

WORLD OF FINANCE.

FINANCE IN EUROPE.—With the exception of England, perhaps, every country in Europe, Russia not excepted, is practically insolvent. The smaller nations are gradually losing their credit, and the leading continental nations have difficulty in meeting their obligations, after taxing everybody and everything they can to the very utmost, and driving away their best citizens, mentally and physically, to foreign lands. Socialism and republicanism are gradually assuming greater strength and influence, and the only reform that can save monarchical institutions will be the quick and ample reduction of the present great standing armies and navies, and other excessive, unproductive expenses. The *Dreibund* does not promise to bring to Germany, Italy and Austria any relief. How is it to be obtained? War or revolution may be the fruits of *non possumus*, an inextricable dilemma in which the continental nations stand, with a ruin they cannot avert staring them in the face.—*Bankers' Monthly*.

WASHED HIS GREENBACKS.—Speaking of money reminds me to ask if you have ever washed any filthy lucre. I never heard of such a thing until recently, when I happened to be making a social call at the home of a physician. Pausing a moment at the open door of his office, I noticed a row of "greenbacks" hanging on a string stretched from the washstand to the chimney piece. "I am just washing some money," he said. "I do it because I get money from all kinds of people, and it is often so horribly dirty that I know it is a breeding place for microbes. I wash every grimy and ragged bill that comes to me. Give me one of yours; I will show you." With some misgivings I handed him a dilapidated five-dollar bill. The physician lathered its face generously with soap, and began a vigorous rubbing. Then rinsing it off in cold water, he squeezed it dry, and, smoothing it out again, hung it in the bright sunshine. To my surprise, in a few moments it became a clean, crisp and self-respecting product of the United States Treasury, instead of the limp disgrace I had been carrying about. If you don't believe me, try it and see.—*Hartford Courant*.

A PRINCELY FAILURE.—Prince Borghese and his family have disappeared from Italy since his failure became known. His liabilities amount to \$7,402,000 and his assets to \$4,800,000. The crash is causing failures among other aristocratic families. It is reported that the Vatican and the Royal family made strenuous but futile efforts to avert the disaster. Prince Borghese is the head of a patrician family originally of Siena, Tuscany, which first came into prominence about the middle of the 15th century. Marco Antonio Borghese settled in Rome in the early part of the 15th century, and became an advocate of the Papal Court. His third son, Camillo, became Pope Paul V in 1605, and did much for the advancement of his relatives. For Marco Antonio, a son of his older brother, he procured the principedom of Sulmona, and a grandeeship in Spain. His own brother, Francesco, he made commander of the troops which he sent against Venice in 1607, and Scipione