

If the Pope, as weak as he was changeable, should fall into other hands. Neither the name of MAMIANI nor FABBR, which began to be heard in men's mouths, could reassure the plotters of such iniquity. Cardinal ANTONELLI had an office created—an office new in the Roman court—the *Governor of the sacred palaces*. With this he promised himself the faculty of remaining perpetually at the side of the Pope, and having him completely in his power. From that day the true Pope has been the Cardinal of Sonnino. The war-patriots at the head of Roman affairs did all in their power to keep the Pope erect and gain him for the Italian cause. MIAMIANI and FABBR fell in despair of attaining this end.

Next came PELLEGRINO ROSSI. ANTONELLI, who had only a smile of pity for the other ministries, which by turn he created and destroyed, paled a little at the advent of Rossi and trembled in his anger before so powerful an antagonist. And there can be no doubt but that Rossi would have lost no time in ridding the Quirinal of the pestiferous breath of the Sonninese. PELLEGRINO ROSSI, two months after taking in hand the helm of State, was poniarded at 1 o'clock on the steps of the Parliament House, and the murderer is yet undiscovered, although in most cases murder will out. We do not say, and would not wish to say, that that hand was armed by the Cardinal Governor, because we affirm only what we know. We only say that Rossi was murdered, and that the assassin did not fall under the hand of justice while Cardinal ANTONELLI governed the State. But we would quote a fact, because of that we have full knowledge. When Rossi took leave of the Pope to attend the Parliament, the latter was visibly agitated. He recommended Rossi to be on his guard, and gave him his blessing. After he had gone, PIUS, called Monsignore NATTA PORTA, the Chamberlain in waiting on that day, and bade him go to the apartment of Cardinal ANTONELLI and beg of him to send a messenger to the Parliament to hear what was going on and bring him immediately the tidings.

The Cardinal was, or feigned to be, busy with writing. Hearing the message, he raised his head, and, with a sneer, replied: "Tell His Holiness that I had already thought of this, and shall have the news in a few minutes." The news came indeed with the speed of lightning—and what news? The resolution of the 16th November is known. In the night of the 25th the Pope took the way secretly to Gaëta in the company of the Cardinal Governor and the Austrian Minister, who could not separate himself from such excellent company."

A jury would hardly bring in a verdict of guilty on such evidence, and the future historian will hesitate before pronouncing sentence. But of the strength of the motive and the capacity of the unscrupulous churchman for the deed attributed to him few probably doubt.

We get nothing late from Gaëta. All that is known is that FRANCIS chivalrously refused any terms, and was to fight it out and be killed or taken. The armistice ended on the 19th, and the 20th being allowed by CIARDINI to all families to move out who wished it, it was expected that on the 21st the game would begin. Now that Admiral PENSANO is allowed to attack from the sea, it is hoped that the end will be soon, and that better things are in store for the distracted province of Naples. The district of the Abruzzi has become a sort of *la Vendée*, and the country is a prey to the lawless gangs of disbanded soldiers from the Bomba army. As if the Red and Black parties were not enough to give trouble to the new Government, a large Murat faction is raising its head, and may be, with French sanction and aid, the harcest of all to deal with. It is said that a Murat conspiracy was discovered lately in an extraordinary manner. As Gaëta is known to be the grand centre of intrigues and political manoeuvres, all persons coming thence are strictly watched. Among these was a barber, who gave out that he was escaping to Naples. After examining all his effects in vain, at last a letter was discovered in the folds of his trousers. The person in Naples to whom it was addressed was arrested, and he confessed that it came from an officer of engineers at Gaëta. This officer had disclosed his plan (of giving up Gaëta to MURAT) to a French officer at Terracina, who had advised him to return to Gaëta and induce as many as possible of the Bourbon officers to join the conspiracy and betray the citadel to such French officers as shall be in the secret.

P. S.—Later news from Gaëta of 22d, informs us that the besieged opened a lively and unexpected fire that day, but it was silenced by the Sardinians. The fleet, consisting of twelve vessels, formed a line at 12 o'clock. The reason for the delay in the bombardment is that CIARDINI had orders from Government to offer FRANCIS, with his suite and foreign troops, means of transport, and to the Neapolitans three months' time to decide if they will pass into the service of the State.

Florence is decked in her gala dress of tri-colors to-day, to welcome the hereditary Prince of Piedmont, and his brother, the Duke of Aosta. The guns of the fortress have just announced their arrival at the railroad station, whence they will be escorted to the Pitti Palace. If we Americans showed so much enthusiasm in our welcome of the Prince of Wales, on the ground that his grandfather ruled us, and that badly, what ought not the Tuscans to do for the honor of the Prince who one day will be called to rule them himself? X.

FROM FLORENCE.

The Question of an Italian War with Austria—Gen. Turr's Mission to Garibaldi—The Hungarian Question—The Siege of Gaëta.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Florence, Thursday, Jan. 24, 1861.

In the present state of doubt as to what the Spring may bring forth for Italy, and the known difference of views between the Government at Turin and the party of action, with GARIBALDI at its head, as to the expediency of an immediate war with Austria, all are naturally desirous to learn the result of Gen. TURR's mission to his chieftain at Caprera. The presentation of the "Star of the Thousand" was an excellent motive to be assigned for the visit, and the New-Year's gift of a diamond necklace to the general's daughter, from the King, of which TURR was the bearer, was a happy thought. He who would accept neither titles nor possessions, could not but be moved by so delicate an attention. Gen. TURR landed on the 13th, with an escort of six officers, and, meeting GARIBALDI, made the following speech in presenting him the Star:

"The Thousand with whom you disembarked at Marsala, conquered at Calatafimi, and, overcoming all obstacles, planted at Palermo the standard of Freedom, present to you now, with our hands, this Star, which, we hope, you will accept in memory of past intimacy, and as a pledge of future ties. The remainder of these Thousand, whom you once called the survivors of ten battles, will not be wanting to your first call."

GARIBALDI, moved to tears, replied as follows:

"Be assured that no gift could be so grateful to my feelings as this offering from my brave companions in arms. Tell them I receive it with joy, and thank them for it. I count also on them when I shall carry into your beautiful country, General, the aid of our hands; for I made a vow on the tomb of those gallant Hungarians who died for Italy, that we Italians will make good their places, as is our duty."

This allusion to Hungary is plain speaking, and a good example of GARIBALDI'S contempt for diplomatic shifts and concealments. At the same time Gen. TURR presented to GARIBALDI'S daughter the necklace. A smile of pleasure and gratitude lighted the face of the father, as he said: "Thank his Majesty, in the name of my daughter and myself, for this new demonstration of true friendship."

Since this, we have heard, if we may trust the *Perscruteranza*, which guarantees its authenticity, the result of the private interview between the two Generals. According to this account, GARIBALDI declared himself desirous of the reconciliation of all parties and willing to act with the Cavour Ministry, provided it will do its utmost to arm the country, so that, when the moment comes, Italy shall be strong enough to demand those parts of her territory still wanting to her integrity. With this end in view, he has chosen Gen. BIXIO as his representative before the various *comitati* or committees, and with instructions to inculcate in them the greatest harmony. It is GARIBALDI'S intention to establish a journal at Genoa, with the title, *Italy and Victor Emanuel*. Its object will be, not a systematic opposition to Government, but a just one. It will strive to urge it forward, without creating useless embarrassments. Above all, he insists on no time being lost in forming a powerful army and establishing relations with Hungary and the Southern Slavonians.

Much to the same effect GARIBALDI writes to the Central Committee of Vigilance, (*comitato di provvedimento*) dating the day of TURR'S landing. He urges the thorough organization of sub-committees everywhere in the Peninsula, not excepting Rome and Venice. "The Central Committee," he says, "must report incessantly, as the watchword of every day and every hour, to the sub-committees, and by every other means endeavor to impress it on all Italians that, next Spring, Italy must unfailingly put under arms a *million of patriots*." He adds: "It is my duty to inform volunteers that no enrolments have as yet been opened or counseled by me."

Apropos to this million of patriots, the Committee to whom were intrusted the subscription for a million of muskets, set on foot by GARIBALDI last year, have made a report, according to which they have on hand 48,987 francs. While on the subject of GARIBALDI, let us give an extract from one of MAZZINI'S letters, quoted in a late leader of the *Nazione* newspaper, devoted to the notorious head of the Republican party. The journal pledges itself for the authenticity of the letter, its object in publishing it probably being to cause a breach between those whose friendship in Naples gave cause for uneasiness to the Constitutional party:

"GARIBALDI is weak as a child, and has done us immense mischief by his folly for the King. Nevertheless, we must try to warm him up, and draw him over to our side. . . . If the Italians were capable of passing the absurd frontier we have at present, without GARIBALDI; if, as formerly, I could unite myself to your armed bands of Rimini and Sant'Arcangelo—say to them, 'Forward, brothers!' and be followed—then I would trouble myself little about GARIBALDI. But he is, for the present, a power. He is weak, you say; we must try to get out of him what good we can. Improve the Italians, and we shall have no need of him."

The same *Nazione* has been publishing a series of articles on Cardinal ANTONELLI, giving them the editorial sanction of leaded type. All have heard of this celebrated Prime Minister of PIUS IX., and those who have read M. ABOUT'S witty book on the Roman Question cannot fail to remember its most piquant chapter relating to his "Eminence of Sonnino." He did not say, however, all there was to be said, if our writers are well informed. I have translated a passage which throws a lurid light on the murder of the unfortunate Rossi in 1849; an act universally attributed to the Red Republicans. After speaking of ANTONELLI'S secret dealing with the Austrian Minister, his pledge to put an end to the Italian movement, under the mask of an out-and-out Liberal, beginning by giving in his resignation as Prime Minister in consequence of the Pope's encyclical letter of 29th April, dictated by himself, the writer goes on:

"But the bargain with Austria could not be fulfilled