

The marbles of Carrara, the ornamental stones termed Mischio di Saravezzo, the alabaster and serpentine, are not only productions of immense value, but are the materials of industries strictly national. The manufacture of mosaics in Florence has a world-wide fame, and wherever we travel, and whether we inspect the palaces of sovereigns, or galleries of art, everywhere we find the productions of the Italian chisel, the glories of Italian art. But Italy is not only rich in works of art and articles of luxury; her fertile land and her rich pasture afford the most delicious and most nutritive articles of provisions. Much I might say of the Parmesan Cheese of Milan, Lodi, and Pavia, on the extensive production of excellent wine throughout Italy, as we well know, by the Nasco of Sardinia, the Aleatico of Tuscany, the Vino Santo, and Lacryma Cristi of Sicily; and also on the rice, grain, macaroni, and fruits which find a market throughout Europe. Nowhere, perhaps, can we find more varied productions and industries than in Italy. But they want growth and expansion. They only indicate what they might become under more favourable auspices. Our acquaintance with Italian produce and industry is very imperfect; even the recent Universal Exhibition failed to display in a proper manner what Italy can furnish to the world. In 1851, the number of exhibitors from Tuscany, the Roman States, and Sardinia, was about 200, but Lombardy and Venice were concealed under the huge heading of Austria, and the Two Sicilies were not represented. At the Universal Exhibition of Paris, in 1855, the number of exhibitors from the Roman States, Tuscany, and Sardinia, was nearly 500, but the same deficiencies were experienced as regards Lombardy, Venice, and Naples. We shall soon see what Italy will exhibit in 1862. Assuming that the work of regeneration, and the reform of abuses, now vigorously in progress, must occupy the attention of the Italians for some time to come, it will be from 1862 that the economical progress of Italy will date. Let us hope that an effort may then be made to exhibit in a thorough manner the various resources of that gifted land, and that thenceforth our trade with Italy may double or treble the present amount. Our imports thence probably amount now to £3,000,000, not including, however, the Italian silk which arrives here through France; and our exports to Sardinia, the Italian-Austrian States, Tuscany, the Papal States, and Two Sicilies, exceed £6,000,000.

The present amount of commerce in Italy is doubtless immensely inferior to that of the United Kingdom, France, or the United States, yet if we take all the States together, the imports of Italy will amount

to about £30,000,000 and the exports to £26,000,000, a tonnage entered and cleared of nearly 4,000,000 tons, with a mercantile marine of 700,000 tons. In the last decennium the commerce of Sardinia has more than doubled, but that of other States has shown but little improvement. No better evidence can be produced of the superior position of the Northern States than the fact that while Sardinia exports at the rate of 32s. per head, the exports of Tuscany average 25s., those of the Roman States 11s., and those of the Neapolitan States barely 8s. per head. As yet the exports of Italy consist principally of her own produce, and of articles prepared for manufacturing purposes. In cotton, woollen and linen manufactures, the modern wonders of mechanical power, Italy cannot think of competing with Great Britain, though she produces considerable quantities of such articles for her own consumption. There are, however, no positive hindrances to her achieving, even in these, considerable distinction. No climate is better adapted than the Italian for vividness and brilliancy of colour. Dyewoods they may have in abundance. The water is good, and as for power of inventiveness, we might well trust the land of Raffaele, Correggio, and Carracci.

But what has become of the great Italian Republics? Their institutions are gone for ever. They are the shadow of the past. Yet some of them still preserve considerable importance. Genoa is the chief outlet for the Mediterranean of the manufactures of Switzerland, Lombardy and Piedmont; and Lombardy receives most of the foreign articles imported through Genoa. She has a population of 120,000, an excellent harbour, a commerce of importation and exportation amounting to £15,000,000, and a mercantile marine amounting to 200,000 tons. She has large manufactures of silk, cotton, wool, hides and leather, and considerable foundries and establishments of mechanical engineering. There is life in Genoa, and she will be the first to benefit from the extension of the territories in Northern Italy. Leghorn is by no means unimportant. She has a population of 100,000, and an export and import trade of about £7,000,000 to £8,000,000. Naples, also in the Mediterranean, is a large seaport, the principal port, in fact, of the Two Sicilies, with much trade and extensive manufacture. Civita Vecchia is of no great importance. In the Adriatic, Ancona is essentially a mercantile city, with a large marine; but Venice, still prostrate under the galling yoke of Austria, has but little left of her former glory. When will she rise as a man to shake off the chains of her slavery?

ECONOMICAL CONDITION OF ITALY IN 1856.

	Population.	Imports.	Exports.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Debt.	Shipping.
		£	£	£	£	£	Tons.
Sardinia (continent) ...	4,368,972	15,852,711	12,523,164	5,438,692	5,749,074	27,224,000	177,000
“ (island)	547,112	587,815	460,070				
Tuscany	1,796,078	3,006,564	2,323,236	1,265,591	1,297,029	4,662,442	31,000
Roman States	3,124,668	3,253,734	1,676,386	3,039,321	3,135,436	2,500,000	30,000
Two Sicilies ..	9,117,005	3,210,819	1,468,709	5,000,000	5,000,000	2,000,000	220,000
Lombardy.....	3,009,505	2,156,392	6,205,753				
Venice	2,493,908	1,958,266	647,500	30,000
Tyrol	925,066	700,000	300,000				
Modena.....	600,676	250,000	53,800	300,000	300,000	...	
Parma	508,784	190,000	150,000	370,000	370,000	...	
	26,491,834	30,166,301	25,808,618	36,386,442	488,000