

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The following is from the Times Paris correspondent:—

The notion that war is extremely probable, if not inevitable, in a few months hence is becoming more general and more consistent every day;—war, I mean, between Austria and Piedmont, backed by the Italian population. Piedmont, according to all accounts, is preparing actively. She wants horses for her cavalry; Sardinian agents are engaged in making purchases in France, and others have, perhaps, by this arrived in England for the same purpose. Whether France will "drift" into the war I cannot affirm; though it is hard to see how she can keep out of it. Unless we suppose that France and Sardinia are merely affecting an ill humour in their diplomatic relations, the feeling must be the very contrary of friendly at this moment. If the latter be the case, the Emperor's position is unpleasant, if not difficult. We are told that His Majesty is decidedly opposed to the annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont; indeed, so much so, that he will hardly recognise it if effected, and that his engagements to "the Powers" do not permit of any compromise on this head. If universal suffrage be had recourse to, and if it pronounced in favour of annexation, it will not, I dare say, be the universal suffrage originally meant, but a sort of thing essentially different from that which prevails here; or would in Savoy and Nice, if Savoy and Nice condescend to use the ballot-box. A popular manifestation in these places is preferable; for the popular manifestation rule, and not universal suffrage, might be a good precedent for other places where "the frontier fixed by nature" might be also found.

There are a few people who try to persuade themselves that, after all, the dissension between the two Governments is not so serious as the world supposes. The pretext on which Savoy and Nice are sought to be "restored"—namely, the aggrandizement of Piedmont by means of Lombardy, Parma, and Modena, is hardly admissible. But, if Tuscany were added, would not that pretext be more plausible in the eyes of the public?

It is extremely provoking that whenever the Emperor of the French speaks more emphatically than usual about the blessings of peace, and his sincere desire to secure them to the country, public confidence diminishes and apprehensions of a new conflict somewhere or another increases tenfold. Since the speech from the Throne I have met with hardly six people who do not declare it as their deliberate opinion, that before three months are over hostilities will begin somewhere. And only a day or two ago a general officer of long standing, and in a situation which enables him to know something of what is passing out of view of the public, mentioned his belief that war this spring was inevitable. It is a misfortune to have one's good intentions and sincere avowals thus misinterpreted, if not willfully misrepresented. But so it is; and, strange to say, not even M. de Morny's touching commentary on the Imperial address strengthens the hopes which that address was doubtless meant to inspire, but which unluckily it has not inspired.

Piedmont is said to be arming to the teeth.—Letters from Turin speak of the day being not far distant when Victor Emmanuel will have 150,000 men fit to take to the field. But will M. Cavour really turn a deaf ear to the Imperial warning, and occupy the Romagna, as an integral part of the great Italian monarchy? And, if he does, will the French army evacuate Lombardy and march into Tuscany? The Villafranca preliminaries not being executed, Piedmont's tenure of her new province was not very secure as matters stood; and it will indeed be less so if Central Italy be annexed. Will the Austrians invade Piedmont, and if so, will France fly to the side of her ally under any circumstances? It is hardly conceivable that she will act against her. Whichever way we turn all is uncertain, complicated, and threatening. So people here believe; and hence the stagnation of trade and the general disquietude which we see prevailing.

Sir Robert Peel, it is almost superfluous to say, was quite right as to the importance he attaches to the word "revendication" which occurs in the Imperial speech respecting Savoy.—That term was used advisedly. The Emperor is well acquainted with French legal terms; and even if he were not he probably had some one at hand to whom they are necessarily familiar. In Raymond's large quarto dictionary revendiquer means, "to demand back a thing which belongs to us, and which is in the hands of another;—to demand back a thing which has been taken from us, or which has gone astray." And the term is explained in the *Dictionnaire des Arts et Sciences* thus:—"Revendication, in law, means the act by which the owner of a thing *la revendique*—i. e., claims it from him who has unjustly despoiled him of it; or from him who actually detains it." The 549th Article of the Code Napoleon says:—

"The mere possessor does not make the proceeds his own except he possesses it (the property) *bona fide*; in the contrary case he is bound to render the proceeds, with the estate, if the owner demands it back."

The "revendiquer" was not, you may depend upon it, employed by chance. But the ground of which the revendication is made is that Savoy belonged to France during the revolutionary period. If, then, we consider the territory that fell to France from 1797 to 1814, and to which the same term would apply, we may judge of the vast territorial changes that would follow.

The Paris papers publish the following, dated Antibes, March 5:—

On the occasion of the anniversary of the promulgation of the Sardinian constitution manifestations were made by the Piedmontese party in the Italian Theatre. Very few persons were present, and those in the boxes remained silent. A demonstration also took place in the French Theatre, where the population of Nice demanded the "Ode Napoléonienne" and the "Reine Hor-

tense," which were performed amid enthusiastic applause, and shouts of "Viva l'Empereur! Viva l'Annexion!" The situation of the country is very critical.

It is stated that as soon as the principles of the annexation of Savoy shall be settled between France and Savoy the Great Powers will be invited to a Conference in order to examine the reasons brought forward by France in favor of the annexation.

It is said that Count Aresé, who has returned to Turin, has been entrusted by the Emperor with the mission to bring about a speedy and definitive settlement between France and Piedmont of the question of Savoy.—*Times Correspondent*.

The *Moniteur* says:—"Some German papers announce that the French artillery has been increased by the creation of three new regiments. The fact is, the number of batteries having been reduced, the artillery has in reality undergone a reduction."

AN UNPLEASANT QUOTATION.—A very amusing incident occurred the other day during the trial of M. Vacherot. Among the passages of his pamphlet, set out in the indictment to support the charge that he had excited to hatred and contempt of the Government, and had endeavored to set one class of citizens against another, was one in which he said that France, as at present constituted, consisted of two classes only—"the rich and the poor." M. Marie, in contending that the expression of such an opinion furnished no reasonable ground for a prosecution, begged leave to read to the Court a passage from a well-known work which had never been prosecuted, in which French society was divided into "sybarites and helots." On hearing this the presiding judge, M. Partriarren Lafosse, turned as red as a turkey-cock, and exclaimed, "Well, but that is abominable. Who wrote that? Why was that not prosecuted?" M. Marie replied, "I am quoting from the works of Louis Napoléon Bonaparte." This palpable lie produced a shout of applause, and the President, in a great rage, threatened to clear the court.—*Paris Letter*.

AN ASSASSIN HOST.—In the village of Celles, in France, situated upon the banks of the Loire, is a small inn, entirely isolated from any other habitation, and a good quarter of a mile from the town. The proprietor of the inn, and of the field which extends before it, after having made useless attempts to prevent the laying of a railway near the house, offered at last to undertake himself at his own expense the necessary work of digging up the earth and making the embankments upon his own ground. The reason for his persistent efforts, although not at first understood, were however soon brought to light. No sooner was the spade put to the earth than the workmen discovered first one dead body, then a second, a third, and finally one at the foot of every tree growing in the field. This startling discovery that revealed all at once so many crimes, raised the public voice and provoked an investigation; the inn-keeper upon whom rested all suspicions, and old stories of travellers having suddenly disappeared, feigned great indignation, and at once denounced his accusers.

But his daughter who had hung herself a few months before without any apparent cause; the strange rapidity of his fortune; the many efforts made to prevent the construction of the work; the condition of the bodies discovered, some evidently recently buried, and bearing upon them proofs of the crime committed;—all these circumstances combined to lead to the immediate arrest of the innkeeper and his family. It appears that for more than thirty years the more common sort of travellers, and especially pedlars, were in the habit of stopping at this inn, attracted to it by the cheapness of the price; and they had then it would seem been assassinated in the night and despoiled of their stock or money. It is truly an atrocious discovery, and one which has excited the greatest horror and fear throughout the neighborhood.

ITALY. LOMBARDY.—MILAN, Feb. 29.—While Milan was rejoicing, merrymaking, cheering, laughing, and frolicking, the political sky became unexpectably and gradually obscured, and now sober Lent coming with all its power of reaction makes the dark clouds appear more formidable and threatening than they really are. The feeling is something like that of a gay gentleman who has been passing a merry night, who wants sudawater in the morning, and receives an unpleasant communication from his solicitors.—As usual in the Italian question, the change is sudden. At the King's arrival all looked bright and hopeful, and the whole town was full of his assurance that all was going on better than ever; and the last day before his departure, in receiving the Sindaco of Cremona, he told him that the position was exceedingly critical, but that he was firmly resolved not to recede, and hoped to be at the head of 200,000 men before spring has fairly set in.

The change took place during the King's stay at Milan. There was a certain uneasiness in the beginning of last week which foreshadowed it, but it was not before the end of the week that it took a more definite form. You will guess that the change refers to new difficulties which have arisen in the way of the annexation of Central Italy. Sanguine people predicted already the appearance of a manifesto, dated from Milan, which would complete the arduous and tedious work which has been attempted so often in vain, and be followed by the immediate armed occupation of Central Italy. Now, not only is there discreet silence about so bold an act, but even considerable doubt whether the annexation in the most regular way, by means of the Parliament, will take place quite so soon as was hoped and expected.

I have been often forced to revert to the position of Sardinia towards France, and only a month ago tried to explain it to your readers when Cavour resumed office almost contemporaneously with the change for the better in the policy of the Emperor Napoleon. I wanted thus to guard your readers against the mistake of supposing that the bridge had been taken off, showing that it was merely giving the impatient steed its head. It was the withdrawal of the opposition to all action on the part of Sardinia, but no advice, or approval, or encouragement to act at all, or to act in one way rather than the other. No consent was given to the annexation, or to the manner in which it was to take place. The much-talked-of pamphlet, and the advice to the Pope to give up what he could not hold, was of course an invitation to those who could get and hold it to ask whether they might not take it. The answer was a new encouragement,—the wish of the population was to be consulted, and if that was really for annexation, none would do violence to their wish. On this the Government of Central

Italy resolved to express their wish before the were even asked to publish the Sardinian statutes, and elect representatives for the national Parliament. Cavour addressed his original note, sent united in his person the War Departments of Sardinia and Central Italy, several Piedmontese were sent to help in the organization of the Central Italian army, and everything seemed to go on smoothly. The old Parliament being dissolved, the annexation went on as it were by itself. The law prescribes the time within which the electoral lists must be made out, the time for petitions, for the approval of the lists, and for the election. Thus, once the first step made, the Government, even if it wished, could not stop proceedings without committing an illegality; and, allowing all delays for formalities, the Parliamentary elections cannot be well deferred beyond the end of the month. As far then, as the elections go, a change in the policy of the Emperor of the French cannot make any alteration; he cannot pull in the steed, but the opposition of France to the annexation may have some effect on the actual convocation of Parliament, which, according to law, can be deferred for four months after the dissolution of the last Parliament.

Whether it be the catholic agitation which frightened the Emperor, or whether it be the opposition made by every one to the cession of Savoy and Nice which disgusted him, or the approach of Russia and Austria which made him hesitate, or, finally, whether it be some disposition on the part of the latter to listen to former schemes, which made it advisable for him to pause, certain it is that attempts are made to throw up a dyke against the fusion of Central Italy. As there was no encouragement held out to act, so there is now no veto used to stop the annexation, only indirect insinuations, proposals of different solutions, and representations about the dangers attending precipitate action, which, taken together, are sufficiently significant to cause some hesitation.—*Times Cor.*

A despatch from Cavour to Ricasola, dated 29th of February, communicates the French ideas relating to the settlement of the Italian question.

Cavour says the assurances of the French Government show that the election of a Prince of the House of Savoy would be opposed by France.—Whatever will be the result of the new vote of Tuscany, the King will accept it before hand.

TUSCANY.—FLORENCE, THURSDAY, MARCH 1.—A decree has been published convoking the Tuscan people for the 11th and 12th of March in order to vote, by universal suffrage and ballot, on the two following proposals:—Annexation to Sardinia, or a Separate kingdom. All Tuscans being twenty-one years of age and enjoying political rights are entitled to vote.

CENTRAL ITALY.—BOLOGNA, MARCH 2.—A decree of the Government calls together the inhabitants of the Apennine provinces for the 11th and 12th of March to vote ballot and universal suffrage on the two proposals, annexation to Sardinia, or a separate kingdom.

The Paris *Constitutionnel* has a semi-official article against the general adoption of universal suffrage, as applied to the doctrine of national sovereignty. A false extension of the principle may become an incessant source of trouble and danger to Europe, though an extension is about to take place in Italy, in opposition to counsels of France.

ROME.—Letters received from Rome confirm the statement that the communication presented by the Almoner of Victor Emmanuel to the Pope announced to His Holiness that the King of Sardinia would, perhaps, be under the necessity of occupying the Umbrian Marches, the population of which do not cease to demand the annexation of their country to Piedmont. The Pope replied immediately, expressing his surprise and grief, and threatening the King of Sardinia with excommunication. Eight students of the University of Rome have been expelled, and the Prelate Rector has been dismissed. Another disturbance has taken place among the students. The Government is occupied with the loan. A mixed commission has been appointed to report definitively upon the fusion of the Railway Companies, and hopes are entertained of a speedy settlement of the question. The *Monitore* of Bologna states that the electors persist in demanding annexation.

ADDRESS OF THE CATHOLICS OF ENGLAND TO THE POPE.

On the 17th ult., His Holiness graciously received a deputation from the Catholics of the British Empire, expressing their sympathy with him in his troubles. There were present His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster; their Lordships the Bishops of Nottingham and Liverpool; and many other illustrious Prelates of the Church. The Address was read by the Archbishop of Westminster, and to it His Holiness vouchsafed the following reply:—

"If under the mysterious Providence of God, great have been the troubles which have been heaped upon the heart of the Vicar of Jesus Christ, greater still has been the consolation with which he has witnessed the well-nigh countless manifestations of the filial devotion of the whole Catholic world.—Amongst these not the least is that which I have seen to-day, and which causes me now to speak. If God has still greater trials in store for me, your sympathy and devotion will be to me a pledge of unshaken firmness on my part. Sad indeed it is to think of those ill-used and misguided provinces of which you have made mention, but when the justice of God has been assailed, He will send us peace.—"Justitia et pax osculetur." And, meanwhile, it is most pleasing to see before me the subjects of that illustrious British Empire, which I pray Almighty God to increase day by day, not only in the progress of material civilization, but in richer and more spiritual blessings. May that kingdom, once the Land of Saints, bring forth fruit again unto salvation. May conversions be multiplied, and the true faith spread abroad ever more and more. And ever where God may not be pleased to grant the light of faith, may He deign to send down upon your land such a sense of justice, that men may know what course they should pursue.

Thus shall the words of the great Gregory meet with their fulfillment:—"Non Angli sunt, sed Angeli." Be ye then angels, my children—angels in wisdom, angels in holiness of life, angels in truth, angels in perseverance unto the end.

And that you may lead this angelic life, I pray the Most High God to give me strength to raise these arms of mine to bless you.—God Almighty give you His blessing. God the Father grant unto you some little portion of His Almighty power, that you may be able to subdue yourselves: God the Son impart unto you some spark, as it were, of His eternal wisdom, that you may guide yourselves rightly in the paths of justice; God the Holy Spirit give unto you His heavenly love, which is God Himself (Deus charitas est), that you may live the life of God.

"Benedictio Dei Omnipotentis, Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti descendat super vos et maneat semper."

THE PAPAL ARMY.—A French officer just returned from Rome states that the Papal troops amount to 8,000 men, of whom 4,000 are Swiss, 2,000 Chasseurs or Dragoons, and 2,000 Gendarmes or Carabiniers. To these are to be added 4,000 Austrians or Bavarians at Macerata. Of these troops, 3,500 are at Pesaro, 2,000 at Ancona, 1,000 at Urbino, 1,800 at Perugia, and the Dragoons at Rome. All these troops, except the Swiss, are organized after the French model, under the direction of Cardinal Antonelli. Particular attention has been paid in the formation of the rifle corps to the selection of the men, as well as to their arms and equipment.

AUSTRIA. VIENNA, MARCH 2.—As this government is extremely averse from the idea of becoming a party to a conference the bases of which are not defined, it is

likely to reject the proposition recently made by the Russian Cabinet. If Russia and Prussia would pledge themselves to uphold the principle of legitimacy in Central Italy, Austria would readily agree to the proposed conference; but both the Northern Powers have declined to enter into binding engagements. In official circles it is related that the Russian proposals find no favour with the British Government, and it is probable that such is really the case, as Her Majesty's Ministers must well know that Prince Gortschakoff wishes to have free conferences (*freie conferenzen*), in order that he may have an opportunity of trying to undo what was done at Paris in the year 1856. The city is full of strange reports in respect to Central Italy, and one of the most singular of them is, that the agents of the French Government in Lombardy and the Romagna have received orders to agitate in favour of Prince Joseph Napoleon, who, as you are aware, quitted Rome when the Encyclical Letter of the Pope was published. During the last night the Emperor Napoleon's speech to the Legislative Body was received here, and the passage referring to Savoy produces an extremely disagreeable effect on the Austrians, as they believe that King Victor Emmanuel would not have consented to make such a sacrifice had he not received some promise in respect to Venice. As if to increase the confusion of ideas which has prevailed here during the last few days, the *Neue Munchener Zeitung*, a semi-ficial paper, says it has good authority for stating that the Emperor of the French intends to change his policy towards Rome, "and to maintain the integrity of the domains of the Church." From Munich we also learn that the King of Bavaria is not disposed to permit either the Pope or the King of Naples to raise recruits in his dominions. This intelligence may be correct, as His Majesty refused to see the Austrian General von Mayerhofer, who had a letter of recommendation from the Archduchess Sophia, but still I am much inclined to doubt its truth, as the Royal family of Bavaria has from time immemorial been one of the mainstays of Rome, and a daughter of the ducal branch of the Wittelsbachs is married to the King of Naples. The agents of the Papal Government continue to raise recruits in the Tyrol, and in the valley of the Adige.

The announcement of a treaty between Russia and Austria is without foundation; but it is asserted that Austria, although not bound by such a treaty, will no longer oppose the Russian policy in Turkey.

A most important document has been made public at Vienna, which was originally intended for the Congress. It is a declaration in defence of the temporal sovereignty of the Holy Father, signed by the whole of the Catholic Episcopate of Germany, England, Austria, Belgium, Scotland, Holland, Ireland, and Switzerland.

The *Nord-Deutsche Zeitung* says that the Berlin Cabinet has, through its Ambassador, made a communication to the Cabinet of Vienna to the following effect:—

"Prussia would, it is true, see with regret that Austria should deem it necessary to consolidate her actual position in Italy, or to re-establish her former position by any aggressive measure, and would especially regret to see that Power make an armed invasion on the right bank of the Mincio, which she has ceased. On the other hand, should any enemy come from the West cross the Mincio line without provocation from Austria, Prussia, who looks upon that line as indispensable to the interests of Germany, would look upon those interests, and consequently upon her own, as compromised. She would consider herself provoked to the struggle, and would regard such a step as a *casus belli*."

RUSSIA.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* denies that an alliance has been concluded between Russia and Austria, and a member of this Government yesterday declared that the statement recently made by one of your contemporaries on the subject was totally false.

To inquiries made here by the representatives of some foreign Powers the Austrian Government has replied that, its interests not being directly affected by the annexation of Savoy to France, it would observe on this question the same passive conduct which the great Powers exhibited at the time of the last war in Lombardy, and that Austria will not protest against the annexation of Savoy."

PRUSSIA.

An incidental debate took place in the Prussian Chamber of Representatives on the 1st inst. A petition was submitted to the Chamber by 383 inhabitants of Breslau in favour of the national and constitutional interests of Italy. In its report the committee expressed its sympathies for the national cause of Italy; it did not conceal the displeasure that would be felt in Prussia if any intervention took place, but it proposed to pass to the Order of the Day, convinced that the Government would share its opinion, which is that of the immense majority of the Prussian people. It, moreover, stated in support of its conclusions, that no petition in a contrary sense had been presented to the Chamber. The following discussion ensued:—

"M. de Scheleitz (Minister of Foreign Affairs) thought it would precede to open a discussion on so serious a question in an incidental manner and on the presentation of a petition. If the Chamber wished to discuss the subject, it was becoming its duty to take to take the initiative, or to wait for an opportunity given to it by the government. The committee proposed the order of the day, without going further into the subject. He wished the Chamber to follow the example of the committee, and to adopt the order of the day without discussion."

"M. Reichensperger (a Catholic), deputy for Cologne, was opposed to a detailed discussion. The Chamber treated the question last year when the loan was brought forward, and the views expressed then by the liberal majority were not in keeping with the opinion of the committee. The Deputy Simson, now their President, said on that occasion that the intervention of France had destroyed his sympathies for Sardinia.

"(The President, M. Simson, at this moment left the chair, which was taken by Vice-President Maritz.)

"I do not (continued M. Reichensperger) believe that events have altered that opinion. In Lombardy, it is true, the double headed eagle of Germany has been replaced by another known to us; it once winged its flight as far as Danzig. I doubt whether the cause of Italy and constitutional liberty, has gained much by it. The alliance between revolution and absolutism has since then clearly manifested itself."

After stating that liberty was put down in Italy, and alluding to the murder of Count Arviti, the speaker continued:—

"The committee pronounces itself for non-intervention. Is it ignorant of the fact that there are 50,000 Frenchmen in Lombardy? Does it wish that the French alone are to have the monopoly of intervention, and that Germany and Prussia are to be idle spectators if the French cross the Alps, and the Telegraph sends orders from Paris to Turin? The intrigues and guineas of England have always played a great part in Italy, I mention it to Sir John Adams at Ginegiov as a proof of it. The patriots who favor a united State in Italy forget that, to obtain such a result, the kingdom of Naples must be upset, and many other things accomplished. The Mission of Prussia is to uphold the principles of truth, of right, and of legitimacy (sensation), and not to aid revolution. I am confident the Government will not fail to do so. Principles rank higher than the rights of Princes and of thrones. If you overthrow principle the thrones will be shaken. (I hear, hear, from the Liberal benches.) I do not deny that my political friends and myself have at heart the welfare of the Pope, who is persecuted by revolution. As for ourselves, we do not tremble.—The rock of St. Peter stands firm. We should not even tremble should fate send the Holy Father into

exile, or humiliate him under a despot; and we are convinced that if that edifice is overthrown it will fall not upon the heads of Catholics alone. [Applause.]

SARDINIA AND HER RULERS.

(From the Correspondent of the Weekly Register.)

We who have lived for many years in Alpine lands, know from experience how sudden are the changes from the sudden sunshine to the most dreadful tempest—from the calm and security of summer weather to the dread dangers of death-dealing winter—we have spent weeks and months of uninterrupted serenity in the midst of glaciers—in the very dwelling places of avalanches and whirlwinds—in the homes of earthquakes and snowdrifts—of devastating torrents and of everlasting snows.

The whole of Christendom was astounded when the Emperor of the French made his curious announcement to the Austrian Ambassador on New Year's Day, 1859; and still more when the King of Sardinia, on the opening of his Parliament a few days later, spoke words of menace to the same Emperor of Austria, and openly avowed his sympathy with evil deeds and firebrand revolutionists.

We who have been in Italy before, and during those proceedings which have naturally convulsed Europe, think it right to enlighten the British public on the circumstances that have occurred during the discreditable and dangerous reign of terror that has destroyed the peace of Central Italy ever since the mask was thrown away by the Governments of France and Sardinia.

The whole mass of mankind should be made to resent such treasonable practices, to protest strongly and determinedly against such an unwarrantable attack of might against right, reviving thus, in the 19th century, the robberies and raids, the forays and feuds of a barbaric age.

And this brings us to the nucleus of the whole matter. What is called the traditional policy of the House of Savoy, dating from the earliest time, is nothing else than robbery and unwarrantable spoliation, was so at the commencement, continued so through the middle ages, and is trying to be so still in the present day, in spite of civilisation, right, justice, solemn compacts, and Christianity itself.

If powerful monarchs can overrun neighboring states with impunity, what security is there for life or property? What becomes of the balance of power, and where is the use of entering into treaties? The fact is, that under specious pretences, the law of nations has been shamelessly broken; and, if civilisation has not yet advanced sufficiently to enable us to punish as they deserve the responsible ministers who have lent their names and influence to perpetrate such iniquity, at all events we are determined to present their conduct in its true colors, so that, whatever their talent, how great soever their fame, how high their position, they may no longer deceive the public or delude their followers.

We are, therefore, about to tell a plain unvarnished tale of the occurrences which took place lately in Piedmont, so that the world may know the true character of the whole transaction. "Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones." Those who have attacked the Governments of Rome and of Naples, religion, and Catholicity, about to be attacked in their own stronghold.

In order to enable our readers to understand the situation of affairs when the war began, it is necessary to initiate them into the character of those who were mainly instrumental in bringing it about. The President of the Council of Ministers Count Cavour, in Sardinia, is a man of great parts: he is gifted with extraordinary talents, but he has no principle, no conscience—no respect for God or man—no regard for the rights of others, and is rash and self-opinionated to the last degree.

In early life he was entered in the Military Academy, and so little respect had he for his superiors, that, after sundry acts of insubordination, he was expelled, and his military career nipped in the bud. He then came to England, studied our customs, and was particularly pleased with the Protestantism of this country. His father implored him to return to his native land, and urged him to do so, promising to get him appointed *attaché* to one of the Sardinian embassies. He replied that he would not return home, unless he could see his way to be prime minister.

As in early life he was reckless and vain, so in maturer years he became thoroughly unprincipled and ambitious, and now that he is getting into years he has become daring and sacrilegious.

When he succeeded D'Azélin, he was too great a man to follow the beaten track, and he immediately cast about for a policy that would be in accordance with his feelings, and give him the opportunity of doing great things.

He studied the history of the House of Savoy; he saw how they made their way from the dreary Maurienne to the still wretched Montauban, from thence to Chambéry and to Geneva, and then again over the Alps into Piedmont, and to Sicily and the island of Sardinia, plundering their neighbors and appropriating their honors and their territory, reckless of consequences, and regardless of all existing rights. He remembered the saying of one of the kings of that race, who declared that the whole of Italy was like an arctichoke, which they could have altogether if they took it by degrees, leaf after leaf. Cavour adopted this hereditary policy as far as the results were concerned, but was not at all scrupulous, nor even prudent, in the means he made use of.

Turin was at that time swarming with emigrants who had fled from other states of Italy in 1849: some having been comprised in the affairs of that eventful year, led away by their enthusiastic love of a liberty which they do not even now understand, and of an absurd dreamy belief in an impossible state of society which could never exist—misguided men who were following a shadow by day and a will-o'-the-wisp by night—all of them irreligious, and none of them were conscious of what high principle or purity of character meant.

The advent of these pseudo martyrs nearly doubled the population of Turin. It was necessary to employ them to keep them out of mischief, and they were made use of in various ways. The most abundant among them got into Parliament, and obtained posts of honor and importance in the army, and in the employment of Government. The Neapolitans were generally the most favored as being the best speakers, and lively, witty, conversational companions, although they were generally the most superficial of the whole lot. The Lombards were treated, perhaps, the worst of all; they were always sure to help the Piedmontese, and were their natural allies against the Austrians. They were therefore put off with anything at all that could be found for them, or with nothing at all, according to circumstances. The Venetians fared rather better, although not a very great deal. They were also somewhat cleverer, and this may in some degree account for the slight preference shown to them, but ability had a very small share in the distribution of honors and emoluments. Cavour had a deeper game to play than merely to employ troublesome immigrants from the other parts of Italy. He befriended them with a view to ulterior movements, and ingratiated himself with them in order to make them tools for the furtherance of his adopted policy.

He got them to join in a national society under the presidency of the Marquis of Palovinc-Trivizi.—This great association had enlisted among its active members men from every part of the Peninsula, who carried on a constant communication with their relatives and friends at home, keeping them in possession of all that the liberals were doing in Piedmont, and obtaining for the minister of the day minute details of all that was going on throughout the rest of Italy.

This association was, as it were, the nucleus of all the disaffection and irreligion of the country—it represented at Turin the feelings of anarchical and revolutionary men wherever they were to be found in