

“ he says: ‘ *Tantum sufficit ut ad inquisitionem specialem*
 “ ‘ *diffamati procedatur.*’ That article treats of both denun-
 “ ciation and accusation; and, inasmuch as these do not
 “ possess the character of judicial proofs of the charge,
 “ but can only serve as warrants to proceed in virtue thereof
 “ to form the process, that is also the only legal result
 “ that can be effected by public report, in the treatment
 “ of a criminal case, as in the present instance; but, more-
 “ over, in the said Article 6 of the law of the 25th of
 “ January, 1862, on which we are now occupied, it is not
 “ only declared that the only legal result that it can have is
 “ simply a ground for enquiry; but it also provides that, in
 “ the causes referred to by the said law, the investigation
 “ shall be instituted in conformity with the general Ordi-
 “ nance of the Army, and the law of the 15th of September,
 “ 1857, which, in its terms, remits to the same ordinance all
 “ the points which it does not especially decide upon.
 “ Well, then, it is sufficient to peruse chapter 5, treatise 8,
 “ of the said ordinance, and that part of Colon’s work on
 “ Military Tribunals, in which he explains the doctrine con-
 “ tained in the said chapter and treatise, to meet at every
 “ step with provisions and doctrines, which manifest that
 “ all the allegations that can be made in favour or against
 “ the accused before a court-martial, must necessarily and
 “ positively be founded on the statements made in the
 “ process. Colon, in his work cited (vol. iii. No. 558), ex-
 “ plaining the mode of making out an indictment against an
 “ offender, declares, that one of the most important obliga-
 “ tions of the prosecutor is not to make the charges with
 “ cavillations and sophisms, without attending to those points
 “ which throw light on the judicial proceedings; and at the
 “ end of the said number he explains that the charges and

“ criminations are according to the tenor of the declara-
 “ tions he himself may have given, and those made by
 “ witnesses. Further on, in No. 560, he recommends to the
 “ fiscal prosecutor, that in order carefully to prepare the
 “ judicial formality of an accusation, he should previously
 “ deliberately make himself perfectly acquainted with the
 “ declarations of the witnesses, and with those which the
 “ accused may have made, in order to take upon himself
 “ the responsibility of what may result in the process
 “ against him; and from all, to form a concise abstract for
 “ direction in the interrogatory, which abstract must be ex-
 “ plicit, distinguishing that which is fully proved from that
 “ which is not, in order to make a distinct charge against the
 “ prisoner, and to convict him. The same author, in No. 555,
 “ speaking of the same formality of indictment against the
 “ prisoner, says that he is to be indicted by making the charge
 “ of the offence which may be provable against him, and
 “ that he is to be proceeded with and convicted by what is
 “ stated in the judicial proceedings, and also by such state-
 “ ments of the declarations, as evidently serve to convict
 “ him, together with what he himself has said and declared.
 “ In the formality of an indictment in a case of robbery—
 “ which is found in the same vol. iii. of Colon on Military
 “ Tribunals—accusing the prisoner, according to antece-
 “ dents, of spending money with a woman with whom he
 “ lived in a certain place, and with whom he was on in-
 “ timate terms, the author makes the following observation,
 “ contained in a marginal note: ‘Observe,’ he says, ‘that in
 “ ‘ consequence of the intimacy supposed to exist between
 “ ‘ the prisoner and the woman not being proved, it might
 “ ‘ be argued that there is some antecedent; but it cannot
 “ ‘ be said that it appears from the judicial proceedings, and

“ ‘is proved by witnesses.’ Lastly, the same author again touches on the same point in No. 606, vol. iii., referred to, and says: ‘And from what may appear in the judicial proceedings, the charges and criminations are to be made, it not having been already done on his first accusation, or if anything substantial or grave be wanting with which to oppose him.’ The doctrines of Colon, just made use of, and which might be multiplied to any extent—for that author, in every step, insists on the opinion we are taking as a principle (for which reasons our citations from him have been taken indiscriminately, without the trouble of selecting them in preference to others analogous)—are nothing more than the doctrinal exposition of express dispositions contained in various articles of the military ordinances. In the 13th Article, chapter 5, treatise 8, it is admitted, *‘that the proof of the crime is the foundation of all criminal cases.’* In the 26th Article of the said treatise, on stating the form in which the prosecutor should write his conclusion, he explains that this should be grounded on the informations, charges, and confrontations with the accused, and that he ought to ask against the prisoner the penalty imposed by law for the crime of which he is charged, when he is convinced of it; adding, in the same article, that in case of the crime not being proved, the prosecutor must declare in his conclusion what he believes, *‘according to his convictions, from the knowledge of what is stated in the process.’* Article 29 of the same chapter imposes, in the most formal manner, on every member of a court-martial, the obligation to vote according to his conscience and honour, and *‘the inference drawn from the informations; and although in the second part of Article 43, the right is*

“ admitted to interrogate the accused for better information, a restriction is put upon the exercise of that right by a condition, to the effect that it may be done *‘by limiting the questions to what appears in the proceedings.’* Article 46 authorizes the members of the court-martial to condemn only when the accused is convicted of the crime of which he is charged; when he is not, it imposes the obligation to acquit him; and when the matter shall be doubtful, there being insufficient proof to condemn him, or many reasons to acquit him, they are permitted to decide on taking new information, expressing the particular points on which they are to be made. Lastly, Article 55 of the same chapter and treatise—which ought to be written in letters of gold, for the noble principle of humanity with which it is inspired—explains in the following manner the sacred respect which ought to be paid to the life of man: *‘To warrant the verdict of death, every judge should remember, that there must be convincing proof of the crime in case the prisoner has not confessed.’*

“ Therefore, whether we observe the principles of common legislation, or those especially military, in conformity with which it is attempted to substantiate this process, it is legally impossible to condemn the Archduke Maximilian, for he has not confessed himself to be the author of the criminal acts with which he is charged; neither is there in the process any evidence produced of his having committed them; nor is it proved that they are of public notoriety; although even this not being proved, the former is admissible proof in a criminal matter. Consequently, for the reason that the Archduke Maximilian is not convicted, by the statements in the judicial proceedings (as he should be in order to be condemned), of

“ having committed the acts of which—as crimes defined by
 “ law—he is charged, in conformity with the express dis-
 “ positions contained in Articles 46 and 55 of the military
 “ Ordinance of the Army, he ought, certainly, to be ac-
 “ quitted. But, allowing (without conceding it) that we
 “ found ourselves in the last extremity foreseen by the first
 “ of these articles—that is to say, that according to the
 “ opinion which had been formed, it was doubtful as to
 “ whether the accused ought to be condemned or acquitted—
 “ even in that article the first of these extremes could not
 “ be adopted ; for in conformity with Article 46, chap. 5,
 “ treatise 8 of the general Ordinance of the Army, what
 “ ought to be done would be to take new informations,
 “ which in this case would be equivalent to drawing up an
 “ entirely new process. But we do not find ourselves in this
 “ position of doubt, because the doubtfulness referred to in
 “ Article 46 is that which arises out of conflicting evidence,
 “ some of which affirms and some refutes the charge. Such
 “ confirmation, with its reciprocal confutation, leaves the
 “ mind in a state of vacillation and doubt :—the position
 “ in which we do find ourselves is, that there does not exist
 “ in the process any evidence which proves the charges ;
 “ there is an entire absence of proof, and no contradiction
 “ therein. This places the mind not in a state of doubt, but
 “ in a position to declare that the accused is not convicted
 “ of having committed the crime with which he is charged ;
 “ and that, consequently, he ought to be acquitted and placed
 “ at liberty, in conformity with the provisions in the second
 “ case, foreseen by the Article 46 referred to.

“ And let it not be said that if any proof exists in the
 “ process of the charges made against our client—such as
 “ that of a tacit, feigned, or presumed confession, implied on

“ the refusal to reply to the interpellations which the judicial
 “ authority put to him in the process, either at the time
 “ of taking his preparatory deposition, or on receiving his
 “ accusation—because this observation has many answers,
 “ all of which are decisive, and admit of no reply. In the
 “ first place, even supposing (presently we shall show that
 “ such is not the case) that the tacit, feigned, or presumed
 “ confession, which is inferred from silence, ought to have
 “ the same effect as an express confession—which consists
 “ in acknowledging an act in explicit terms—that maintain-
 “ ing silence is, in itself, tantamount to a confession, when
 “ it is done capriciously and without any motive ; yet it
 “ cannot be so when a person, with reason, declines to reply
 “ from some legal and just cause. And, in the present case,
 “ the reason why our client refused to reply cannot be more
 “ just, legal, and well-founded—namely, that the tribunals,
 “ to which it was intended to submit him were incom-
 “ petent, and that the law by which it was intended to try
 “ him was unconstitutional. Under such circumstances
 “ (as has been previously shown), even we the defenders
 “ should have the right, without neglecting our duties,
 “ to abstain from speaking. From principles of prudence—
 “ not because we lack legitimate power to do so—we have
 “ abstained from exercising that right. With greater reason
 “ the accused himself had that right. On his conduct an
 “ opinion may, perhaps, be formed that it was not con-
 “ venient, but by no means that he was not authorized
 “ by the laws to do so. All the importance attaching to a
 “ tacit, feigned, or presumptive confession is, that a refusal
 “ to reply may constitute a contempt of court—contumacy,
 “ and disobedience to the authorities. But in all those cases
 “ wherein an accused has proper and legitimate grounds

"to consider himself not compelled to reply, the character
 "of contempt of court, contumacy, and disobedience
 "to the authorities, completely disappears; and indeed
 "silence, in such a case, cannot be construed into a tacit,
 "feigned, or presumptive confession. But, in the second
 "place (as we before stated), it is not true that it can
 "have the same legal effect as an express confession. For
 "instance, a confession which in explicit terms acknow-
 "ledges a personal act, not only constitutes a full proof
 "thereof, but, according to juridical axiom, relieves from
 "the necessity for any other whatever. A tacit, feigned, or
 "presumptive confession, which resolves itself into a con-
 "tempt of court in refusing to reply, is very far from having
 "the same probatory force. In order to demonstrate this, it
 "would be very easy to multiply the authorities; for there
 "are innumerable writers on the science of law, who treat
 "on confession, its different species, characters, and legal
 "probatory force. The pressure of time, by which we are
 "impelled to despatch—the limited time granted for the
 "defence—constrains us, on this point, simply to refer to an
 "eminent author, namely Escriche, who explains the current
 "doctrine on the matter, and his opinion is universally
 "accepted. In his 'Dictionary of Legislation,' at the end
 "of the article under the word 'Silence,' he says as follows:
 "'But if the explicit and real confession has no force
 "'against the criminal only in case it is supported by
 "'other proofs, his silence cannot supply an inference of
 "'greater force; and justice even demands that previ-
 "'ous to drawing any deductions from the silence of an
 "'accused person, the judge should give him timely intima-
 "'tion, in order that he may be acquainted with the risks to
 "'which his conduct exposes him; bearing in mind, never-

"theless, that no one is obliged to accuse himself, and that
 "it is not a culprit who has confessed, but he who has
 "been convicted who ought to be condemned.' But,
 "lastly, there is another circumstance, which is, that if in a
 "civil matter the refusal to respond constitutes a tacit con-
 "fession, in a criminal matter it is only so constituted by
 "flight, or by its being maintained in certain cases and
 "under certain conditions. This doctrine is laid down by
 "authors, whose opinions Escriche, perfectly and with pre-
 "cision, condenses in the following paragraph, which is to
 "be found in the 'Dictionary of Legislation,' under the
 "article 'Express and Tacit Confession': 'He who refuses
 "'to make the confession which is judicially required from
 "'him, or does not wish to respond, or responds only in
 "'an equivocal and obscure manner, or after having pleaded
 "'to the action, abandons his position; and he who, being
 "'accused of any crime, should escape from prison or com-
 "'promise with the accuser, in certain cases, and under
 "'certain circumstances, it is understood that he tacitly
 "'confesses the acts on which he is interrogated, and of
 "'which he is accused. But this tacit or feigned confession
 "'does not deprive the assumed confessor of the right to
 "'be heard and to prove his own explanation, or his inno-
 "'cence, in the event of his presenting himself; for it pro-
 "'duces no other effect than that of imposing on him the
 "'onus probandi—the obligation of proving—which obli-
 "'gation previously belonged to the opposite party.' In
 "that doctrine, two notable considerations are embraced:
 "—first, that already mentioned, viz., that in a criminal
 "matter it is not the refusal to respond, but the escape
 "from prison, or a composition with the accuser in certain
 "cases and under certain conditions, which constitutes

“ the tacit, feigned, or presumptive confession ; and secondly,
 “ that this does not produce any other effect than that of
 “ imposing on the assumed confessor the obligation of prov-
 “ ing, which previously did not lie upon him : and as in the
 “ present case our client and ourselves have been denied
 “ the opportunity to prove that the charges made against
 “ him are not true, as well as that they lack proof in
 “ the process, we are justified in limiting ourselves to a
 “ denial of them ; and accordingly, in order that we may
 “ do even so, we ask that the case may be received on
 “ proof, which has been denied us. On our part, we have been
 “ ready to fulfil the obligation which might result from the
 “ supposed tacit, feigned, and presumptive confession ; and if
 “ we have not fulfilled it, it has been in consequence of the
 “ same authority having denied to us the means to do so : that
 “ is to say, we have been prevented by circumstances foreign
 “ to our own will, and by an impediment placed in our way
 “ by a power which we have been unable to overcome.

“ But, since the public accuser—whose cause is not
 “ more, but rather much less, plausible than that of the
 “ accused—has been permitted, for the purpose of establish-
 “ ing the charges (there being no proofs in the process), to
 “ resort to extrajudicial data, which do not appear therein
 “ —such as that pretended, vague, and indefinite public
 “ notoriety, the existence of which has not been proved
 “ in the proceedings, and, even if it were proved, would be
 “ of no benefit to the party who accuses—it ought to be
 “ lawful for the defence, in order to answer the charges, to
 “ use similar means to those which have been resorted to
 “ in the attempt to establish the proof ; but we must pre-
 “ viously explain that to the doctrines just adduced—in
 “ order to demonstrate that the prosecutor cannot support

“ the charges except by the evidence in the proceedings
 “ and that to act in any other manner is contrary to law—
 “ the following is to be added from Colon, which we most
 “ earnestly beg the President and members of the Court-
 “ martial to take into consideration, in arriving at their
 “ verdict in this very important transaction. That author
 “ says, in No. 178, p. 118, vol. iii. of his treatise on Military
 “ Tribunals :—

“ ‘ The laws, in order to adjudge condign punishment,
 “ ‘ demand proof of the crimes on their consummation, with
 “ ‘ such precision, that it may easily happen that a real
 “ ‘ murderer, against whom, from carelessness, the gravamen
 “ ‘ of the crime has not been proved in the cause for lack of
 “ ‘ eye-witnesses, or indications which might have criminated
 “ ‘ him, is set at liberty ; because the sentence has to be
 “ ‘ awarded according to what is positively proved in the
 “ ‘ process, and not to what is extrajudicially ascertained.’
 “ But, assuming that the prosecutor has endeavoured to find
 “ weapons with which to attack the accused outside the
 “ arsenal of the process, we repeat, that it ought to be lawful
 “ for us to take others from whence he endeavours to find
 “ his, in order to defend our client.

“ ‘ Usurper of public power !’—‘ Enemy to the indepen-
 “ ‘ dence and security of the nation !’—‘ Disturber of order
 “ ‘ and public peace !’—‘ Trampler on the laws of nations and
 “ ‘ of individual guarantees !’—such are, in epitome, the prin-
 “ cipal charges made against the Archduke Maximilian.
 “ But these sonorous and resonant phrases—which serve to
 “ adorn a discourse in a club, or to fill the columns of a
 “ newspaper—are very far from being sufficient to satisfy the
 “ mind of a tribunal in pronouncing a sentence which is to
 “ decide the life or death of a fellow-creature. Legal, solid,

“and cogent reasons, not vain and hollow declarations, are
 “the only ones which, in such a case, can tranquillize the
 “spirit of public functionaries called to pronounce a penalty
 “of such irreparable consequences as capital punishment.
 “Let us examine, then, more narrowly and impartially, the
 “charges made against our client, and we shall easily com-
 “prehend that what is said by an eminent Spanish poet,
 “respecting certain pompous literary works, is very appli-
 “cable to those charges :

“Mas la razon se acerca, y con desprecio
 Ve el bulto informe entre el ropaje vano.”

“The closer one's reason approaches
 The misshapen bust one beholds ;
 With deeper contempt one reproaches
 It—wrapped in bedizening folds !”

“It is true that the rebellion of a village, of a city, of
 “a province, of a small minority of a nation, against the
 “institutions adopted by the country, is a grave crime,
 “which ought to be punished, though we will presently
 “examine whether by the penalty of death, or by some
 “other ; but between the case of a rebellion—that is to say,
 “the rising of a few against the immense majority of a
 “nation—and that of a veritable civil war, that of a rigor-
 “ous social schism, in which society divides itself almost in
 “equal numbers—one portion in favour of a new path, and
 “the other against separating themselves from the beaten
 “and familiar track—there is an enormous distance : these
 “two social conditions are entirely diverse, and the legal
 “rules applicable to the one and to the other are also en-
 “tirely different. When a nation, or when society, is under
 “the former conditions of rebellion, that is to say, the rising
 “of an insignificant minority against the majority, the

“minority necessarily and inevitably succumbs, and the
 “majority has the right to chastise them—because they
 “have committed the crime of disturbing the public peace,
 “without any legal motive warranting them to do so. But
 “at times societies, particularly those ruled by popular
 “institutions, find themselves in another condition, which is
 “that of dividing themselves almost in equal numbers—one
 “portion wishing one thing, and the other affecting the con-
 “trary. When a minority, relatively small, opposes what
 “is decided upon by the majority, it is the duty of the
 “former to resign and submit ; because that is the law of
 “all associations—that is to say, that the minority has to
 “submit to the majority in everything which does not alter
 “the constitution of the society. But when there is a real
 “and rigorous division between its members ; when the
 “force of both sections into which a nation may be divided
 “is almost equal ; when both sections take an ardent inter-
 “est in the questions which divide them ; when neither of
 “them is inclined to make concessions to the other, then
 “such a conflict—the same as if it had happened between
 “two proud and independent nations—cannot be decided
 “in any other manner than by a recourse to arms. In order
 “to decide international questions, without appealing to the
 “disastrous and sanguinary resource of arms—in order to
 “cause war to disappear from among nations, century after
 “century has produced philosophers and philanthropists,
 “who have formed with that object various systems, which,
 “up to the present time, have remained inefficacious and
 “fruitless ; so that in the present state of political science,
 “the problem of a perpetual peace amongst nations is still
 “as insolvable in the science of the laws of nations, as the
 “squaring of a circle is in the science of mathematics. A

“ defect, analogous to that which we have just noted in the
 “ laws of nations, is met with in the constitutional law. Up
 “ to the present time no country has been able, in its constitu-
 “ tion, to enounce a solution of the problem, how to terminate
 “ in a pacific manner those social schisms which at times
 “ break out in nations : and when they do transpire, they are
 “ still seldom decided in any other manner than by resorting
 “ to the sword. When civil war breaks out in a district it is
 “ put an end to by the same means as those which are
 “ international. Sometimes factions, after being fatigued in
 “ destroying each other, terminate the strife by means of
 “ an arrangement, the same as when two belligerent nations
 “ put an end to the war by means of a treaty. At other
 “ times, one faction in process of time overpowers the other,
 “ and conquers and subjugates the opposing faction. Of
 “ that nature were the religious wars which broke out in
 “ various nations of the centre and North of Europe, in con-
 “ sequence of the so-called Reform in religion, initiated by
 “ Luther in Wittemberg. Of the same nature are those
 “ political wars which, ever since the end of the last century,
 “ have agitated society, and will continue to conflict with
 “ those traditions which (without any reason for continued
 “ existence) have been bequeathed to the modern world,
 “ until societies follow the examples of the nations of
 “ Europe and America, where new ideas of liberty and pro-
 “ gress are discussed and disseminated through the world
 “ by modern philosophy, and the advancement of the human
 “ understanding. When one of those great social schisms
 “ occurs in a nation, and when one of the belligerent factions
 “ succeeds in overcoming and conquering the other, the
 “ victorious faction might abuse their triumph to any ex-
 “ tent, because its exercise of force cannot be limited but by

“ a contrary force, which, by the terms of the proposition,
 “ has already been suppressed and subjugated. But there
 “ is an immense distance between what is done and what
 “ ought to be done—between an act and a right. The con-
 “ quering faction, moved by the passions of the moment,
 “ and by the instincts of revenge which a prolonged and
 “ sanguinary struggle always awakens, may abuse their
 “ victory without limit ; but history and right, which do not
 “ participate in similar passions, look across a different
 “ prism to that of contemporaries. Sanguinary executions
 “ mark those passions with a stamp of severe reprobation,
 “ and testify that they are useless and unjustifiable. The
 “ Government of Charles V., after he had conquered the cities
 “ of Castile, and the force of arms had pronounced against
 “ them, caused the Chief of Villalar to die on a scaffold,
 “ but history has been very far from seeing that execution
 “ in the same light as it was regarded by those who decreed
 “ it. History, with its burin of fire, has recorded it in the
 “ annals of the human race as an act of useless barbarity, as
 “ an extravagance of ostentatious tyranny. The popular
 “ faction of Paris, after having conquered Louis XVI., on
 “ the 10th of August, with a derisive mockery of judgment,
 “ caused his head to be cut off, but the impartial opinion
 “ of all the world, even in Republican countries, has been
 “ very far from approving of that act, notwithstanding that
 “ at that time a terrible European coalition threatened France
 “ by sea and land, by shore and frontier ; and it is no secret
 “ to any one that Louis XVI. had called foreigners to his
 “ aid, and was most anxious for their arrival, that he might
 “ see their troops march through the streets of Paris. Not-
 “ withstanding these apparently extenuating circumstances,
 “ impartial history has passed sentence, without appeal, that

“ under such circumstances the French nation had the right
 “ to deprive Louis XVI. of the exercise of royal power, be-
 “ cause he ought not to confide the direction of war *à l'ou-*
trance to a coalition with a secret ally—yet has it dis-
 “ tenanced the right it exercised to deprive him of his life!
 “ Afterwards, nearly forty years later, in 1830, the French
 “ popular faction obtained a new triumph over royal power,
 “ and conquered Charles X. in the same city which had
 “ witnessed the victory of the 10th of August; but the ideas
 “ of right, and the true political principles which ought to
 “ regulate civil war, had been submitted to the discussions
 “ of half a century; and the life of Charles X. was respected,
 “ and he terminated it in a foreign land. Eighteen years
 “ afterwards, the Republican King of the Barricades of 1830
 “ was in his turn conquered; and his fate was the same as
 “ that of his immediate predecessor, and not that of the
 “ monarch of the epoch in which the guillotine governed.
 “ Either history is a science of pure curiosity, vain and
 “ barren; or the examples it contains stand recorded in its
 “ immortal pages, that some may be imitated, and others be
 “ avoided. And who would not prefer to imitate the
 “ examples which the history of France in the nineteenth
 “ century offers, much rather than those of France in the
 “ epoch called, by a significant figure of speech, the Reign of
 “ Terror, which dominated the French territory, converting
 “ it into a vast and lugubrious cemetery?

“ Amongst the most memorable civil wars in the annals
 “ of the human race, that which is most worthy of observa-
 “ tion—England being the founder of modern constitutional
 “ institutions—is the long struggle of half a century between
 “ the English popular faction and the House of the Stuarts.
 “ One of the most interesting incidents of that civil war is

“ the trial and execution of Charles I., after having been
 “ conquered and made prisoner by his political adversaries.
 “ Let us see, then, how that event is viewed by modern
 “ English historians, who belong, not to the Tory party, but
 “ to that of the Whigs, or Liberals—that is to say, to the
 “ same political communion which, centuries ago, took upon
 “ itself the responsibility of the decree for the execution of
 “ Charles. And observe, that in all countries governed
 “ by free institutions, the two parties who struggle for power
 “ —one representing the past, and the other the future—the
 “ one not inclined to alter anything, and the other bent
 “ on innovation: these parties, which in different Countries
 “ and epochs have various names, and which are now re-
 “ spectively called by us Conservative and Liberal, are
 “ undergoing, with the times, this modification—viz., the
 “ enemy to innovation is resigning himself, little by little, to
 “ some of the proposed changes, and therefore daily becomes
 “ less retrogressive; while the leader of that party which
 “ day by day demands fresh novelties, instigated, as it con-
 “ ceives, by new necessities, each day advances a step in his
 “ ideas, so that both parties maintain the same separateness
 “ and the same relative position. If the greatest advocate
 “ for progress of two centuries ago were placed, with all his
 “ ideas, in one of our liberal societies of the present day, we
 “ should consider him more ignorant and retrogressive than
 “ the most unenlightened of our times. It thus happens that
 “ the Liberal English historians of the present century—
 “ whose opinions on the trial and execution of Charles I.,
 “ we are about to lay before our judges—are infinitely more
 “ liberal than their co-religionists of two centuries ago,
 “ who took part in that cruel act. Well, then, Mr. Hallam,
 “ in his ‘Constitutional History of England,’ condemns the

“ execution of Charles I., in the following severe and precise
 “ language : ‘ The vanquished are to be judged by the rules
 “ ‘ of national, not of municipal law. Hence, if Charles,
 “ ‘ after having by a course of victories, or by the defections
 “ ‘ of the people, prostrated all opposition, had abused his
 “ ‘ triumph by the execution of Essex, or Hampden, or
 “ ‘ Fairfax, or Cromwell, I think the latter ages would have
 “ ‘ disapproved of these deaths as positively, though not
 “ ‘ quite as vehemently, as they have of his own.’ Mac-
 “ aulay, the greatest of the English writers of the present
 “ century, in his critical essay on Mr. Hallam’s ‘ Constitu-
 “ ‘ tional History of England,’ referring to the trial and
 “ execution of Charles I., expatiates against the opinion of
 “ the English Tory party, and contends that, constitution-
 “ ally, Charles I., by having infringed the laws, could be
 “ tried and executed ; but, considering that event under the
 “ aspect of Charles I. conquered and made prisoner in a
 “ civil war, Macaulay fully adheres to the opinion of Hallam
 “ on that point, saying : ‘ Mr. Hallam decidedly condemns
 “ ‘ the execution of Charles, and in all that he says on that
 “ ‘ subject we heartily agree. We fully concur with him in
 “ ‘ thinking that a great social schism, such as the civil war,
 “ ‘ is not to be confounded with an ordinary treason, and
 “ ‘ that the vanquished ought to be treated according to the
 “ ‘ rules, not of municipal, but of international law.’ It
 “ therefore cannot be disputed in the present age, that in
 “ the case of civil war the conquerors have not the right to
 “ take away the life of the vanquished ; and accordingly, it
 “ only remains to examine if the struggle in which the
 “ Archduke Maximilian has succumbed had the character
 “ of a civil war, or of a simple rebellion.

“ The French Intervention, and the attempts made to

“ establish an Empire under its protection—in sustaining
 “ which our client was made prisoner—are the last efforts
 “ made by the party at enmity with the social innovations
 “ contained in the so-called laws of Reform, in order to
 “ oppose itself to the establishment and consolidation of
 “ those innovations. And can it be questioned that the
 “ strife has been a veritable civil war, which has been pro-
 “ longed for ten years, between the Liberal party, determined
 “ to establish and consolidate them, and the Conservative
 “ party, not less decided to impede their establishment and
 “ consolidation ? The division of opinions, of which that
 “ strife is nothing more than a symptom, has in every State
 “ deeply penetrated all classes, even to the very heart of
 “ families : frequently has it been witnessed, that a father
 “ has been fighting in the ranks of one faction, and his son
 “ in those of the other ; and in the besieged and the be-
 “ siegers of this city, cases of the like nature have been
 “ seen—one such having afforded, in the act of taking this
 “ very city, a most noble, beautiful, and pathetic example of
 “ filial piety. Cities, entire states, are marked amongst us
 “ for their decided opinions on one side or the other. Nor
 “ is such a phenomenon to be wondered at. The spirit of
 “ innovation enters and is slowly and steadily propagated
 “ in societies. In the first place, it emanates from the brain
 “ of a profound and bold thinker, to whom the thought-
 “ less public—at first calling him a bigot, a dreamer—
 “ become by degrees proselytes ; and only with time does
 “ that idea—the germ of which appeared solitary and
 “ isolated in the head of a daring innovator—germinate,
 “ unfold itself, gain strength, and take root in the bosom of
 “ society. The greater and more radical the innovations
 “ are which it is intended to introduce, the more decided