

in his office to consummate the sale of the estate purchased by the Marquis de Sallenaue, the purchasers were careful to bestow a fee of such abnormal and *electoral* proportions, that to accept it was to pledge his support. As for the common herd of electors, we cannot fail to make many recruits among them by the extensive works upon which our friend proposes to employ them in the château of which he is now the owner, the said château having the good fortune to threaten to fall in ruins at several points. We must also reckon upon the effect of a magnificent profession of faith which Charles de Sallenaue has just had printed, in which he declares flatly that he will not accept any office or any favor from the government. I may add that the clever oratory which may be expected from him at the preliminary meeting already announced; the support of the opposition papers, in Paris as well as on the spot; the insults and slanders which the ministerial organs have already begun to discharge, all tend to encourage my hopes, and I pause upon one last consideration. Would it be a very extraordinary thing if, with a view to give the lie to their somewhat Bœotian reputation, the Champenois should set their hearts upon electing a man of distinction in the arts, one of whose masterpieces they have before their eyes, who has come of his own free-will to take up his abode among them by purchasing an estate that has been almost ten years on the market without finding a purchaser, and who is on the point of restoring that estate, one