

ance of some noble friends, of the same stamp, and of the same enlightened and liberal principles, the Royal Agricultural Society of Sardinia, which became very popular, and soon numbered more than 2000 members. The reforms of the Pope, and the troubles in Tuscany aided the liberal party in their career of improvement, and Carlo Alberto, relaxing the restrictions on the Press, gave it out that he was not opposed to still more important concessions. But the clergy were in the way of all improvement, and stood as a formidable phalanx, allied as they were with the feudal aristocracy, many of whose members formed a part of the leading Jesuits. It was necessary to rout and annihilate them if possible. Cavour was just the man for the times, for he was strongly opposed to the clerico aristocratic *regime* on the one hand, and to all revolutionary violence and indiscretion on the other, and he felt the importance of averting too stormy a collision, by securing a hearing for the opinions of temperate, though earnest reformers. This state of things suggested the necessity and importance of starting a liberal journal that would find way to the heart and ear of the nation, and become the acknowledged organ of the liberal party. A daily paper was immediately started called "*Il Resorgimento*," and although it was conducted by a most aristocratic staff of officials, yet it soon became the organ of the middle classes. It was the "*Times*" of Turin. In its columns the English Constitution was fully and freely discussed, and by this means the nation at large became acquainted with it, and through the powerful pen of Cavour, the people were soon prepared to adopt it. Carlo Alberto favoured the design. The great reform urged and recommended by Cavour was a Constitution, and although the ministers of the Crown and the aristocracy of the land were strongly opposed to it, yet he had the satisfaction of having it announced by the King in a manifesto to his much delighted subjects,—Sardinia's accession to the ranks of the Constitutional States of Europe. This was a noble triumph. The new Election Law was the product of his mighty mind, undertaken at the request of the ministry, and in the following May the Turin Parliament met for the first time, and he was one of its members, and one of its leading spirits. Cavour was well qualified for the position he now occupied. He had listened to the debates in the House of Commons, and had conceived an idea rather novel, but characteristic. He does not see why a man is bound to keep the same side of the House at all times, provided he is loyal and patriotic. He saw no objection to a man being a Radical at one time and a Tory at