

A few weeks ago the world witnessed the death of a man who lived his whole life for his country and himself Prince Bismarck. If the "Iron Chancellor" ever had any other ambitions he never cared to push them. For all that he ever did seemed to be for the advancement of Germany and Bismarck. He accomplished a great deal for both. For the former, unity and strength; for the latter, fame. This fame is of the kind that is more memorable to his enemies than to his friends. It is worthy of note that his death, although the most notable since that of Mr. Gladstone, did not disturb the equilibrium of the nations of the world, not even of the German world.

During the warm summer days when the world at large was refreshing itself at the ocean side and in the cool glades of the mountains, there was one venerable, glorious old man whose solitary residence did not change, but whose tireless energy in the interests of his flock preserved its usual beautiful qualities. I refer to Leo XIII, who in the past two months occupied himself so earnestly with the grave problems of his time that the result was the issuance of two encyclical letters. The first was addressed to the clergy and people of Scotland, and given out on July 25; the second was to the Italians, which was published on August 5. The letter to the Scotch was written because of his earnest desires "to bring back to the embrace of the Good Shepherd those whom manifold error causes to stand aloof from the one fold of Christ," and because he "deeply deplored the unhappy lot of those who are deprived of the fulness of the Christian faith." The Holy Father draws attention to the perniciousness of the right of private judgment, and the evil of its becoming widespread among the people. He points out its incompatibility with the scriptural interpretations of the Apostles, who were inspired by the divine founder of Christianity, and whose doctrines were upheld by the Scottish people for more than a thousand years. The letter is a strong appeal to the common sense and close-reasoning characteristics of the people to whom it was sent. In the letter to the Italians the Pope speaks plainly of some of the