

diers in Lombardy crossed the Ticino, dispersed the Sardinians and captured Turin, she would have ended the war; but an incompetent general permitted the allies to unite, with the result that they lost the battles of Montebello and Magenta and the French entered Milan. The successful revolt of the duchies of Tuscany, Modena and Parma did not please the Emperor. He thought that Cavour was aiming too high. The rest of Europe was likewise greatly displeased with the procedures of Piedmont. But as everything appeared encouraging, the allies proceeded to Solferino, where the Austrians were completely defeated. Immediately Napoleon, upon his own responsibility, concluded the treaty of Villafranca, whereby Lombardy was given to Sardinia and Austria retained Venetia; while there was to be formed an Italian confederation under the presidency of the Pope; the Dukes of Tuscany and Modena were restored to their thrones.

So great was the fury of the Liberals at this treaty that Cavour, to save his reputation, resigned from the government. But Emmanuel, with more insight, discerning the true gain of the war, signed the treaty. He thought that this condition of affairs would be a light obstacle; and he was right. The people of Tuscany, Parma and Modena declared that they wished to be annexed to Piedmont, and they then expelled their rulers, formed their own government, and depended on Piedmont for protection.

Contrary to all treaties, these states bound themselves together; they came to Emmanuel to propose annexation, but he could only promise to present their case to the European congress. This being so, they formed themselves into a defensive league, and raised an army of 30,000 men to prevent the princes from recovering their thrones. Boncompagni was made governor-general of the league. A few days after this choice, the Zurich council came to an end. They decided upon the restoration of the princes and the establishment of a confederation. But both these conditions were now practically impossible. Napoleon would not permit the princes to be restored by force, while the English government was in sympathy with the Piedmont cause and in favour of annexation.

Although Napoleon expressed his desire in the Zurich treaty to form a confederation, yet he secretly desired Tuscany for his cousin, Prince Napoleon. That his sympathy was with Italy was shown when he declared, in December, 1859, that he approved of the Pope's sovereign power, but that he considered that the Pope should possess but the city of Rome. He asked the Pope to ac-