

O youthful year—but more to speak,  
Though fain, my words were all too weak;  
The forceful thoughts thou dost suggest  
Are stayed, and flow not from my breast;  
As when the ice-fraught brook, late freed,  
While surging on with freshened speed,  
Is by the massing fragments' force  
Retarded in its onward course.  
O infant year! may God ordain  
Thou be not born for us in vain;  
That when thy sceptre's lowered we may  
Be wiser, nobler for its sway.

J. BRANSFIELD.

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## ITALY OF TO-DAY.

### III.

Thus "United Italy" began her existence. She was heartily welcomed by many of her sister nations. A race of politicians guided her who had great expectations. They were going to make Italy great,—great in wealth, great in power, great in influence. And indeed there was every indication of such an outcome. Compared with many lands in Europe, Italy was then rich. Besides, from various circumstances, Italy was always the centre of the civilized world; and also being the centre of the religious world, the influence she would wield, provided she were great, would be immense. The climate, the position, the soil were such as to render the accumulation of wealth easy. The people over whom the new rulers found themselves were an intelligent race, and what was more, a moral and religious people. They had, under fair circumstances, shown great expansive powers and held out in that direction still greater hopes.

The people, when they found themselves compelled to submit, went quietly about their work and obeyed the new government. The Pope, by forbidding Catholics to run as deputies for the Italian Parliament, left the government of Italy entirely in the hands of its own supporters—the so-called Liberals. Their own fate, the fate of United Italy was in their hands.

The Pope also, following the principles of justice, refused to recognize, as Burke said of France, "that pretended kingdom