

and against fairly and strongly stated. He very seldom allowed himself to be carried away by his feelings, except sometimes by a well-directed taunt or violent accusation, and then his eloquence is said to have been fiery and impassioned, his delivery powerful and grand, his sarcasm bitter, and his denunciation irresistible and crushing. But his temper, if easily ruffled, as easily subsided, and his wrath was never of long duration, nor visited upon his enemies with oppression or cruelty, though the means of so doing, had he felt inclined to use them, were always within his hands. In truth, he was an amiable man in disposition, kindly, pleasant and forgiving; a statesman of vast ability, never-flagging industry, and extraordinary good fortune and success; a patriot devoted to his country and his king, whose sole desire was the advancement of the interests of his native land, and who did not hesitate to sacrifice to the attainment of that object, his rest, happiness, fortune, and finally his life. It is true he was not spared to see the final and completely successful fulfilment of the undertaking for which he so arduously struggled, but the result is none the less due to his wisdom and foresight. That he looked forward longingly to the establishing of the King at Rome, is clear from a conversation related by his private secretary, an extract from which may not improperly conclude this brief sketch: "Can you imagine," Cavour exclaimed, "Italy without Rome, or assign to Rome any other position than that of

the capital of Italy? Do you not see that the moment has arrived for solving the question of the temporal power, which has been in all time the greatest obstacle to the realization of Italian nationality; and that the only mode of solving that question is to reassure the Catholic world as to the position which will be assigned to the papacy by regenerated Italy? . . . You say that the papacy will never abdicate. I do not demand an explicit abdication; I am content with a tacit renunciation. . . . When Europe is persuaded that we do not wish to inflict injury upon Catholicism, it will find it both natural and convenient that the Italian tricolor shall wave over Rome instead of a foreign flag. The undertaking is not an easy one, but it is so much the more worthy of being accomplished. It is not in vain that Italy has waited so long in order to regain her unity and independence. The reconstruction of our nationality ought not to be barren in its results for the rest of the world. It belongs to us to put an end to the grand conflict between civilization and the Church—between liberty and authority. Whatever you may say, I cherish the hope of being able to induce the more sincere Catholics and intelligent priests to agree with me. And who knows whether I may not be able, from the heights of the capitol, to sign a new religious peace—a treaty which will be productive of grander results upon the future destinies of human society than the peace of Westphalia?"