

insults cast with eager hands upon the Catholic population and their legitimate authorities, have at length broke out in Switzerland into an armed rebellion; the first collision has occurred, the first Catholic blood has sanctified the religious contest on the Helvetic territory. The men of blood and blasphemy who led this movement thought they could not choose a fitter day on which to commence a civil and religious war than the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the glorious Patroness of the Catholic world. This time it was not as in May last, a simple Canton—it was the seat of Government, the Directoral Canton, the depository of the federal power, that was attacked, in the streets, on the highways, in open day, by bands of rebels of Lucerne, few in number, but supported, as was the case in the Valais, by the emissaries of those societies which govern in Argau and in Berne.—They hoped to terrify the people of Lucerne, and overthrow its magistracy, then to prevail as by a *fact accomplished*, and to pour in the Radical forces to maintain upon this curule chairs the elected of revolt. God and the people have decided otherwise, as is proved by the documents received from Lucerne. The origin of these troubles is well known. Conformably to the view expressed in a pontifical brief, which confirmed the suppression of two Franciscan convents in the canton of Lucerne, on condition that their property should be appropriated to the erection of an episcopal seminary in Lucerne, and *advising* that its direction should be entrusted to the Company of Jesus, the Great Council of Lucerne ratified the convention which had been negotiated by its order with the Father Provincial of the German Province, who resides at Friburg, and who covenanted to send seven Jesuits to Lucerne. This supreme decision had shocked the revolutionists of Lucerne, Berne, and Argau, who perceived symptoms of a *Catholic reaction* in this measure. It is well known that in revolutionary theories, all sorts of sacrifices, treasons, and violence, practised against a legitimate government, are fair stratagems of war; but that every appearance of reaction is a crime of *lese- humanity*. The actual constitution of Lucerne, acknowledging not only in theory, but in practice also, the sovereignty of the people as the source *in republics*, of all Sovereign power, does not allow to every individual that which, if acknowledged, would lead to frightful anarchy, but concedes to the communes, regularly convoked and presided over by the municipal authorities, the right to pronounce a constitutional *Veto* annulling any resolution of the Great Council to which that *Veto* may be opposed. Fifty days are allowed for the exercise of this right, which every commune may demand for itself. In its assembly the votes are publicly collected, consigned to a protocol, and that document duly authenticated is forwarded express to the Council of State. The communes which do not demand their convocation, for the purpose of agreeing to this *Veto*, are understood

to approve the decree of the Great Council, and it is thus a rigorous verity that the people directly manifest their will and pleasure in the Government, and not merely by the votes of their delegates, who too often represent anything but the wishes of their constituents. The question, then, of the recall of the Jesuits to Lucerne, was, on the demand of their opponents, remitted to the Sovereign Tribunal of the people, where so striking a majority declared in favour of the measure, and it was this last and irreparable check which impelled the so-called *Liberals* to take arms; for the idolators of the popular sovereignty never allow it to be the voice of God, unless when they by misleading can enslave it. Their opening attack was made at the little town of Willisau, where a troop of the faction seized on four pieces of artillery, with their munitions of war, and attempted to deliver them over to their friends and brethren. The towns people assembled hastily, and easily dispersed the insurgents; brought back the guns to the Castle, and formed them into a battery of defence. This first Radical outburst had the useful effect of announcing a more serious collision, and served to set the Government and the country on their guard. Every one prepared for the battle. On Sunday, the 5th ult, at five o'clock in the morning, thirty or forty individuals formed in the square of the mills at Lucerne, under the command of the Sieur Baumann, a member of the late Ministry, and that of Colonel Guggenbuhler. The patrol having approached this group to reconnoitre, was fired upon, and the reply was a volley from the patrol, which sufficed to disperse the insurgents. Radical courage delights in amusements, but dreads the open, plain, and serious resistance. While this opening scene of the civil and religious war appeared so miserably petty in its effect, a much more numerous band of malcontents, strengthened by the Argovian Radicals, had been formed beyond the city, and were now preparing to enter it by force. But the people of the country had risen also *en masse* against the rebels. The Volunteers of the Bailiwick of Hapsburg were the first to occupy the city, under the command of Captain Lustenberger; they were followed by the Volunteers of the Bailiwick of Hochdorf, who had already maintained at the bridge of the Emme a battle with the rebels, which had cost the lives of at least a dozen gallant Volunteers. At the close of this short conflict the rebels and their allies of Argau retreated on Sempach, Buran, and Willisau, in one confused mass, and another body fled by Menziken and Rhendael. Towards the evening of the same day two columns of 600 men, commanded by Major Schmidt, with two pieces of cannon, came to the support of the Government, who immediately published the following proclamation:—“Dear Fellow-Citizens—At the call of your legitimate Government you have taken arms for its defence. An insolent faction has raised the standard of revolt, and still remains under arms. But from all parts of the country the people are advancing to the protection of the Government and the punish-