

ever is willing to make one single step in the path of progress with you should be considered as one of your friends, until he leaves you. A king, suppose, gives a more liberal law. Applaud it, demanding at the same time that which logically ought to follow it. A minister indicates views of progress—hold him up as a model. A grand seigneur gives indications that he does not care for his privileges—put yourselves under his direction. If he wants to stop short you will always be in time to leave him, and he will remain isolated and without force against you. And you will have a thousand means of rendering unpopular those who have opposed themselves to your designs. All personal discontents, all illusions, all irritated ambitions may be made to serve the cause of progress if others know how to give them a good direction.

#### VI. OBSTACLES.

The army, which is always submissive by education, by organisation and by interest, is the greatest obstacle to the progress of socialism. There is the great assistance of despotism. It is necessary to paralyse the army by means of the general education of the people. When the public shall have understood that the army, which exists for the defence of the country, has no business to interfere in any way with the interior politics of the country, and owes respect to the public, then it will be possible to go forward without the army, or even against it, without risk. The clergy possesses only one half of the doctrine of socialism. It desires, as we do, fraternity, which it calls charity; but its government and its habitudes make it an aid to authority, that is to say, to despotism. What is needed is to take off it what it has of good, and to cut off the evil. Endeavour to make equality penetrate into the church, then all will go on. Clerical power is personified in the Jesuits. The odium which is attached to this name is a power on the side of socialists. Remember this.

#### VII. THE MEANS OF ACTION.

Associate! associate! associate! Everything is in this one word. Secret societies confer an irresistible force on the party which can avail itself of them. Do not be alarmed at seeing them divided. The more they divide themselves the more suc-