

THE PRESIDENT OF FRANCE IN ENGLAND.

The President of France during his visit to England, has been greeted everywhere with the "Marseillaise." It was an act that could not but touch the heart of England when he laid a wreath of flowers upon the tomb of our late beloved Queen in Frogmore. The visit of President Loubet to England, following that of King Edward to Paris, may mean nothing more than a mere exchange of international courtesies; but, in any case, it is significant of a growing amity between the two peoples.

The King, at the banquet in Buckingham Palace, said there existed a friendly feeling towards France among Britons, and that France, being England's nearest neighbour, should naturally be her best neighbour. There are many reasons why a cordial understanding between the two nations would be mutually advantageous to both. A number of leading French statesmen believe there is no necessity of antagonism between the two, commercially or colonially; France has given up the idea of rivalling the British navy, and they believe wherever English and French interests are concerned, a satisfactory agreement is possible, by the making of mutual concessions.

RESISTING THE EDUCATION BILL.

The promoters of the Education Bill in England must assuredly feel by this time that they are treading no flowery way. The movement for resistance to the payment of rates grows apace. A characteristic scene was that at the sale of household goods seized for non-payment at Hastings. All the local auctioneers refused the task. Accordingly, an Italian was brought from London. The sale, however, was broken up by the violence of the crowd, and adjourned indefinitely. In other places, the goods seized have been bought in by friends of the resisters. Of course, it is only the leaders of the movement that are thus resisting.

The passive resistance attitude has called forth a letter from Prime Minister Balfour, in which he asserts that the Nonconformists have no right to resist the law. Dr. Clifford, one of the leaders of the movement, replied in a powerful letter, defining the rights and duties of citizens and of Free Churchmen. An anecdote of the Rev. R. J. Campbell, of City Temple, is told in this connection. He was explaining

to an American reporter the situation over the Education Bill in England, saying that the expense of the schools was largely to be borne by the general public, while a small Church of England minority controlled the instruction. "Tut," exclaimed the reporter, "we wouldn't stand that over here!" "Tut," replied Mr. Campbell quick as a flash, "and we're not going to stand it over there!"

POPE PIUS THE TENTH.

On Tuesday morning of last week, much to the surprise of nearly every one, Cardinal Sarto, Patriarch of Venice, a priest of marked democratic ideas, possessing a highly cultured mind, modest and agreeable in manners, and active in good works, was elected to succeed the late lamented Leo in the chair of St. Peter. The election was evidently in the nature of a compromise between two rival factions, but, from the point of view of an outsider, the choice seems an eminently wise one. Cardinal Sarto is said to have shown little interest in or knowledge of the political plans and schemings of the Vatican, and is an advocate of harmony between Church and State in Italy. With an inclination to magnify the spiritual side of his office, he may well serve the higher interests of the Church, that is, if he has the force of character to dominate the powerful non-spiritual forces that surround him, and the tendency to political intrigue that has long marred the history of the Roman Church. He is but ill-informed, however, as to real conditions who imagines that any Pope can seriously change the traditional policy of the Vatican. Pope Pius is sixty-eight years of age, and had been a Cardinal since 1893.—*Christian Guardian*.

SHIPBUILDING AND SUGAR-EATING.

The mistress of the seas shows no signs of waning strength. More than half the total output of the world's shipbuilding for last year belonged to Britain. Her tonnage was over five times that of any other power. The aggregate tonnage of Britain and her colonies for the past year was 1,699,457 tons, that of the United States, the second among shipbuilding powers, 317,775 tons. *Zion's Herald* notes a curious fact, that as "a nation eats sugar so is its power on the sea." England consumes 86 pounds of sugar a year per capita, and half the ships