although for the moment it is not alarming.

Towards noon his condition became so grave that it was decided not only to inform him of the apparent imminence of his end, but to administer the last rites of the church, but before the arrangements were complete his wonderful vitality again asserted itself, inhalations of oxygen relieved his stertorous breathing, and hopes were engendered that he would last through the night. The sad announcement was therefore postponed till evening.

Pope Still Conscious.

At 7:20 he again relapsed, however, and it was again decided to prepare him for his end. About this time, too, the doctors held another consultation, and at 8:40 issued the following bulletin:

Since morning the pope's weakness has increased slightly; his pulmonary condition is unchanged; his breathing is somewhat rapid, and his pulse, which is weaker, is not irregular. His temperature is less than normal. His holiness is perfectly conscious. (Signed)

LAPONNI.
MAZZONI.

The only nourishment the pope has been able to take has been a little broth or eggs of oil with the yolk of eggs beaten up with sugar. He steadfastly refuses to take wine, though the doctor has advised him to do so in order to aid the secretions of all the organs, which are depressing, owing to the weakness of the heart.

Strength Fails Rapidly.

During the afternoon the pontiff's strength began to fail so rapidly and his condition became so critical that it appeared that only a few hours of life remained to him. It was, therefore, deemed wise to advise him of his grave condition, and this was done with tender precautions. Pope Leo was thus prepared for his last communion, which was administered tonight with the participation of all the cardinals now in Rome and the whole of the pontifical court.

The solemn yet gorgeous ceremony took place at the bedside of Pope Leo. The central figure was the dying pontiff, whose long life's journey is nearly over.

His pale and emaciated face, almost as white as the pillows on which it rested, showed little sign of life except the keen glittering eyes, always his most striking feature.

Around the bed were grouped the noble guards in their glittering uniform, the knights of the cloak and sword in their picturesque medieval costume of black with white ruffs, twenty-five cardinals, stately and venerable figures in their sweeping crimson robes; the whole forming a scene of rich, yet subdued, coloring, a fit subject for the pencil of Rembrandt.

Last Rites Impressive.

Nearest the bed stood the tall figure of Cardinal Grand Penitentiary, Serafanno Bannuetielli, with the pope's confessor, to hear the last confession of the departing pontiff. Then the priest apostle approached bearing the Viaticum to give the last communion and another, the extreme unction, assisted by the grand penitentiary. Pope Leo feebly recited the confession of faith as formulated by the council of Trent, and finally the words of absolution and the indulgence in articulo mortis were solemnly pronounced by the grand penitentiary.

The heads of the great religious orders

Bishop Scannell Tells of Visit to Pope

Rt. Rev. Richard Scannell, bishop of Omaha, visited Rome at once on his decennial visits as bishop during the pontificate of Leo XIII, but had visited the Vatican once before being elevated to the episcopate. Speaking of the work of the late pope and his visits to Rome, he said:

"The long expected and long talked-off event has taken place. Leo XIII is dead. His exceeding long reign, his strong personal character; the far-reaching effect of his counsel and policy—firm, consistent and wise as we now know—the grave problems he had to solve and which he solved so well, and above all the Erastian and atheistic tendencies of many governments, and their consequent jealousy or hostility toward the Holy See—all these considered, will make the pontificate of Leo XIII memorable in history. Undoubtedly his name deserves to stand in the same rank with those of Gregory the Great, Hildebrand, Innocent III, Leo X and Sixtus V; but Leo XIII was, in a truer sense than any of these, the pope of the people. His far-seeing mind enabled him to understand that the rule of monarchs is destined to give way to the rule of the people and that the church, if she were to carry on the mission for which she was established, should rely more upon the people and less upon kings and princes. These nearly always betray the interests of religion for temporal ends, whereas the people if left to themselves never do so. Leo XIII saw this fact and proclaimed it with no uncertain voice, although a great many in Europe refused to see it or to heed the words of the pope. They were wiser and more Catholic than Leo XIII, and they are now paying the penalty.

"We in America understand this thoroughly, and we act upon it. Hence the great difference between the position of the church in the United States and its position under royal and state tutelage. Leo XIII may with justice be called a democritic pope, and of this we may feel assured, that henceforth the world will not be allowed to forget his demand that the dignity of the workingman and the rights of the people be respected.

"My first interview with the late pope was in 1853. I was then a priest, and saw him at a public audience. He was then quite active and walked among the people present conversing with many. He took considerable interest in individual cases, and showed himself conversant with affairs in America as well as in other countries as he passed from one to another. The next time I saw him, and the last time, was in 1895. I then had a private audience with him as bishop of Omaha. The audience was brief, for he had seen a number of cardinals and others before I was ushered in, and he seemed to be tired and feeble. My audience lasted about ten minutes, perhaps, and was confined principally to American affairs. We especially talked of the result of his policy concerning American matters. In that policy he took a deep interest, and seemed to be very much pleased with the accounts received. At that time he looked feeble and bloodless, and during the entire audience remained seated."

Father Dowling's Audience with Leo

Father M. P. Dowling, president of Creighton college, was, probably, the last resident of Nebraska to have an audience with Pope Leo XIII. He was in Rome last summer, and in the month of August saw the pope on two occasions. Speaking of these visits, he said yesterday:

"The very day I got to Rome I went to St. Peter's, because it was an edifice I had all my life longed to see. After taking it in in a general way, with the intention of seeing it more fully later on, I was walking along the via di S. Nicola da Tolentino, when whom should I meet but Father Brandi, a well-known writer on the staff of the Civilta, whom I had known many years ago in the United States. While I was out he had called at the Collegio Germanico, where I was stopping, and I was in luck to meet him, for having heard that another American priest and myself were to reach Rome that day, he had procured us tickets of admission to the tribune of the Sistine chapel, where we would have an opportunity the next day of seeing from a good coign of vantage a reception of Italian pilgrims by the holy father. The circumstances could not have been more favorable for taking it all in, for I had a seat in the first row in the tribune. The holy father was carried in and out on his sedes gestatoria immediately under the tribune and within fifteen feet of me. The ordinary pictures give a good representation of him. When intoning the blessing he had a steady, firm voice, marvelous for a man of his years, and his short address to the pilgrims could be heard distinctly throughout the chapel. The enthusiasm of the visitors was extraordinary and seemed to please the pope. Both entering and going out he repeatedly blessed the assembled multitude, and with wonderful vigor bent up and down and reached from one side to the other, as if eager to spread his affectionate acknowledgments to the utmost.

"A few days later with some twenty others I had the pleasure of being received in private audience in the reception room adjacent to his private apartments, and I had an opportunity of seeing him closer at hand and listening to an earnest address of his for fifteen minutes. His face looked like parchment or alabaster. While listening to the spokesman of our party his holiness punctuated the address with the gestures and words of approval, and showed warm appreciation of sentiments which pleased him. He followed everything with animation, and when his time came to reply he spoke with energy in an orderly and coherent vein which showed no signs of senile decay, but marvelous intellectual power and grasp of thought. Old age, evidently, had not weakened his mental power, no matter how it may have affected his body."

Count Creighton Pronounces Eulogy

Count John A. Creighton, in speaking of Pope Leo XIII last night, said:

"I consider him the greatest pope the Catholic church has ever had, and I believe he is so considered by Catholics generally. His management of the affairs of the church, both temporal and spiritual, has been beyond criticism, and his death will prove an almost irreparable loss to all the world.

"Although I have been the recipient of many favors at the hands of Pope Leo, I have never had the pleasure of an audience with him. I made a trip to Italy once with the express purpose of meeting him, but, owing to an unfortunate illness of my companion on the trip, Dr. Allison, we were forced to return home. I have a picture of Pope Leo which came direct from him and which I prize very highly."

Pope Leo has conferred two titles upon Mr. Creighton. The first, the title of Knight of St. Gregory, was conferred on account of his deep interest in educational matters, and the second, the title of Count of the Holy Roman Empire, was conferred in January, 1895. On the occasion of the conferring of the latter title a reception in which the prominent Catholic families and leading citizens of Omaha took part was tendered Count Creighton. This honor came to him through the favor of Cardinal Mazella.

The title of count has been but rarely conferred upon American citizens. So far as Mr. Creighton knows it had been conferred but once before and that was upon W. J. Onahan of Chicago. Count Creighton has been deeply concerned in the illness of the pope, and although he has never met him he seems to feel that in his death he will lose an almost lifelong friend who can never be replaced.

WHAT THE CLERGY SAY OF LEO

Priests of Omaha Parishes Speak in Warmest Terms of Love and Veneration.

"We have not held any special mass," said Father P. A. McGovern, of St. Philomena's cathedral. "The latest news we had received was of a rather hopeful character. Pope Leo has been a wonderful man in every way. He united to a remarkable extent the two things not often so combined, religion and politics. He found the church in a terrible condition after the death of Pius IX; the Roman states had been taken from the church, Bismarck had sprung his coup, and all of the religious orders had been expelled from Germany. In the French upheaval he came out very boldly for the republic, a position which was quite the adverse of that advised by many of his counsellors, and one requiring much bravery. Oh, he has been pope; he has ruled. He was one of the very greatest of pontiffs. Innocent III and Gregory VII brought the church to the highest point of external splendor, but Leo brought her out of chaos and made her respected by all. Politicians said at the time of the death of Pius IX that the church had had come to the close of its power."

Father J. T. Smith of St. Patrick's said: "His holiness was always abreast of the times and was a very hard worker. He was thoroughly familiar with the labor and social questions, which are the greatest of the time, and had given the keynote for all the great movements. He is without doubt one of the most intellectual and the most respected of popes we have had. It is wonderful the influence he has had on society and how he has been sought after by great men of all nations and creeds. To understand his great influence it was necessary to see the man; it was something which could not be described. You must have seen the thrill pass through the assemblage as he was brought in, looking almost like an inhabitant of another world. He has held the most conspicuous place in the world, and died without a single blot on his character."

Father James O'Hearn of St. Peter's: "Leo XIII was one of the very greatest of the pontiffs, ranking with Innocent III, Gregory the Great, and Gregory VII, who were certainly lights of the church. He has been more universally admired throughout the world by non-Catholic people than any other pope who has reigned. He was a man of distinction long before he succeeded Pius IX, and has reigned long—longer than most of the pontiffs. His encyclical on the labor question was commented on by leaders and people of all nations. He has certainly been a great man and a great scholar."

Father P. J. Judge of Sacred Heart church: "It was my great privilege to have a private audience with Pope Leo just after my ordination in Rome in 1892. I shall never forget the impression he made upon me. He asked me a number of questions as to what college I was from, where I was going, and remembered the name of the bishop of the diocese of Omaha. In parting, he gave me his blessing which

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