

To the declining power of imperial Rome succeeded the spiritual puissance, which has been transmitted from St. Peter to Pius IX, during eighteen consecutive centuries, and whose dictates and tenets radiate from the Vatican to Polynesia and the continents.

Mahomet and his fanatic successors, Koran and sword in hands, overwhelmed Asia and invaded Europe. Nobody can predict where their propagandism would have stopped, if Charles Martel had not hammered it down in the plains of Southern France.

We meet, amid the débris of the Roman empire, the shadow of Charlemagne covering the Eastern hemisphere.

The barbaric hordes of Gengis-Khan and Tamerlane are arrested at the gates of Europe—the want of vessels to transport them thither frustrating the designs of world-wide conquest cherished by those blood-thirsty commanders.

Russia, born of the principality of Muscov, accepts from Peter Romanoff, the carpenter of her incipient greatness, the mission to subjugate the world; she spares neither blood nor treasure to execute it according to the letter and spirit of the testament of the illustrious legator.

Napoleon Buonaparte, whose birth-island is anchored in the Mediterranean waters that lave the shores of three continents, sacrificed to his Unitic projects everything that obstructed his march: he blew to atoms, at the mouth of the cannon, the republic that had raised him; he twice overturned his own throne. At St. Helena, his political dreams and his military speculations embrace the world: he reconstructs the Old and organizes the New.