

Le Pape Centenaire

Le professeur Lapponi, médecin du pape, écrit un intéressant article dans l'organe du Vatican à Rome, "Vox Urbis". Cet article traite de la santé du pape et de la possibilité qu'il y a pour sa Sainteté de vivre jusqu'à cent ans. Léon XIII n'exprime pas seulement son désir de voir son centenaire, mais il semble convaincu de la chose, comme il appert par la réponse suivante qu'il faisait récemment au cardinal Mathieu, qui le félicitait sur sa bonne apparence: "Oui, j'espère vivre encore dix ans."

Le professeur Lapponi rend visite tous les jours au pape, et quelquefois deux fois par jour. La visite du matin a lieu ordinairement entre 9 et 10 heures. Il s'enquiert auprès des personnes qui assistent Sa Sainteté comment Elle a passé la nuit et si le rapport est favorable il n'entre pas dans les appartements privés du pape. Quoiqu'il fasse entièrement plaisir à Léon XIII de recevoir le Dr Lapponi qu'il accueille habituellement par l'exclamation suivante: "Bien, nous sommes très bien, il nous semble."

Depuis la dernière maladie du pape les réceptions du Vatican sont moins longues. Il y a réception cependant pour les corps diplomatiques et les évêques qui ont antérieurement été invités au Saint-Siège et qui sont parfois contraints d'attendre quinze jours pour savoir le jour et l'heure précise auxquels ils seront admis auprès de Sa Sainteté.

Le personnel des gardes d'honneur qui a charge de veiller sur le pape se compose des Mousignors De Angeli, Valpini et Mazzaloni, et des quatre chambellans privés: De Croix Merry del Val, Bisleti et Tosi, qui se relèvent chaque semaine de leur devoir.

Il y a aussi quatre serviteurs qui jouissent de l'entière confiance du vieillard du Vatican, le rasant, l'habillant, le déshabillant et qui veillent à tous ses besoins. Le premier de ses serviteurs est Pio, un robuste vieillard qui était au service du Pape quand il n'était encore qu'évêque de Ferrugia. C'est Pio qui transporte Sa Sainteté dans ses bras, comme un enfant, quand Elle est malade.

Avant sa dernière maladie le Pape était fort matinal, mais depuis il se lève entre 8 et 9 heures. Il boit un œuf battu et fait une courte promenade, en s'appuyant au bras de son serviteur.

Il se rend ensuite à sa salle d'étude où il se fait lire ses lettres et ses journaux pendant une demi heure, tout au plus trois quarts d'heure.

A 11 heures, il donne audience au cardinal Rampolla, dans sa bibliothèque particulière.

Pendant la saison d'été Sa Sainteté fait de nombreuses excursions en voiture, dans ses jardins.

Le dîner est servi à 1 heure. Le Pape prend invariablement une tranche de viande rôtie, du bouillon et arrose ce dîner d'un petit verre de vin, puis il prend un peu de repos.

Entre 3 et 4 heures, ce sont les audiences particulières. Le Pape soupe à 7 hrs et à 8 heures—quelquefois à 9, mais rarement,—il se met au lit. En dépit de la chaleur, il dort bien pendant plusieurs heures.

La chaleur à Rome est actuellement insupportable et il ne serait pas étonnant d'apprendre que le Pape a succombé à la température étouffante mais il paraîtrait que le soleil n'a d'autre effet sur Sa Sainteté

que de la rendre plus vigoureuse et d'infuser dans ses veines une vie nouvelle. Avec ses nerfs d'acier, Léon XIII ne peut comprendre pourquoi les prélats qui l'entourent lui conseillent de se reposer et de changer d'air.

"Combien pensez vous que je puisse vivre de temps encore?" demanda un jour le Pape au professeur Mazonni.

"Je n'ai pas le droit, répondit le chirurgien, d'anticiper sur les décrets de la Providence, mais Votre Sainteté est si bien portante et votre esprit si frais et jeune qu'il vous aidera facilement à attendre votre centenaire."

"C'est vrai, murmura le pontife, ma mémoire est ferme et claire. Tous les actes de ma longue existence se reflètent devant mes yeux comme si je les voyais dans un miroir. C'est une grâce de Dieu pour laquelle je suis humblement reconnaissant, mais qui me remplit de joie aussi bien que d'orgueil, je le confesse. Je me sens jeune."

Connaissances Utiles

Pour se nettoyer les mains à fond, se frotter d'abord avec de la vaseline, fortement, et se laver ensuite à l'eau chaude et au savon. On obtient de la sorte un lavage que le savon seul est incapable de procurer.

Taches de graisse sur les étoffes—Les enlever avec la benzine, mais au lieu de mettre celle-ci sur la tache, commencer par imbiber de benzine le pourtour de cette dernière, de façon à l'encercler, après quoi on applique quelques gouttes au centre, sur la graisse la benzine grasse reste au milieu au lieu de transporter la graisse et de l'étaler tout autour, et si l'on applique un morceau de flanelle. De la sorte on enlève la tache au lieu de l'agrandir comme l'on fait habituellement.

Pétrole enflammé.—Pour éteindre du pétrole enflammé, il est entendu qu'on ne doit jamais recourir à l'eau; on peut employer des cendres, du sable, mais on n'en a pas toujours sous la main. Il est un liquide qu'on trouve généralement dans toutes les maisons et qui a des propriétés extinctrices curieuses et précieuses, c'est le lait. Versé sur le pétrole enflammé, il l'éteint immédiatement, et on ne peut trop répandre la connaissance de cette particularité.

La souricière économique.—Prenez une assiette un peu profonde, une assiette à soupe, et la moitié d'une noix partagée en deux, avec son écorce: renversez l'assiette, soulevez-la et laissez-la soutenue par la demi-noix retournée en dedans. La souris vient grignoter l'amande et l'assiette lui tombe dessus. Précautions secondaires: choisir pour installer ce piège une place bien nette et ne laisser auprès rien qui puisse satisfaire la gourmandise de la souris.

Pour préserver le fer de la rouille, lorsque ce fer est à l'abri, il suffit de le bien frotter avec des gousses d'ail, des oignons crus ou des échalottes et de le mettre en place que quand il est parfaitement sec.

Lorsque le fer est exposé aux intempéries des saisons, c'est-à-dire à l'air libre, le moyen qui vient d'être indiqué serait insuffisant. Dans ce cas, il faut broyer avec de l'huile de lin, de sature de bois ou mieux encore de la suie de houille (charbon de bois) et en passer une ou deux couches sur le métal.

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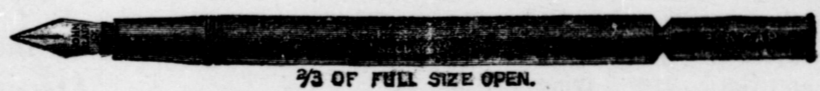
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The largest retail drug store in America is that of Hegeman & Co. on Broadway in New York City. A reporter who went there to learn

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"The sale of Ripans Tablets is constant and is increasing, due especially to the influential character of the testimonials in the daily press, and growing out of these, through the recommendation of friend to friend. Satisfaction with them is very general. When once they are begun I notice that a permanent customer for them is made. This, I believe, is through their intrinsic merit, which proves the bona fide character of the advertising. I think them specially useful in the general run of stomach troubles."



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A dollar's worth of Ripans Tablets lasts me a month, and I would not be without them now if it were my last dollar." "At the time of this interview there were present two daughters who specially objected to their mother giving a testimonial which should parade her name in the newspapers, but to do this the elder lady argued: "There may be other cases just like mine, and I am sure I take great pleasure in recommending the Tablets to any one afflicted as I was. If the telling about my case in the papers enables some other person similarly affected to be as greatly benefited as I have been, I see no objection." The daughters, knowing how earnestly she felt about the benefit she had received, decided she was quite right.

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