

THE ITALY OF TO-DAY.

The whole of Europe, however, has exonerated the Clerical party and blamed the Government alone. Strange to say almost every English journal of standing condemned the Government and not the Church. This shows the great change which has come over England of late years. At first the English had set themselves resolutely to believe that the union of Italy was desired by the great majority of Italians themselves and that when they did unite they were happy. Like a person who foolishly shuts his eyes to the light of day lest he see anything disagreeable but who sometime or another acts naturally and opens them, so England made herself believe that the union of Italy was a very desirable thing and for years obstinately refused to recognize the discontent and the evils brought into the peninsula by the union, but now after long years England is opening her eyes and beginning to see that the union of Italy was untimely and not wisely made. One would imagine that Italy's own experience of late years would compel her to change her policy; but a change to satisfy the discontented would mean a restitution to rightful owners of almost all in the possession of the Italian Government. This the Italian politician will never consent to do for under the present order of things he manages to live in comfort, if not in luxury, let the general condition of the country be what it may, while if things were set aright, he would be without power, without property, almost dependent on public alms.

How then is the Italian question going to resolve itself? It seems pretty evident that the Italian people cannot stand the present order of things for many more years. When "United Italy" came into existence the people were fairly well off. But for twenty-eight years they bore what no other nation in the world would bear. The property of thousands has disappeared and that of many more awaits the same fate in the near future. This exasperates the nation and fires it for revolution. The worst element with which the Government of Italy shall have to contend is the product of its own schools—the godless youth of the cities and towns so much in evidence during the late revolts. It is impossible for a Government to reduce a whole nation to begging. When the hunger and the famine reaches the nation's stomach, the Italian is very liable to reach his hand and grab the Government for a bite. Nor can the Italian Government very easily