

(about fifteen pence), and from this offering of the spirit of association has arisen a festival, the like of which every age will not see. The arch of triumph of Constantine was raised as it were by enchantment on the Piazza del Popolo. On the top is placed a colossal group representing the clemency of the Pope; eight statues representing the eight Pontifical provinces adorn it, and complete its majestic whole. The skill of the talented sculptor, Tenerani, was visible throughout.

"Few cities can offer anything analogous to the scene on this occasion; women of the highest ranks of society, dressed in the height of Parisian fashion; other women of the great city with their graceful costumes; others from the Roman Campagna, with those costumes of which painters have availed themselves with such effect in many of their masterpieces; others in dresses of the most brilliant hues, with their charming children on their arms; mountaineers, fishermen, with those fine heads that have furnished studies for the most eminent painters; religious of their various orders in their habits of forms and colours so varied and austere; the humble Capuchin, the Dominican, attracting the eye by the whiteness of his mantle; the poor christian Brother known by his simplicity and amiable demeanor, which make him everywhere the friend of the people: there numerous pupils of colleges, dressed in red and violet: there young orphans in white; there priests in soutaines there children of St Ignatius, whose sober cloak recalls so many services rendered to religion, so many martyrs of the Faith, so much science and so much virtue, and whose appellation so simple and so expressive, given them by the savages of North America, characterises their action in that world; those black gowns, who strike such terror in the bosom of certain folk of France—and whom M. Dupin cannot see without crossing himself with both hands.

"In the midst of all these masses numerous military uniforms moved peaceably about, but there is not the slightest display of force, no interference of the police, and everywhere breathes tranquillity, and beams an expression of joy and happiness." \* \* \* (Here the letter enters on a discussion of the progress and return of the Pope similar to what has been given above. It then proceeds)—

"The rumour had spread that, though not usual the Pope would at the Quirinal, give the Solemn Benediction. Every one hastens to obtain a favourable position. The dense masses accumulated in consequence near the Quirinal scarcely allowed room for the carriage of the Pope. The emotion of feeling that the Sovereign Pontiff had so long suppressed now became evident to every one

For some time there was an anxiety of suspense as to the probability of the rumoured Benediction. At length, a movement among the military reanimated the hopes of the people; all eyes are turned towards the palace; a window opens, a carpet of velvet is rapidly thrown on the balustrade; some body-guards arrange themselves in groups, with several prelates on the balcony; loud cheers had the appearance of the Maestro di Camera; a moment after the Sovereign Pontiff appears; one tremendous shout is heard; it continues notwithstanding the repeated signals of the Cardinals. The Pope extends his hand to impose silence; in a moment all is hushed, a silence more expressive than any language prevails. \* \* \*

"Nothing is heard but a voice from the Quirinal, it is that of the Servant of the Servants of God, who praising the Most High, imploring then his Sovereign power, casts at length, *urbi et orbi*, that benediction which extends over all those who inhabit the world.

"Oh, that those pigmies who imagine that their mouth and their pen have annihilated the Church, could have been present at that solemn moment!" \* \* \*

"On the 2d of September," says the *Diario di Roma*, "the pupils of the Roman College held a most solemn academic sitting in the church of St. Ignatius. The object of this meeting was to celebrate the act of clemency by which His Holiness Pope Pius IX. inaugurated his Pontificate. The studious youth of the Roman College desired to express in their own the feelings of gratitude and joy with which that magnanimous act had inspired them; and in very beautiful verses, Latin and Italian, they sang: 1. The triumph of clemency in the heart of the Sovereign Pontiff; 2. The triumph of clemency in the hearts of his subjects; and 3. The triumph of clemency of the hearts of sovereigns."

The *Diario di Roma* of the 1st of September announces in the following terms the arrival in Rome of the Prince de Joinville:—

"On the night of Sunday last arrived from Naples at Rome by Civita Vecchia, the Prince de Joinville, specially charged by the King of the French his Father, to compliment His Holiness Pope Pius IX. His Royal Highness, accompanied by the Count Rossi, the French Ambassador, went on Sunday morning to pay his homage to the Sovereign Pontiff. His Holiness received the illustrious traveller with lively demonstrations of paternal affection and the respect due to his rank.

"In the evening the Prince departed in order to rejoin his squadron, at anchor in the Bay of Naples, after having visited many of the remarkable monuments of Rome, the Basilica of the Vatican