

His Holiness Pope Pius X.

GIUSEPPE SARTO

AS

Priest, Prelate, Patriarch and Pontiff.

That Catholics have excellent reason to believe that the Holy Ghost directs the conclave is evidenced by the election of Cardinal Sarto, Patriarch of Venice, as the successor of Pope Leo XIII. On all sides the action of the conclave was heartily approved. Catholics hailed the new Pope as eminently fitting to follow the great Leo; non-Catholics greeted him as a scholarly, charitable, and devoutly religious man; and it is said that even the Italian government welcomed his election. Under such circumstances it is apparent a better choice could not have been made.

Although many other Cardinals who had been mentioned as Papal possibilities were better known to the world, it does not follow that they possessed what might be called Pope-like qualities in a higher degree than the former Patriarch of Venice. Anyone who reads the story of his life must admit that Pius X is possessed of extraordinary ability. Under his administration the Church prospered wonderfully in Venice. Thus he must have been a fine administrator. That is a quality which the occupant of the Papal throne can use to good purpose. When we add that he is an eminent scholar, a remarkable preacher and a man noted for his piety and good works, it is apparent that in Pius X we have an ideal Pope. Like many of his predecessors the present Pontiff has sprung from the people. He has risen in the Church from the post of parish priest to the Chair of Peter. Thus he is a self-made man, a fact that should make him especially popular in this country.

Giuseppe Sarto was born at Riese, Treviso, Italy, June 2, 1835. He was educated in the Salesian Institute at Cottolengo, which was founded by the famous Dom Bosco, and at Padua. He was a studious youth, and his rector once said of him: "Sarto has