

POPE OF LOWLY ORIGIN.

A Number of the Most Eminent Had Poor Parents—One Ethiopian, Three Jewish.

Many of the popes have sprung from low origin. Alexander V. (1400) was a beggar boy. Benedict XII. was the son of a baker; Sixtus IV. (1471) was the son of a fisherman; Sixtus V. (1585), whose name was Felix Perretti, was a pig driver at Montalto, and attracted the attention of a Franciscan monk, who educated him, says a London paper. He rose to be bishop of Fermo, soon after to be cardinal, and was then elevated to the papal throne and celebrated his reign by erecting some of the finest buildings in Rome. Nathaniel Hawthorne, writing of his tomb in the grand old church of St. Maria Magiore, says: "If anything can still the spectator to silence and awaken him to great recollections, it is the monument of this astonishing man who as a child herded swine, and as a man commanded kings, and filled Rome with so many works that from every side his name, like an echo, rings upon the traveler's ears."

Urban IV. (1261) was the son of a French cobbler, Adrian VI. was the son of a weaver, Benedict XI. was the son of a shepherd, Boniface the Great was a street gamin and held horses for pennies. In recollection of his earlier days he invited two kings to lead his mule when he rode to his coronation as pope of Rome. Hildebrand, the great orator monk, who became Pope Gregory VII. (1073) was the son of a carpenter from Tuscany and one of the most brilliant statesmen of his age. He practically revolutionized Europe.

There is a tradition that one of the popes, Victor I., who reigned in 193, was a colored man, an Ethiopian. Three of the popes were Jews—St. Peter, St. Clement and Theodoros I., who reigned in 642. Clement was a fellow laborer with St. Paul and was mentioned by him in the third verse of the fourth chapter of the epistle to the Philippians. He was the fourth pope and suffered martyrdom in the year 100. Theodoros was descended from a famous Jewish scholar, who removed to Rome during the occupation of Judea by the Romans and held a high position.

Several of the popes were laymen, and the election to the pontificate has several times been declined. Martin IV. was a layman and at one time mayor of Rome. Clement IV. was a lawyer and was secretary to St. Louis of France. Innocent VIII. was married and the father of a large family. He did not take orders until after the death of his wife. Adrian II. was elected three times and declined twice. He was 76 years old when he was elected the third time and died at 81. He was a married man and a cardinal deacon. Persons holding that ecclesiastical rank are not pledged to vows of celibacy. He separated from his wife after his election as pope, however, but she and his daughters lived in Rome during his pontificate and saw him frequently.

Government Sends Out Minute Instructions for Planting of Timber in the Denuded Sections.

Tree planting in northern China is being strenuously enjoined by the authorities, not only as a productive industry for the people, but alike as a means of strengthening the river embankments against floods and of checking drought. Of late years, says Golden Penny, trees have been cut down by wholesale for agricultural purposes, while the peasants do not take the trouble to plant fresh ones, because the soil is so bare that they must dig down very deep for a satisfactory foothold. So vast tracts of fertile land are left barren, while in the northern provinces especially the influx of sand carried by high winds from the Mongolian deserts threatens to fill up the unoccupied ground.

So in the important province of Chihli, which contains the capital, Peking, there is a government proclamation notifying the "Eight directions for tree plantation"—most minute instructions as to the kind of trees required, the depth they should be planted and the fertilizers to be used—and the "Ten benefits to be derived from the same," such among others, as the sale of timber and fruit, the beneficial influence of trees in attracting rain, preserving the just equilibrium of wind influences, and purifying the atmosphere, while, "travelers and families will find shade and rest under the branches"—a poetic touch for conclusion.

COLOR LINE ON STOCK FARM.

Indiana Breeder Will Raise None But White Animals—Has Other Unique Ideas.

A stock farm as unusual in makeup as it is in methods is Rosemount, one mile east of Millersville, Ind., says the Indianapolis News. The farm is owned and operated by Charles J. Buchanan. Rosemount farm consists of 80 acres, and is a sister farm of Rosedale. Mr. Buchanan became possessed of Rosemount three years ago, and immediately began a movement to make it a foremost Hoosier stock farm. His first thought was to make the place unique, and he

began buying stock that was all white. To-day Rosemount stock farm is the home of white animals, from various kinds of fowls to white Percheron horses and white Angora goats.

Mr. Buchanan has adopted an original plan of indicating the birth of stock on his farm. He began raising stock in 1900, and all animals that first saw the light of day in that year received names beginning with A. The plan applies to all pedigreed stock. His Denmark saddle stallion won the title of Adam that year. A pair of mares of the list of 1900 were named Amber and Alpha. The next year the names applied were such as Bernice, Beaumont, Barry, etc. It is the intention of Mr. Buchanan to carry out the plan through the coming years, and he finds it easy to recall the ages of his stock by the names given.

"My wife tells me that our 15-year-old boy is stage-struck," said a man, smoking his after dinner cigar over on another man's piazza, according to the Detroit Free Press. "She is worried about it, but I tell her to take it easy—it will all come right. I was stage-struck once myself, and that's how I came to have this handsome Roman nose, and to be a respected and prosperous lawyer."

"Roman nose," repeated the other man, "I can't see the connection between a Roman nose and your being stage-struck."

"Well, the connection is there, all right," continued the other man, fondly caressing the little arch in the middle of his large, ornamental nose. "At 17 I was badly stage-struck; and, of course, my parents bitterly opposed all such notions on my part. The fever continued to increase, however, and with two other young men of the same age, I secretly organized an amateur comic troupe to go on the road when the time was ripe. As a starter we decided to try our great entertainment on a country town not many miles away. We sloped with our outfit, guitars and gaudy wardrobes one day, and had no trouble in getting together a pretty fair audience that night, at ten cents each. The songs, dances and dialogues went off all right. They were really funny, I believe, even now; but at the close of the entertainment I met with bad luck."

"In going out to announce another appearance the next week I clumsily caught my foot in the folds of our impromptu drop-curtain, and pulled the heavy curtain pole or roller down on my straight Grecian nose—the pride of my mother's family, and mine by inheritance."

"I was assisted to my father's roof the next day, with a fractured nose and two very black eyes. By the time I was well again my ardor for the stage had abated; and I believe my son will get over the mania, too. My wife, however, has not heard the story of the Roman nose, and she rather admires it."

The Conserva Season.

This is the season of the year when the wife of the Italian laborer begins to think of laying in her winter stock of conserva. Conserva is a dish without which no Italian family would think of passing the winter. Every year about this time the average Italian housewife may be seen buying large quantities of tomatoes. The tomatoes need not be over-ripe and sometimes the softer they are the better conserva they make. The tomatoes are taken home, put in a press and then squeezed until every drop of juice has been extracted. The pulp which remains is spread upon a board and placed in the sun to dry. When it has attained the consistency of putty it is scraped together and placed in airtight jars for the winter. It is used for making sandwiches and sometimes forms the staple of the laborer's meal.—London Exchange.

AN ACROBATIC STATESMAN.

Congressman Who Is Said to Burst His Suspensors Every Time He Makes a Speech.

The most vehement speaker in congress in recent times was Representative Brosius, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. His gesticulation was of violent energy. Private John Allen used to say that whenever Mr. Brosius made a speech he burst his suspensurs. One afternoon Mr. Allen and a party were watching Brosius' exertions. "There they go now," Allen exclaimed. "I'll bet you his galluses parted that time or else he lost both buttons at the rear of his trousers. As soon as he stops talking we will go over and find out about it." After ten minutes more of gesticulations the gifted orator sat down, wiping the moisture that streamed from his brow and his cheeks. His collar was wilted, his hair was saturated with perspiration, and his shirt front showed visible evidences of the struggle. Mr. Allen approached the matter delicately, calling the member by his first name, complimenting him upon his speech and the force of his delivery, and finally remarking that he (Allen) could not indulge very much in gesticulations without "bursting his galluses." "Mine parted about the middle of my remarks," remarked the orator, innocently, whereupon Allen shook hands with him again and led his party away.

A recognized authority—The Weekly Oregonian.

SEMI RITE IN Rural Districts of England and in Spanish Towns.

In Somersetshire the peasants have no doubt as to the play of maleficent influences, says the Academy. The pig that falls ill and dies was "overlooked." A murrain "afflicts a farmer's cattle," and off he goes to the "white witch," that is, to the old witch finder, to learn who has "overlooked his things," and to ascertain the best antidote, "because they there farriers can't do no good." A child pines away with some mysterious, wasting sickness, which the Tipperary peasants, as shown in the recent falsely called "witch burning" case, believe to be the work of fairies in substituting a "changeling," but which the Somerset woman refers to the action of a witch who has cast a fatal glance upon the victim.

Often she gives up not only hope, but all effort to save the child, the consequent neglect, of course, hastens the expected result and then it is: "Oh! I know'd very well he wouldn't never get no better. 'Tidn' no good for to strive vor to go agin' it." This is no fancy, no isolated case, but here in the last decade of the nineteenth century one of the commonest of everyday facts.

While in England the belief is mostly confined to rural districts in more backward countries, as Spain and Italy, it flourishes in the large towns. In Naples the appearance of a person having the ill-repute of a jettatore is the signal for a general stampede, and Mr. Elworthy amusingly relates the fright which he unwittingly gave a second-hand bookseller in Venice when asking about a copy of Valletto's "Cicalata sul Fascino." On hearing the last words of the title "the man actually turned and bolted into his inner room, leaving the customer in full possession of his entire stock." Pio Nono was believed to have the jettatore and the faithful, when seeking his blessing, protectively pointed two fingers at him.

WONDERFUL RESULTS.

Even the Anticipation of the Gas Gave the Student a Regular Fit.

A good story is being told at the expense of an undergraduate at one of our 'varsities. He was attending the chemical lectures of a certain distinguished, if not popular, professor, who had announced for his next lecture certain experiments with laughing-gas. The student, who knew that persons under the influence of laughing-gas were not responsible for their words or actions, saw an opportunity of telling the professor some home-truths with impunity. On the afternoon of the lecture the professor called for a volunteer for the experiments to be made, and our undergraduate promptly came to his assistance, to the amusement of the class, which had been taken into his confidence. The bag containing the hilarious gas was duly affixed to the student's mouth, and he commenced to inhale vigorously. The effect was magical, relates London Tit-Bits. The student began to abuse the professor in terms which are unknown in Sunday schools.

The professor lent a patient ear to this testimony to his character, and then, turning to the class, said, with the suspicion of a twinkle in his eye: "You see, gentlemen, how powerful this gas is, when even the anticipation of it produces such strange effects. I will now proceed to turn on the gas."

Trade Relations with Mexico.

The United States leads in furnishing both the machinery and the raw material for the new industrial development in Mexico. The exports, outside of metals, amounted to \$69,721,730 in gold, of which the United States took 81 per cent, while all Europe took but 15 per cent.

Couldn't Read Her Mind.

Maude—They say that the young man who has been calling on you for some time is a mind reader.

Clara—I don't believe it. If he was he would either propose or quit calling.—Chicago Daily News.



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Going to Wallowa Hatchery.

La Grande, April 21.—Fish Commissioner Van Dusen arrived in the city this morning and left on the Elgin train for Elgin, from where he will go down to the mouth of the Wallowa river and begin the work of getting the salmon hatchery ready for the season's work. He has plans and specifications with him for the erection of a new building and other improvements. The hatchery will not only hatch salmon, but will also hatch trout. This will be of great advantage to this part of the state, as it will enable those who take interest in the stocking of our mountain streams to secure young fish sufficient to fill all their needs.

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