

to the theatre to-night; and what a reception he would have! Then, in a day or two, Farini was to come in from the *Emilia* to lay the allegiance of those states at the feet of the king; and in a day or two more Ricasoli was to come bearing the result of the voting in Tuscany; and what receptions they would both have! And so on he ran in a tide of patriotic eloquence. How different was this man's strain from that of a Frenchman under any thing like similar circumstances! There was as much feeling; but, intense as it was, he was grave, almost solemn, and, what I did not expect, there was scarcely an extravagant word. If he was a fair specimen of men of his class, the intelligence of the people of Turin ought to rank high.

"In the streets one was greatly impressed with the appearance of the soldiers; for, being the king's birthday, they were all in new uniform, and better-dressed men I never saw belonging to any army, or men of finer physical proportions. So far as one could judge, they were in strict discipline, and every where the towns-people seemed to look upon them with pride. As some regiments marched up before the palace, carrying flags that were gloriously tattered, scarcely able to hang by the staff, the excitement of the people was high.

"Several points seemed to indicate the progress of events in the last few years. The streets were more thronged. The bearing of the people was bolder and livelier. The style of dress for men approached nearer to English fashions. It seemed plain that (except the hat) London ruled the taste for gentlemen, as Paris does that for ladies. At the *table d'hôte* the company was much larger; and, instead of being nearly all foreigners—English, American, German, and so on—it consisted chiefly of Italians, and national topics occupied almost every tongue.

"Entering a merchant's office, I delivered a letter of introduction, and found a cordial reception. Two partners took part in the conversation. "What a moment you come at!" they exclaimed. "What a moment! The voting in Central Italy is all favorable to the annexation. We did not expect such a magnificent result. Italy never saw such a day! We are a nation—a nation at last! We may have troubles, and doubtless we shall have; but I have

confidence that it will all be well." With reference to the past, they seemed to think that the Emperor of the French was well paid by Savoy, and that, however serviceable he had been, they had acquitted their debts to him.

"When I asked what the bearing of all this would be upon the relation of the Italian people to the Church, it was plain that this was just the point upon which their views were the most undefined, and on which they were eager to hear what others might think. I told them plainly that, according to our ideas, many of the superstitions and doctrines found in the modern churches were not only distinct from the true Christian religion, but totally opposed to it. The old man looked as though a familiar doubt slumbering in his mind had been started up, and armed. I urged that we ought to learn religion from Christ's own words, the words of his apostles, the faith and forms of the first age. No man could believe that what they saw before their eyes in Italy, under the name of Christianity, was the same thing as had been established eighteen centuries ago by the apostles of our Lord; and the duty of all was to discover the ancient truths and forms, to adhere to them, and to let all the accretions of the middle and modern ages fall away. In reply to all this, nothing was said, but the dark eyes looked approbation. After all that I heard among the Savoyards of their anxiety for annexation to France, it was rather amusing to find that these Piedmontese took it for granted that the measure would be unwelcome to the people of Savoy. They were specially sure that when it came to voting in the army, the great majority of the men, and all the officers, would be for retaining their connection with Piedmont. Indeed, the fact had been ascertained.

"In another house of business I found a young, energetic, thoughtful man, who again received me with very great kindness. "You are come," he exclaimed, "at a glorious moment; you have heard of the voting for the annexation; all is going far better than we could have expected. The Emperor of the French will surely be satisfied now, and stand no longer in the way of the natural rights of Italy. We have been divided and distracted too long by princes and diplomatists; it is surely time, then, to let nature have its course,