

or dynamite. If this periodical had been printed at St. Petersburg or Berlin, its appearance would at once have set all the police in motion ; it would have been suppressed ; then it would have circulated secretly and become an explosive force. Printed in a perfectly free country, and among an educated people, it causes no anxiety even to the most sensitive : it is as harmless as gunpowder exploded in the open air. Man is not a revolutionary animal, but the reverse : no appeals however inflammatory will induce him to leave a good or even a tolerable dinner for the purpose of constructing barricades or blowing up governments. If he ever puts himself so far out of the way, it is because he has a very serious grievance, and if he has a very serious grievance it ought to be redressed. Stifling the cry instead of redressing the grievance, is a policy which has been often tried and has left its mark in history.

—A correspondent desires us to discuss the theory broached in "Modern Thinkers," that Tom Paine wrote "Junius." When we begin to write about the authorship of "Junius," we shall be in our dotage. Francis, as we believe, had a confederate, his obligation to whom, perhaps, helped him to keep the secret, which his own vanity would almost certainly have disclosed ; we think it probable that the confederate was that most intriguing and subterranean personage, Lord Temple : we are quite sure it was not the "rebellious needleman," Tom Paine. It is more likely that Paine may have had a share in drafting the "Declaration of Independence," and that we may hear the voice of this rather questionable Moses in the Political Decalogue of the Republic. What is certain is that his "Common Sense" was one of the greatest hits ever made ; that it had an immense effect in deciding the Americans, and notably in deciding Washington, to declare for Independence, and that its language is not less vigorous and telling than its reasonings, in the main, are sound and the step which it advocated was wise. The revolution of opinion in the midst of which we live extends to