

on the battle-field are now but memories, but his law reforms will endure for all time. He himself once said, "I will go down to posterity with the code in my hand." He always presided at the meetings, and gave personal attention to the minutest detail. One of the codifiers said: "Never did we adjourn without learning something from him which we did not know before."

Another great and distinctive work of Napoleon was the Concordat. The property of the Church had been confiscated by the revolutionary party. They even went so far as to make a complete separation between Church and state. The salaries of the clergy had been stopped. Napoleon did not relish this condition of affairs. Some historians claim that he had his own ends in view when he espoused the cause of the Church, but no matter what his motives were he certainly restored France from the miseries of irreligion. According to the settlement effected between Church and state the Pope had a right to approve of the clerical nominees of the state, and the state pay \$10,000,000 per year for clerical salaries. This was the settlement repudiated by the present anti-Christian government of France.

One of Napoleon's most formidable enemies was England, and, thinking to strike a blow at her, he requested Pius VII to close his harbors to British commerce and become a party to a war against England. This the Pope refused to do, and as a consequence Napoleon declared the papal states part of his empire. For this the Pope excommunicated him, whereupon French troops, under Napoleon's orders, entered Italy, took possession of the states and sent the Pontiff into captivity and exile. This outrageous act created a wave of indignation throughout the civilized world, and no doubt was one of the chief causes of Napoleon's downfall. From this time fortune frowned upon him, and he gradually lost his power.

After his famous expedition into Russia, where he was totally unsuccessful, and in which he lost the greater part of his immense army, in the War of Liberation which followed, he, deserted by his allies, was utterly routed and forced to abdicate. He was sent to the island of Elba. Louis XVIII, brother to the ill-fated Louis XVI, ascended the throne of France, and peace was once more restored. But not for long. Napoleon escaped from his place of confinement and entered France once more. Thousands flocked to his standard. Without shedding one drop of blood he triumphantly marched to Paris and took possession after dethroning the Bourbon King Louis.