THE COMING POPE.

An Italian View of the Next Papal Election.

The Chances of Foreign and Italian Candidates.

Poor Prospects of the French and Spanish Cardinals.

Cullen, Schwarzenberg and Rauscher the Eligible Foreign Candidates.

PANEBIANCO---ANTONELLI.

The Tendency of the Italian Vote.

ROME, May 2, 1873.

Professor Bonghi Ruggiero, a member of the Italian Parliament and Professor of Ancient and Modern History at the Roman University, has just published in the monthly review, the *Nuova Antologia*, of which he is editor, a long and very interesting essay on the probable candidates for the Papacy. Professor Bonghi is, we should preface, also the director of the *Perseveranza*, of Milan, which is, perhaps, the best newspaper published in Italy He is the author of several literary, historical works. In short, he is considered one of the most distinguished members of the representative body, and one of the most thorough and accomplished writers of his country. Bearing this in mind, his words have more than ordinary importance, though he himself would not have his readers attach an undue value to his views. He says:—

The cardinals are, if I am not mistaken, only forty-five—that is to say, twenty-six less than the complete number (seventy-two). It does not seem probable that Pius IX. has any intention of creating new ones before his death, although many pressing invitations to do so have been made. The only good reason we see for this course lies in the fact that Pope Pius IX., having some idea who should be his successor, for the greatest good of the Church, as he understands it, fears that by increasing the number of electors the election of the chosen candidate may only be made more difficult and uncertain.

FOREIGN CARDINALS.

Of the forty-five cardinals only eleven are foreigners—namely, Cardinals Pitra, Mathieu, Donnet, De Bonnechose are French; Cardinal Cullen, Irish; Cardinal Hohenlohe, German (Bavaria); Cardinals Schwarzenberg and Rauscher, Austrian; Cardinals Garcia-Cuesta, De la Lastra y Cuesta, Moreno, Spanish (the fourth, Brea Cirillo, Archbishop of Toledo, died very recently). The French Cardinal Billiet died at Chambery on the 1st of May.

It is three centuries since a foreigner ascended the Papal throne. It must be admitted that with the fall of the temporal power one of the principal causes of the exclusion of non-Italians has disappeared, the Pontiff being no longer the sovereign of an Italian people. Nevertheless, it would be a most difficult thing to get a foreigner elected. It cannot be a German without displeasing France, which country is perhaps the principal support of the Catholic Church, and, besides, the only cardinal of this nation (Hohenlohe) is not fitted for the place, being too young and not distinguished for any great merit or intellectual capacity. Nor can the Pope be a Frenchman without endangering Catholicism in Germany; nor, indeed, do the French cardinals seem to enjoy sufficient esteem in the Sacred College to be entrusted with the guidance of the Church, and the unsettled condition of their own country gives good reason for fear that the Holy See, confided to the hands of a French Pope, would find the difficulties surrounding the Church rather increased than diminished.

THE SPANISH AND AUSTRIAN CARDINALS.

It is useless to speak at length of the Spanish Cardinals, who are, for the most part, perfectly unknown to the majority of their colleagues, and whom the anarchy and weakness of their native country would deprive of every credit and favor, no matter what their personal merit may be. Not so, however, with the Irish and Austrian cardinals, Cullen, Schwarzenberg and Rauscher. These cardinals would enjoy the good will of the College for various reasons. The first and third named for their learning, the second for his social position, the great influence that he wields at the Austrian Court and for his own personal character. But these three cardinals do not belong to the same party in the Sacred College, and, before stating the last reason which would exclude them from election, let us say something of the presumable.

DIVISION OF OPINION IN THE SACRED COLLEGE.

There has always been a difference of opinion in the College. But we no longer live in times when the cardinals—creatures of one Pope—could arrange themselves against the cardinals—creatures of another—both parties being guided by cardinal-nephews of either Pope. There are still in the College illustrious names of Roman or Italian families—a Patrizi, a Riario (*Sforza*), a Borromeo, a Caraffa; but there have, perhaps, never been a less number than now, and more especially of Romans. With the exception of the second named, these cardinals do not enjoy any great reputation, and could hardly aspire to supreme power. Nor do these names bear any longer the significance of former times, and they cannot carry strong parties along with them. They neither exercise influence nor determine adherence. No prince, great or small, cares about them—not even in Rome itself does any one of them enjoy special popular favor.

MEN OF GREAT LEARNING

never had any great success in the College. As is generally the case in an assembly of men of experience, learning is in many cases looked upon rather as an obstacle. The cardinal who is, perhaps, more celebrated for his learning than the rest, is Pitra (France), but he is considered as good for nothing but his studies. He does not care for the candidacy, and no one else cares to try him. Not so of Cardinal Rauscher (Austria), who, with his scholarship, has always taken a lively interest in all the political and ecclesiastical questions of the day. Cardinal Grasselini (Italy) has written works of some importance, but now is no longer in a condition to write or read them, and Cardinal Morichini, Archbishop of Bologna, is one of the most esteemed members of the College. I do not know of other scholars among the cardinals. If there be any, their fame is certainly not very great.

PANEBIANCO.

The monks are not wanting, but they are not numerous. Besides Pitra a Benedictine, there is the Minorite Panebianco, who is the true type of a cardinal-monk. He speaks little, and it is difficult to penetrate his thoughts. He is harsh to himself and to others; rigid in the observance of doctrine and practice of religion; learned in ecclesiastical matters; full of the church idea and of the supremacy of the Church in the affairs of the world. He is sixty years of age, which is not considered old for a monk. Another is a regular priest, Bilio, a Barnabite. He took a great part in the Vatican Council, of which he was one of the Presidents and one of the sourest. He was employed in the preparation of the Syllabus and the projects to be discussed by the Council.

To separate the parties in the College we shall have to divide the members into two classes—those who adhere to the policy hitherto followed by Pius IX., and those who are averse to it. Pius IX. has certainly made great innovations in the principles of government followed by his predecessors. While they thought well to retain, he has moved; what they thought well to conceal as with a veil, he has thought better to uncover and to force it on the world. And in this loading the Church with new dogmas he has, as we have seen, brought trouble to the ecclesiastical structure: though he has, on the other hand, enlarged the influence of Catholicism where to all appearances it seemed dead. Now, there are some Cardinals who believe that Pius IX. has done right, and has labored only in the interest of the Church, and that it is necessary for the new Pope to follow in the footsteps of the present Pontiff. There are others, on the contrary, who think that Pius IX. has been following a wrong course; they would have preferred no changes, and believe that so venerable an institution as Catholicism should not be too much shaken or agitated, but be touched with extreme care and delicacy, even when it is necessary to improve or invigorate it.

CARDINALS, SAINTS AND POLITICIANS.

I remember that Cardinal Pallavicini made a distinction among cardinals, dividing them into saints and politicians, and declared that the Church had never been jeopardized except when governed by a Pope of the former class. The cardinals, it may now be said, are divided into two classes—the one accepting this principle laid down by one of their most illustrious predecessors, and the other rejecting it. To the first (the saintly tendency) belong, among the Italians, Patrizi, Barnabo, Panebianco, Bizzarri, Sforza, and among foreigners, Cullen. To the second, perhaps, among the Italians, Sacconi, De Angelis, Vanicelli, Asquini, Carafa, Morichini, Pecci, Antonucci, Milesi, Trevisanto, De Luca, Guidi, Monaco, La Valletta, Consolini, and among the foreigners Schwarzenberg, Mathieu, Donnet, Rauscher, Garcia-Cuesta, De la Lastra, De Bonnechose, Hohenlohe, Moreno.

CARDINAL ANTONELLI

must be left entirely out of consideration. His long and unhappy misrule of the Court of Rome deprives him of every hope if he ever had any. Upon him rest all the misfortunes that have befallen the Pontificate since 1848; but none of the love and sympathy which the nature of Pius IX. has inspired. More tolerated than loved by his sovereign, he is not liked by his colleagues, and would not be tolerated as Pope. Of a keen intellect, though narrow in range, he has seen all his artifices and combinations go off into smoke. He has no reputation for sanctity of life; of Roman character, he is better able to appreciate the political side of a question than the religious. He should be a conciliatory ruler, but his long management of the affairs of the present Pontificate makes him just the most unfit to acquire the confidence of his colleagues and to change the policy hitherto pursued by the Papal government. It does not appear that his influence in the conclave will be very great.

THE ELIGIBLE FOREIGN CANDIDATES.

Of the other Cardinals, the state of their respective countries exclude some—there remaining only three, Cullen, of Ireland, and Schwarzenberg and Rauscher of Austria, who have the characteristics qualifying them for election. Others are excluded on account of their age; some are too old, like De Angelis, seventy-nine years of age, who is one of the most esteemed men in the College, not only for the qualities of his mind, but also for his moderate views and conciliatory spirit; or too young, like Cardinal Bilio, who is forty-five, and Cardinal Monaco La Vallette, one of the best of men, for the purity of his life, for his learning and for the moderation of his opinions, but he is only forty-four years of age. Others are excluded on account of their age or the little esteem they enjoy among their colleagues, like Cardinal Borromeo, forty-nine; others for the little credit they enjoy and their names, like Cardinal Bonaparte, who is only forty-three. The mental capacity of others is an insurmountable obstacle to the election, as Cardinals Milesi and Prasselini, Patrizi and Carapa, being excluded for a lack of intellect. Cardinals Caterini, Bizzarri, Barnabo, Arnat, Di Sorso, Asquini, Vannicelli are likely to be excluded on account of bad health. Cardinals Silvestri and Mertel are likely to be excluded for the coarseness of their manners, want of judgment and lack of experience in the affairs of the world; Cardinal di Pietro will be considered too liberal, and Cardinal Ferrieri as lacking the necessary courage.

ELIGIBLE ITALIAN CANDIDATES.

It is seen that the choice is very much reduced. Among the Cardinals disposed to follow in the footsteps of the present Pontiff—*i. e.*, disposed to exaggerate ecclesiastical doctrines and to defy the legal authorities, are Cardinals Panebianco, Cullen and Capalti, the second and violent President of the Vatican Council. Among the Cardinals inclined to halt and look around to see where they are standing and seek to bring the ship of the Church into smooth water; in short, a Pius VII. rather than a Pius V., are Cardinals Sacconi, Schwarzenberg, Morichini, Pecci, Rauscher, Antonucci, Trevisanato, De Luca, Guidi, Berardi, Consolini. Among the Cardinals considered more advanced than the College, and disposed to be liberal, Barilie. I have not named

CARDINAL SFORZA,

and yet I placed him in the first category and I find no special reason to exclude him from the election. He also seems to have special, favorable conditions—of a noble family, of ordinary intellect, little learning and enjoying the entire confidence of the party which now prevails at the Roman Court. He has nothing to say as to the system and doctrines prevailing there, and does not depart from them. He accepts the Syllabus, the infallibility. Nevertheless there is something practical in his conduct that prevents him from becoming an enthusiast, and he may be acceptable to his own party and to the party of moderation. He has likewise arrived in some degree to understand the present condition of Italy. He distinguishes what in his eyes is desirable and the possibility in the reality of things. Persuaded, for example, that—right or wrong, as the case may be—it is impossible to drive the Italian government from Rome, he endeavored that the priests should not be expelled from the schools of the municipality of Naples, and by his personal influence, good sense and modesty he succeeded. He seems inclined to adopt a system of action—to which the clerical party itself is constantly approaching—of submitting or adapting himself to the new political aspect of things in Italy, in order to save the principal parts of the religious edifice. It is possible that other cardinals entertain the same views, but they have not as yet had the courage to express them openly.

THE FOREIGN VOTE.

If the number of cardinals be not increased before the death of Pius IX. it will require, to make up the two-thirds vote, thirty-one voices to elect the new Pontiff. All the foreign cardinals, with the exception of Cardinal Cullen (Ireland), incline to the view that it were prudent for the Holy See to moderate the actual tendencies of the present government. There may be, indeed, beyond the Alps, those who approve it, besides the Irish Cardinal; but it does not appear that this class who approve it in France, Germany and Spain are represented in the College. The number, both of laymen and clergy, who wish to push things to extreme, is more numerous beyond the Alps than in Italy; but this will have no influence in the College. During the Vatican Council nearly all the foreign bishops and cardinals were opposed to the extreme nature of the resolutions there passed, such as the absolute supremacy of the Pope; and when they found that they were unable to oppose them successfully they tried to modify them as much as was in their power. If they afterwards yielded, in deference to the authority of the Church, they have been taught by the events of the past two years that the advice they then offered was prudent. We can then assume, with certainty, that these foreign cardinals will be inclined to elect a Pope of moderate, conciliatory and discreet sentiments—one who would cast water rather than oil on the fire that the present Pontiff leaves burning. Their number, excepting Cardinal Cullen, is ten, and never had greater probability than now of being present, since it will be the first conclave held with Europe covered with railroads. Their vote will have no little weight. It will not be a vote dictated by governments, but by the conscience of the individual. The times do not permit that any one should glory in the name of Cardinal of the Crown. In the eyes of the cardinals themselves the moral and religious conditions of their respective governments is not such as to justify them in being the bearers of royal vetos. The very governments which have the ancient and recognized right thereto—Spain, Austria and France—would avoid making use of their rights under existing circumstances. Yet I am inclined to the view that the foreign cardinals will vote for a pontiff who shall at least be acceptable to their government—a pontiff who will not further exasperate, but will endeavor to remove the religious dissensions of nations.

THE ITALIAN VOTE.

Now, the foreign cardinals, with a small number of Italians, would be sufficient to exclude Cardinal Cullen not only, but the two others of the ultra party—Panebianco and Capalti—so that there does not seem any probability of these individuals being elected. But, in order to get nearer to the probable result, it is necessary to study the views entertained by the majority of the Italian cardinals, upon whom, after all, the election will depend. It is necessary to observe that it is a characteristic trait of the Italian nation to compromise. The majority of the cardinals will prefer to pause, in order to study the times, to study the signs and indications. Free from every connection with the Italian government—since it would have no other influence upon them than to make them reject any cardinal suspected of being favorable to it—yet they see and feel that the new Pope must either quit or live in Rome, where he can no longer be considered as a temporal sovereign; and everything goes to prove that to remove the seat of the Papacy to a foreign land would be much more inconvenient and dangerous than to remain in Italy, and that, though it would be a very easy thing to depart from Rome, it might be very difficult to return thither.

The majority of Italian cardinals will have, therefore, two objects in view which they will endeavor to obtain. They will desire to have a Pope who will not recede from the doctrinal position assumed by the Church at the last Council, since retrogression would bring discredit on the venerable ecclesiastical edifice; but, on the other hand, they would desire a Pope who would not go further than the last one has done—one who should have wisdom enough to prevent him from taking false steps in the future. As a natural reaction following an unfortunate Pontificate, they would endeavor to avoid enthusiasm and to remove from the successor all those influences which have proved disadvantageous to the predecessor. It seems probable, therefore, that the majority of Italian cardinals will not dissent from the foreigners in the character of the person to be elected. It would be difficult for Italians to resolve on the election of a foreign Pope. If they should decide to do so the choice would be

BETWEEN SCHWARZENBERG AND RAUSCHER.

Their nationality is in their favor. Austria, driven out of Italy and of Germany by the war of 1866, has become, from the most hated Power that she was the one most liked; the one esteemed alike by France and Germany, and on most excellent terms with Italy. Pius IX. leaves the affairs of the Church in a very unpromising state in Germany, and an Austrian Pope would be better qualified than any one else to bring order out of chaos there. The two Austrian Cardinals stand very high in the esteem of the College. They have none above them in the qualities capacitating them for the Papal chair. Their conduct during the Council was as decided and dignified before the passing of the dogma of infallibility as it was prudent and statesmanlike after once the decision had been made. They are well acquainted with political life from a long intercourse with the governments, and each wields a great and notable influence. These are reasons to which no slight importance should be attached, and will be taken into due consideration by the College.

Yet I fear these reasons will not prevail. The two Austrian cardinals are exactly those with whom it is probable that their government may exert an influence. Besides, the Austrian government itself could discover many causes of embarrassment arising to it through a pontiff of its own nation. Yet, after all, the Italian bishops believe that the traditions of the Roman Court, which they are not ready to renounce, will be better preserved by an Italian than by one who, a stranger, cannot so well appreciate them. The memory of the last foreign Pope, though distant, has remained painful to this day. Besides the cardinals themselves, we may be sure that all persons connected with the Curia lower in rank than the cardinals themselves, yet who in a variety of ways can exert an influence on the College, would be still more opposed to a foreigner than the cardinals themselves.

It seems likely, then, that the Papacy will remain the inheritance of the Italians. Among those who seem more likely than the rest to obtain the coveted honor are Cardinal Sforza, the most moderate among the zealous, and Cardinals Pecci, Trevisanato, De Luca, Guidi, Sacconi and Barilé, are the most esteemed among the moderate. Yet in the case of the three last we must take into account the possibility that the zealous may succeed in excluding them; the first named (Guidi) being disliked for the part he took against the dogma of infallibility; the second, and more especially the latter, suspected of being inclined to yield too much to the Jesuits, as has been the case with Pius IX. Each of the other five seems fit to receive the votes of those Cardinals who desire that the next Pontiff shall be observing, moderate and conciliatory. The one who will be triumphant is he who, trusting more the party of the zealous will frighten less the moderate. As to the part the Italian government will take, it is as easy as it is clear—to *laisser faire*, to wait, and to respect the *fait accompli*. Deputy Bonghi, therefore, places Sforza, Pecci, Trevisanato and De Luca as the most eligible candidates for the Papal Throne in case of the death of the present occupant. There is an old Roman proverb which says. "He that enters the College as Pope returns from it as Cardinal." And this proverb must be kept in mind in all speculations concerning the candidates for the Papacy.

Italian Politics and the Pope's Recovery.

ROME, May 2, 1873.

The Lanza Ministry, which has been in a tottering condition for some time, has just come to a sudden downfall. Everybody anticipated that the Religious Corporations bill would prove an insuperable stumbling block to the Cabinet which has held the reins of government in Italy for the last four years, but nobody supposed that it was going to be extinguished by so comparatively an unimportant question as that of the immediate construction of a maritime arsenal at Taranto. Hence arises the suspicion that the Lanza Ministry has willingly availed itself of the first majority of the House against its own views to throw up that power which it foresaw could not survive the perplexing question of the religious corporations.

The Pope's malady has rendered that question more delicate than ever. To be harassing the last moments of the expiring Pontiff by the suppression of his spiritual staff would have exposed ministers to the indignant outcries of the clerical party, who would not have failed to compare them to the donkey in the fable, scornfully kicking the aged and dying lion, and it is certain that they would have proposed a postponement of the discussion of that question in Parliament if His Holiness' illness had continued. Fortunately Pius IX. feels so much better that, as I informed you by telegraph, he was able to take air and exercise so far back as last Sunday, when, on returning from the Vatican garden, he

RECEIVED THE CONGRATULATIONS

of the French Ambassador, and told His Excellency that he hoped to witness the celebration of his episcopal jubilee with as much solemnity as his sacerdotal one, which was commemorated in 1869, with all the pomp and splendor for which the Pontificial Court was then celebrated, and the renewal of which would seem to imply a restoration of the Pope's temporal power.

Pius IX. was consecrated Bishop on Pentecost Day, 1827, by Cardinal Castiglione, and appointed to the Archiepiscopal See of Spoleto by Pope Leo XII.

Cardinal Castiglione became Pope two years later, and assumed the title of Pius VIII.

We shall, therefore, expect to see Pio Nono's hopeful prediction verified in 1877, the fiftieth anniversary of his episcopal consecration.

That His Holiness continues to improve in health and spirits is evident from the intention he has manifested to receive the French, Belgian and other distinguished pilgrims, now *en route* for Rome, on Monday morning, the festival of his sainted predecessor, Pius V., when he will say mass for them, administer the Holy Sacrament to each of them and conclude with a general address. To promise so much shows that His Holiness feels quite up to the mark. The pilgrims will have a second audience, it is expected, on the 13th of May to congratulate the Pontiff on the commencement of his eighty-second year.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

To return to the ministerial crisis—the cause, as I have said, was that the House voted for the construction of a naval arsenal at Taranto, in ten years, at a calculated expense of 23,000,000 lire, according to the project of Major Prato. No doubt Taranto occupies a magnificent situation, well calculated for the defence of Southern Italy, but Signor Sella, who handles the public funds and knows how difficult it is to provide money for every scheme, declared that he could only authorize the use of 6,500,000 lire for the proposed works at Taranto, a sum deemed by the House insufficient for any useful improvement. This was on the 30th April. Yesterday the Prime Minister announced that in consequence of the contrary vote he and his colleagues had offered their resignations to the King, whose resolution in consequence would be taken in three days. He, therefore, invited the House to adjourn until Monday, the 5th instant, when His Majesty's determination with respect to the new Cabinet would be officially communicated.

Meanwhile let us take a glance at the different candidates for the Italian premiership.

It is natural to turn, first of all, to the head of the opposition, Signor Urbano Rattazzi, who seems to be the only candidate whom the members of the Left have to put forward.

Unfortunately Signor Rattazzi has already been Prime Minister three times, and each time he was in office some signal disaster befel Italy, whether through his culpable negligence or not historians must decide. At any rate they are not pleasing precedents. Moreover, Signor Rattazzi's health is so wretched just now that he is really quite unfit for business.

The Ministers who have just resigned are said to have recommended Signor Pisanelli—a distinguished Neapolitan Deputy—to the consideration of His Majesty, to form the new Cabinet. Signor Pisanelli has already formed part of a preceding ministry with the portfolio of justice, and, as he belongs to the same political party as Signors Lanza, Sella and their colleagues, and only headed the anti-Ministerial vote on the Taranto question, apparently for secondary and local considerations, there would probably be no material change of policy adopted if he were to come to the head of the government. I hear, however, that he has already declined office.

General Marmora is also spoken of, and the Baron Ricasoli, both statesmen who have repeatedly wielded the supreme ministerial power, but both of whom would probably wish to make more concessions to the Vatican in the affair of the religious corporations than would suit the present inclinations of Parliament.

But the main and apparently insuperable obstacle to an acceptance of office by any of the leading Italian statesmen is the ugly inheritance of the Religious Corporations bill, to which they would have to succeed.

The Lanza Ministry having had the nominal, if not real, merit of bringing the Italian capital and seat of government to Rome, is pledged to carry through this bill, and if nobody else can be found to undertake the difficult task, the King will probably be obliged to refuse the resignations proffered by Signor Sella and his colleagues, and confirm them in office until they have taken the ecclesiastical bull by the horns. There is little doubt, however, that, what with delays and modifications of projects and other legislative tricks, the actual Parliamentary session will be worn away without the momentous bill being definitely discussed. Hot weather and malaria will be pleaded before the middle of next month as reasons for the Deputies to abandon the feverish capital and return to their respective homes.

Victor Emmanuel, who was to have gone to Sorrento yesterday to pay his promised visit to the Empress of Russia, has been obliged to delay his departure, sending meanwhile his telegraphic excuses and explanations to Her Imperial Majesty. This *contretemps* has bothered the King immensely. The royal decision will be anxiously expected on Monday.

The Pope and the Pilgrims.

ROME, May 6, 1873.

In spite of renewed reports of the Pope's failing health, his Holiness carried out his programme yesterday of receiving the French pilgrims who arrived to congratulate the Pontiff on the occasion of the festival of St. Pius V., which was yesterday, the 5th, and on the recurrence of his own birthday, which will be on this day week, the 13th May.

It was evident that the Pope's returning indisposition was of no importance, for he was able to receive a number of persons on Sunday morning, the 4th inst., among whom was M. Hennessy, formerly attached to the French Embassy in Rome, but now belonging to the Legation at Athens, for which city he took his departure yesterday.

M. Hennessy had not seen his Holiness since the entry of the Italian troops in September, 1870, but the Pope recognized him at once as an old acquaintance, and received from him a letter and remittance of money from the Bishop of Angoulême. The Pope said that his doctors had given him a good dose of medicine on the preceding day, but that he felt better and hoped the returning fine weather would set him up altogether.

PILGRIMS IN THE ETERNAL CITY.

The arrival of the expected caravan of French pilgrims, as they choose to denominate themselves, had nothing solemn or impressive, for they reached Rome in separate batches from Florence, Ancona and Civita Vecchia, like ordinary travellers, each on his own account and in as comfortable a form as possible. Some enthusiasts of the party had proposed to alight at the station nearest Rome, on the Florence line, which is Monte Rotondo, a distance of about eighteen miles, and to proceed thence on foot to the Holy City, with the broad hat, staff and cockleshell which for centuries have distinguished *bona fide* pilgrims. Probably these gentlemen received some wholesome advice respecting the excitement now prevalent here and throughout Italy on the subject of Catholic pilgrimages in too demonstrative form, for they abandoned the project of entering Rome barefooted and singing pious canticles. In fact, had they done so they would have had to enter by the same gate as the invading Italians in 1870, the Porta Pia, for the Salaro Bridge, which crosses the Anio on the road from Monte Rotondo two miles from Rome, and which was blown up by the Pontifical general in 1867, to prevent Garibaldi approaching the city on that side, has not yet been repaired, so that travellers have all to come round to the Nomentano Bridge instead.

The recognized leader of the caravan, although not in practical pedestrian form, was the Count de Damas, a nobleman of a very ancient family, which distinguished itself in the crusading period. This gentleman has been to Rome before, and a few years ago brought out a useful but never executed project for restoring the ancient Roman port of Ostia.

It was not possible for the Pope to administer the holy sacrament to the pilgrims, as he had intended, for, besides his own indisposition, several of them only arrived yesterday morning, a few hours before the time fixed for the audience, which was at half-past eleven A. M. The address read by the Count de Damas was signed by about seventy persons, representing pilgrims' committees in different departments of France, but I am informed that there were not more than forty-five delegates present. I give an abbreviated version of what was said on this occasion:—

THE ADDRESS READ BY THE COUNT DE DAMAS

informed the Pope that devout pilgrimages were again becoming normal institutions in France, and that the Council General of French pilgrims had selected for their celestial patron the blessed Joseph Labre, a French mendicant, who died in Rome, in the odor of sanctity, half a century ago, and was recently canonized by Pius IX. Like Labre, the delegates present were Frenchmen, Catholics and pilgrims, but he had the happiness of seeing the successor of Peter in his splendor, while they were obliged to mourn over him in chains. The address affirmed that if France had been present Rome would never have been violated, and the Pope, instead of being a prisoner, would have had a faithful ally to overthrow the great modern enemy of Christ—revolution—as his glorious predecessor (St. Pius V.) found a valorous sword to overthrow the great enemy of ancient times—Mohammedanism. The ambition of the pilgrims was to re-establish France, the eldest daughter of the Church, as the Pope's defender. They would go from sanctuary to sanctuary to pray for this result, and begged the Holy Father to bless their pacific crusade.

THE POPE REPLIED

in terms of affection and gratitude towards France, and said that the Saviour would soon manifest Himself again to that great and Catholic nation, as Christ said, "A little time and ye shall not see Me, and yet a little time and ye shall see Me." A temporary separation was perhaps necessary to excite renewed sentiments of piety, as now demonstrated by prayers, pilgrimages and the sacraments.

His Holiness, alluding to St. Pius V. and his victories over the Mohammedans, said that it would be advisable to implore his intercession to obtain victory over the present enemies of the Church, "who, to their shame, are not Turks, but Christians." Continuing in the same manner to exhort his hearers to have courage and constancy in the struggle, the Pope wound up with the consoling text "If God is for us, who shall be against us?" and so dismissed the pilgrims with his apostolic benediction, admitting each individual to the honor of kissing his hand and presenting to each a medal commemorative of the Ecumenical Council, and a bunch of flowers for the absent ladies of the family.

The Pope also sent two magnificent bouquets yesterday to the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore, to be placed before the crystal coffin containing the embalmed body of St. Pius V., which was exhibited to the public in the chapel dedicated to that Pontiff. The mummy was dressed in a white robe and scarlet silk mantle, with its feet in red velvet shoes, embroidered with gold, and it bore a grim resemblance to the marble statue of the Pontiff above. In an adjoining room were exhibited several sacred vestments and utensils worn and used by Pius V., which, although three centuries old, are still in a perfect state of preservation.

THE MINISTERIAL RESTORATION.

I will explain in another letter the motives which have induced the Lanza Ministry to retain office. Suffice it to say here that the President of the Council announced yesterday in Parliament that he and his colleagues would remain in power, "out of deference to the sovereign command."

This afternoon the discussion of the Religious Corporations bill commenced in the Chamber of Deputies.

Suppression of Religious Houses.

ROME, May 9, 1873.

The grand Parliamentary battle of this session commenced on Tuesday, the 6th, the reinstated Ministers having, in compliance with their acknowled engagements, brought before the House the bill for the suppression of religious corporations. This measure consists in the extension to the city and province of Rome the laws on that subject already in vigor in the rest of Italy, but with special modifications, supposed by the government to be necessary for the maintenance of the Papal guarantees, and to prevent the infringement of what are considered to be international rights enjoyed by the heads of religious orders established in this city as the centre of church government.

HISTORY OF THE MEASURE.

The first law of suppression in Italy was that which bears the date of the 7th of July, 1866. The Parliamentary debate commenced at Florence on the 7th of June, and the voting took place on the 19th, when, out of 225 Deputies present, 179 approved of the bill, 45 opposed it and one declined voting

The next law, regulating ecclesiastical property and relating also to religious orders, bears the date of the 15th August, 1867, and was brought forward by Signor Rattazzi. The debate commenced on the 5th July and occupied twenty-three sittings, and at the final voting there were 204 favorable votes against 58 unfavorable.

THE OPENING DEBATE.

Signor Di Falco, Minister of Grace and Justice, announced to a crowded House, on Tuesday afternoon, that the government accepted the modifications made in the bill by the Parliamentary Commission, in accordance with the report presented by Signor Restelli, but reserved the right of making amendments in some of the clauses in the course of the debate.

Immediately afterwards the debate opened with a speech from a smart young Bolognese advocate, Signor Casarini, a member of the Left, and therefore a strenuous opponent of the law proposed by government, not because it was intended to suppress the religious corporations, but because it was not sufficiently calculated to destroy them root and branch. He spoke of the course of events in Italy since 1866, demonstrating the always increasing antagonism of Church and State. He accused the government of having constantly endeavored, since its establishment in Rome, to effect a reconciliation with the Papacy, and, when convinced of the fallacy of that hope, of having declared that Italy ought to be proud of the privilege of giving hospitality to the head of the Catholic Church, and that it would be a great misfortune if the Pope were to depart, forgetting thus altogether what the presence of the Pope had cost Italy in blood, tears and obstacles to the independence, liberty and unity of the nation.

Signor Carutti spoke next in favor of the bill, hoping, however, that the amendments proposed by government would render it more temperate, as, although the obligation imposed on Italy by the convention of September, 1866, to respect the political sovereignty of the Pope had ceased to be in force, the moral obligation of defending the religious liberty of the head of the Catholic Church could never be cancelled. His speech had a clerical tendency, which was strongly contrasted by the following one, delivered by Signor Damiani, who combated the bill as insufficient, and deplored that the government Junta of Rome, immediately after the entry of the Italians in 1870, had not solved the question of abolition of religious corporations then and there, so as to spare the government a world of subsequent embarrassment and opposition.

Signor Pecile came next, advocating the bill, excepting in the preservation of houses for the generals of orders. His speech was not concluded on the 6th, but was resumed in the sitting of the 7th; but the principal feature of that day was the eloquent speech of the Honorable Deputy Corbetta, who, although a member of the Right, strenuously opposed the bill, especially with regard to the clause in favor of the generals of orders, and quoted the opinion of the great master of modern Italian policy, Count de Cavour, that no international character could be attributed to negotiations between the Papacy and the Kingdom of Italy.

Signor Corbetta made a very eloquent speech, advocating total abolition instead of partial measures, and his desertion of the government on this bill is sure to be followed by that of a considerable number of deputies hitherto belonging, like himself, to the Right, but whose defection will render the success of the ministerial measure more uncertain than was anticipated at the beginning of the debate.

A CROWDED CHAMBER.

On entering the Chamber of Deputies yesterday afternoon, I found Signor Minghetti rising to deliver his speech. The Chamber was more crowded with auditors than with deputies. The public tribunes were crammed, and the reserved and diplomatic tribunes were unusually full. I saw M. Fournier and the German Minister and Sir Augustus Paget, with their respective ladies and attachés, but Mr. Marsh, United States Minister, who has been absent at Naples and has only just returned via Ancona, was not among the auditors. Signor Minghetti is an experienced politician, and was one of the Pope's ministers twenty-five years ago, when Pius IX. was a constitutional sovereign. He speaks easily and well, and was received with evident marks of attention. He supported the bill but repelled the accusations of the honorable Signor Casarini that its partisans desired to conciliate the Papacy. He maintained that it was in harmony with the policy initiated by Count Cavour and followed by his successors. He examined its various clauses and said that with regard to the generals of orders it was the wish of the government that foreign institutions should not be deprived of the means of communicating through them with the Pontiff. The government would have to steer through the opposed exaggerations of the clericals on one side and the radicals on the other, enforcing the observation of law without diminishing liberty.

Signor Minghetti's speech, which was a long one, was applauded frequently, but at its conclusion Signor Casarini rose to reply in a very sarcastic and amusing manner, saying that Signor Minghetti had quoted the liberty afforded to the Church in America and Great Britain, but that if the Pope and his cardinals, surrounded with Catholic Powers, were to be placed in America, instead of Italy, America would speedily transfer them to Paraguay. As to Great Britain, Signor Casarini reminded Signor Minghetti of Henri VIII. and Oliver Cromwell, and inquired if he would be prepared to employ similar means to insure liberty of conscience. He reasserted the conciliative tendencies of the members of the Right, and quoted an article of Signor Bonghi's in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, mentioning the well known photographic portraits of the Pope walking arm in arm with the King of Italy and saying that it represented the prevalent wish of the country.

Signor Bonghi, of the Right, got up to reply, and after him came Signors Miceli, of the Left, and Massari, of the Right, alternately attacking and defending the policy of the Ministry until night closed in.

These debates are very interesting to attend, and afford capital examples of the inexhaustible vivacity and overwhelming flow of words which distinguish Italian orators.

I attended the debate again this afternoon. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Signor Visconti-Venosta, spoke first (in favor of the bill, of course), adducing the desirability of respecting such rights as bore an international character. Signor Billa followed with a heavy attack from the Left, which Signor Berti, of the Right, parried and replied to as well as he could, the principal argument in his speech which struck me being that the right of individual liberty in matters of conscience was already too firmly fixed in countries constitutionally governed, such as Italy, for any apprehensions to be entertained respecting concessions that might be made in favor of the Church.

There was a violent storm this morning, and the electric fluid discharged itself very near the Chamber of Deputies. The clerical journals will call this ominous.

The King returned from Naples this morning at ten minutes to eleven o'clock.

THE PRESIDENT'S PARENTS.

Two Northern Sight-Seers Visit Mr. Jesse R. Grant at Covington, Ky.—Health and Appearance of the Venerable Octogenarian and His Wife—A Quiet Chat on Personal Matters—The President the Pride of the Family.

DAYTON, Ohio, May 24, 1873.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Yesterday, having business in Cincinnati and wishing to show a visiting friend from the North the beauties of this thriving city, we left in the morning train, and, after spending a few hours sight-seeing around the town, proceeded over the great suspension bridge to Covington, Ky., for the purpose of paying our respects to President Grant's father. We first proceeded to the Post Office and learned that he was at home, not being very well. About five minutes' walk brought us to a modest-looking two story brick dwelling, with a silver plate on the door and the name "J. R. Grant" thereon. We rung the bell, and in a few moments the door was opened by an elderly lady, who wore spectacles. We announced ourselves as on a visit to Kentucky, and wished the pleasure of a few minutes' conversation with Mr. Grant, if not intruding. Mrs. Grant, whom the lady turned out to be, in reply said we should be favored, though Mr. Grant was far from well, having some eighteen months ago received a paralytic stroke, and in we walked to a small parlor to the right. The furniture was plain, but comfortable. Quite a number of chromos hung about the room, and one was U. S. Grant in military uniform, which we thought rather a poor likeness. In another part of the room were three quarter-sized colored photographs of the President's father and mother. We also noticed chromos of Mr. and Mrs. George Washington.

While sitting quietly by ourselves we presently heard a slow, tottering step in the hall coming towards us, which proved to be that of the venerable father of our illustrious President. He was leaning on a crutch under his right arm, this side of his body being paralyzed. We shook him gently by the left hand; he seemed taller than his son, and a heavy, firmly-knit man, eyes small, a round, full forehead, with a nearly straight but well set and sharp-pointed nose and projecting chin, strongly indicative of force of character; teeth nearly all gone, but good flesh about the face, giving him the appearance of being a much younger man—in fact, a good, healthy, ruddy hue. After some little exertion he managed to sit down in a large rocking chair. After a few words of apology on my part for the visit he told us he was nearly eighty years of age; that he felt he would not live a month longer; that he had written to the President touching the state of his feeble health, and that he was anxious to have at least an hour's talk with his son before dying. He thought he might die any moment; he felt no particular pain. His wife, he said, enjoyed excellent health, and would no doubt see many more years. They had lived together happily and contentedly for forty years.

He asked if we had ever seen the President. We replied we had on several occasions. We found him considerably deaf—in fact, he so informed us, and requested us to sit near by on this account. Our conversation seemed to distress him a little. He talked hesitatingly and somewhat in a low tone.

Mrs. Grant, who sat *vis-à-vis*, ventured to say they had a daughter living near New York, and, on inquiring, we found it was Mrs. Corbyn, at Elizabeth, N. J. A pardonable vanity of the old gentleman's, we noticed, was that when talking of his son he would usually say "The President." He remarked he had not received any reply from the President to his last letter; that he partly expected him, as he was visiting somewhere in the West. Mrs. Grant interrupted by remarking he had returned to Washington. We ventured to say, we had no doubt the President would visit him the moment his important public duties would admit. He told us he was Postmaster of the town; but the duties, on account of his present indisposition, were principally done by an obliging young man very acceptably to the public. He was in the habit of going down every other day or so to see all went well. Mrs. Grant looked hale and hearty, with a round, pleasant face. It was about half-past one P. M. when we called, the interview lasting some half an hour or so. Shaking hands with both, and wishing the old gentleman many happy days yet to come, we departed for Cincinnati.

J. H.

THE PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 30, 1873.

The session of the Presbyterian General Assembly to-day opened with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Scouller. Standing committees were announced by the Moderator, and credentials received from Rev. John E. Adie, LL.D., Professor of Biblical Literature and Exegetical Theology to the United Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Henry Calderwood, LL.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, as delegates from the United Presbyterian Synod of Scotland.

The Committee on Narration and State Religion reported that forty-five Presbyteries had reported to the General Assembly. The report states the aggregate increase of membership during the year to be 1,682.

The Treasurer of the General Assembly reported receipts for the General Assembly Fund for the past year, $1,927 47; expenditures, $1,469 91; balance on hand, May 1, 1873, $457 56.

Superannuated Ministers' Fund—Balance on hand May 1, 1872, $585 63; receipts, $1,727 27; expenditures for the relief of superannuated ministers, $800; invested, $572 50; balance on hand, $940 40.

The death of the Rev. Dr. Thomas Beveridge, of Xenia Presbytery, was announced, and a feeling eulogium of the worth and piety of deceased was delivered by Rev. Dr. Cooper. A recess was then taken.

Upon reassembling a resolution was offered by the Rev. Dr. G. C. Vincent, sending greeting to the Constitutional Convention, and asking that they conform the constitution to that great fundamental truth—recognizing our obligation to and claiming protection from God. The resolution was unanimously adopted. A resolution providing for the collection into one book of the various enactments relating to the order was discussed, and referred to the Publication Committee. A resolution providing for the appointment of a special committee to revise the constitution of Church Boards was referred to the same committee.

Invitation was accepted from the session of the First United Presbyterian Church of Monmouth, Ill., for the Assembly to meet there on the fourth Wednesday of May, 1874.

Delegates from the Synod of the Presbyterian Churches of Lower Canada, from the Reformed Church and from the Evangelical Church of the Waldences will be heard to-morrow, and delegates from the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland and from the Presbyterian Church of the United States on Monday.

An overture to the different Presbyteries for reduction in ratio of representation was defeated.

The Rev. G. F. Heddon, of the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, was introduced, and addressed the assembly.

In the evening a conference was held on Sabbath Schools. Pulpit appointments were announced, and the assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning.

ART MATTERS.

The Bethesda Fountain This Afternoon.

The Bethesda Fountain, the new work of art recently completed by Miss Stebbins, and of which we recently gave quite a long description, will, this afternoon, be set playing for the pleasure of the Central Park public. There will be no formal unveiling, the work having already been finished a few weeks ago and successfully experimented upon since. If the weather prove fine a large and well-pleased crowd may be expected.

POLICE.

Doings and Developments in the Department—Rumors and Facts Regarding Its Future Administration—Will Charlick Resign?—Probable Changes and Promotions—Street Cleaning.

The rush of office-seekers to the Central Office continues unabated. Corridors and waiting rooms are filled at an early hour with men desirous of serving the city. The Commissioners are scarcely visible, unless to a favored few, and the measures of precaution taken by them are highly necessary. President Smith is besieged day after day with all classes of applicants and rarely gets a moment of peace. He is doing everything in his power to please all parties and at the same time secure an eligible and competent class of men for the service.

RUMORS OF THE RESIGNATION

of Commissioner Charlick have been flying around freely for some days past, but it seems unlikely now that he will give up the office. In conversation with a representative of the HERALD yesterday he said:—

"I did intend to resign, and, indeed, do now, but recent events have combined to make me remain longer than I had anticipated. When His Honor the Mayor requested me to come here I explained to him that I did not want any office, and particularly one that demanded so much time and attention as this. Still, I yielded to his pressure and came, with the understanding, however, that I was to be allowed to retire when I chose. Well, my inclination suggested to me to go out at once, for I saw this place required a good deal of a man's head, and I want all mine for another undertaking I took in hand some years ago. This is a very responsible position and in the Mayor's opinion, and, indeed, in mine, ought to be filled by a gentleman of very amiable disposition, of great intelligence and discretion. So far as we have gone everything seems prospering. Our Superintendent is doing wonders, and the men under him appear to be catching the spirit of their superior officer. I am glad to see that, for we want everything to work harmoniously. We intend to do all in our power to assist the Superintendent in suppressing crime, and we also intend to have

CLEAN STREETS."

"We are a unit on that subject," said Commissioner Gardner, who had just entered the room.

"Yes," continued Commissioner Charlick, "we are going to have clean streets, no matter what it costs. Our first care will be to see that they are kept clean, and then we will look after any leakage there might be. The people expect clean streets; they are willing to pay for them and I promise you that now they are going to have them."

"The Board is determined upon this," said Commissioner Gardner.

A meeting was held by the Board yesterday morning, but no business of importance was transacted. The five Commissioners, at five o'clock last evening, went to inspect the work done by a new street sweeping machine at South Fifth avenue. It was imported from England by the Department. People who pretend to be posted say, that notwithstanding the firm position taken by Commissioner Charlick, he really intends to retire from the Board at an early day. Mr. John Morrisey had a long interview with the Commissioners yesterday, and this would seem to give color to the report, for it is known Mr. Morrissey was of signal service to the Mayor at a critical moment in the recent troubles. Mr. Morrissey is no doubt arranging for the successor of Commissioner Charlick, and some persons say the choice will fall on Justice Ledwith. This magistrate was strongly urged upon the Mayor for the place by the Morrissey party before the names of the present Commissioners were sent to the Board of Aldermen. The Mayor would certainly have complied with the request to compliment these gentlemen for the favors done him, but other matters stepped in at the last moment and Judge Ledwith had to go aside to await events. It appears that the Morrissey men spent a whole night in the endeavor to bring over the democrats in the Board, who were opposing, to terms. They held out and remained faithful to the private combinations until they were threatened with being publicly denounced by Tammany Hall as traitors. The terrible thunder of the triumvirate shook them in their shoes, and they walked down to the plates and lapped the milk like very docile and humble little kittens. The hangers on and waiters for something to turn up, who are massed every morning in the hallways and passages of the Central office, indulge very frequently in peculiar and instructive conversation.

One of these gentlemen said yesterday to another:—

"I hear them fellows up in Albany have $300 a piece for running that charter through."

"That's so," was the answer. "But they might a' had eight. Our folks sent up $800 a piece to 'em to beat it, but they thought it was safer to take the $300 and go home to their villages honest men. Shed Shook spent $10,000 on that thing and got

EUCHRED AFTER ALL."

Ex-Inspector Jamieson has sent in an application to have his case reopened, and asks to be again restored to his former position. In the petition he says that he was unduly, unlawfully and improperly deprived of his office, and offers to bring forth testimony to prove his assertions.

The case is to be brought up at once, and is very likely to be decided in favor of Mr. Jamieson. He was removed from the department through political intrigue. Two resignations are said to have been sent in from the detective office. The names of the officers on the papers are John McCord and George Radford.

REMOVALS TO POST DUTY

from this bureau will be made on Monday. The list, containing eighteen names, has been submitted to Captain Irving by Superintendent Matsell for approval, and he has endorsed the catalogue. An almost entirely new set of men are to be put in the squad.

Inspector McDermott reported yesterday morning to Superintendent Matsell that there was

A DANGEROUS HOUSE

at 571 Broadway, in which "banco" was played and that countrymen were enticed into it by very elaborate circulars setting forth that enormous prizes were to be gained by the risk of a small amount. Superintendent Matsell placed the matter in the hands of Captain Irving, who detailed detectives Heidelberg and Tilly to watch the place and when they found the game going on to arrest all the persons found in it. The detectives remained in the vicinity of the house for some time, and, being assured that everything was in working order, entered and arrested James Bell, the proprietor, and George Holston, his assistant. On the door of the room in which the game was played was a card setting forth that Goodwin & Baker kept offices there, but the firm turned out to be the swindling gamesters. Captain Irving says that "banco" is a very disreputable method of picking pockets, for the parties playing have no chance whatever of winning. Only a few evenings ago a guest at the Metropolitan Hotel lost $100 at this place, and when he spoke to a policeman about it, the latter desired him to keep quiet and the money would be returned to him. The Captain of the precinct does not stand in a very desirable light from this circumstance. He must have known of the existence of the house. It is said he was in it on two occasions. Superintendent Matsell intends to keep the detectives doing this kind of work so that they shall be a check on the captains and their allies, the ward officers. Mr. Matsell spoke yesterday of the success of the detectives in arresting thieves during the present few days. The one taken by Detective Dusenbery, and the other arrested by Detective Heidelberg, were both sent up for sixty days by Judge Dowling.

Mr. Matsell is having lists made out of all policemen that have been detailed to precincts, and who have remained in those precincts without ever being transferred. The object of this is said to be to promote men who have served long and faithfully.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

Curious Facts Concerning the Great Ghizeh Pyramid.

The recently discovered corner stone of the great Ghizeh pyramid, the first and largest of the Egyptian pyramids, was found by the discoverer, an English clergyman, to have the same remarkable relations to geometry that had been ascertained, by the Astronomer Royal of Scotland and other mathematicians, to exist in the pyramid as a whole and in various of its parts. The corner stone, which had escaped, by being covered, the general stripping of the stone facing of the pyramid, was found *in situ*, to measure multiples of the pyramidal cubit (a little more than twenty-five inches) on all its lines, and the angle of its outer slope to express, with mathematical accuracy, the ratio of the diameter to the perimeter of a circle. The pyramidal cubit is exactly 0,000,000,01 of the shortest radius of the earth, and the height of the restored pyramid, 222 cubits, the 0,000,000,000,1 of the distance of the sun from the earth, according to the lately corrected value of this distance. Similarly the so-called sarcophagus inside the pyramid has been found to be an accurate measure of contents, based on the pyramidal cubit. A relation to the mean density of the earth is also found to exist, and it is a curious fact that the unit of measure adopted by the builders of the pyramid, supposed to be at least 8,000 years old, and to have been erected by a race anterior to the historical Egyptians, possesses a geometrical accuracy which does not exist in the French one, which, as is known, is not, what its designers intended it to be, in exact decimal relation with the meridian, owing to errors in the arc. Whoever the builders of the Ghizeh pyramid, astonomy must have been far advanced among them to enable them to calculate the distance of the sun at the amended figure to which it has been reduced only within the last three or four years.