

line awaiting him. He walked up to his position until the muzzles of their guns nearly touched his breast. Looking serenely at the soldiers, with a smile upon his lips, he said :

“My friends, do not make me suffer by taking bad aim. The narrowness of the space obliges you almost to rest the muzzles of your pieces on my breast. Do not tremble. Spare the face; straight to the heart.”

In his hand he held a little medallion containing portraits of his wife, Caroline, and his four little children. Gazing upon it he gave the signal and fell, pierced by twelve balls. Thus died Joachim Murat, on the thirteenth of October, 1815, in the forty-eighth year of his age.

The king, Ferdinand I., could not forget the old principles of Bourbon rule, and now that the people had enjoyed a short experience of liberal principles, the tyranny of the old regime seemed doubly execrable. The taxes were greatly increased; all the public works which the French had either planned or executed, were neglected or suffered to fall into decay; the education of the people was entirely abandoned; for the funds which had been appropriated for that measure, were needed to supply the voluptuousness of the court. The discontent of the people rapidly increased, and, in defiance of dungeons and death, the murmurs were so loud that it was evident to attentive observers, that troubles were at hand. A secret society of patriots was organized, called the Carbonari. It spread throughout all Italy, and soon numbered six hundred and forty-two thousand persons, enrolling in its ranks nearly the whole genius, intelligence, and patriotism of the land.

On the second of July, 1820, an insurrection broke out at Avellino, an important post about fifty miles west of Naples. The people rose tumultuously, and the soldiers as eagerly joined them. The *emeute* was spreading like wildfire, and the tidings plunged the court of Naples into the utmost consternation. All the disposable force of the court was ordered to march immediately upon Avellino. But Carascosa, the roy

alist general, found his own troops shouting, “The Constitution,” and to prevent them from joining the ranks of the insurgents, he was compelled to lead them back to Naples. General Pepe, who was in command of the garrison, at Salerno, now placed himself at the head of the patriots, who consequently made Salerno their head-quarters. The court was powerless, whole regiments declaring for the constitution. The students, the professional men, the whole intelligent class were unanimous in the cry. The king thus terrified yielded, and took an oath, with all the solemnities of religion, to adopt and maintain a free constitution, founded upon the principles of the Code Napoleon, such as the Spanish people had recently extorted from their king.

A new ministry was organized, and the authority of the kingdom, by this bloodless revolution, passed into the hands of the patriots. Illuminations, the ringing of bells, and every demonstration of joy pervaded the kingdom. In Palermo, on the island of Sicily, an Englishman, General Church, was in command of the troops who supported the power of Ferdinand. A bloody fight ensued. But the patriots with great slaughter overpowered the soldiers. The Sicilians made a feeble effort, to repeal the union and secure the independence of the island of Sicily. But the attempt was speedily quelled, and the whole kingdom remained united under one constitution. The constitution granted one representative in the legislature for every thirty thousand inhabitants.

The signal success of this enterprise, roused the people of the papal states. With shouts of “long live the republic,” the populace sprang to arms in various places; but the troop proved true to discipline and mercilessly shot them down.

In Piedmont the insurrection was more serious. The people there, familiar with the French armies, had become highly intelligent. All of the most respectable portion of the community, including the merchants, the educated classes, and the officers of the army, were members of the Carbonari, and

were anxiously watching for an opportunity to overthrow the government of aristocratic privilege, and to introduce in its stead the Napoleonic government of equal rights. Some students, whose ardor and enthusiasm triumphed over their sense of prudence, put on the cap of liberty and raised the standard of rebellion in the small town of Andennes, in the district of Novarrais. The people rushed so eagerly to join them that it was found necessary to send four companies of the royal guard to arrest the movement. The whole kingdom was soon in a blaze, there seeming to be entire unanimity in the resolve to overthrow absolutism and establish a constitutional monarchy. Many noblemen joined in the enterprise. On the tenth of March, 1821, at a vast gathering of citizens and soldiers at Alessandria, the same constitution was adopted which had been adopted in Naples.

The tidings reached Turin, the capital of the Sardinian kingdom. The populace crowded the streets shouting, "Live the Constitution." The soldiers fraternized with them. There was no wish to overthrow the monarchical form of government. They only wished for the establishment of free institutions under this form. Monarchical England, not republican America, was the model which they wished to imitate. Scarcely an intelligent man could be found in Italy, who deemed the Italians prepared for a true republic. The demand was only for a constitution which should give the people a voice in the government, and which should limit the absolute and despotic power of the king. With one voice Turin rose and made this demand. The Austrian troops, left in garrison there to maintain the cause of absolutism, fled from the city. The tri-color floated over the bastions of Turin, and beneath the windows of the palace, the constitution was proclaimed by the shouts of the military and the people. The king was utterly bewildered. While anxiously deliberating with his council, three guns from the citadel announced that it had fallen into the hands of the constitutionalists.

Austria, in the meantime, had sent a demand that the Piedmontese troops should be disbanded, and the fortresses filled with Austrian troops. The king sent from his palace the prince of Carignan, heir apparent to the throne, to ascertain more definitely the wishes of the people, now triumphant.

The prince was received with every demonstration of respect, but the people were united and firm in their demand for the constitution. "Our hearts," said they, "are faithful to the king; but we must extricate him from his fatal councils. The situation of the country and the people demand the constitution."

To grant the constitution was inevitable war with Austria; for it was well known, that war to the last extremity would be waged by that despotic government, before it would allow free institutions to be established so near its capital. The king of Sardinia had also *pledged himself* to the emperor, to maintain absolutism, and to crush, with all the energies of fire and sword, any attempt of the people to encroach upon the assumptions of the crown. Austrian troops were quartered in Piedmont to aid the king in maintaining his despotic power, and to send the alarm instantly to Austria, should that power be menaced.

In this perplexity the king decided to abdicate. He transmitted the crown to his brother Felix, who was then at Modena, and appointing Charles Albert, prince of Carignan, regent, set out immediately for Nice. On the evening of the same day, April thirteenth, 1821, the prince regent found himself compelled to adopt the constitution, on condition, however, of the royal assent.

The "holy allies," Austria, Russia, and Prussia, met in congress at Laybach, to devise efficient measures to put down this spirit of liberty in Italy. The *British government* was in sympathy with the despots. The *British people* were in such warm sympathy with their Italian brethren struggling for their rights, that the *government* did not dare to join the "holy

allies." Lord Castlereagh, however, in the name of the British cabinet, sent a dispatch to the congress, stating that while England wished to remain neutral, it admitted this was a case in which the intervention of the northern monarchs, to arrest the progress of the people, was justifiable. The sentiments of the British court at that time are reflected, as in a mirror, in the representation which Sir Archibald Alison gives of these events. He is the *court* historian, and eloquently does he advocate their cause:

"Such," says Alison, "was the revolution of 1820. Commencing with military treason, it ended with robbery, massacre, and the insurrection of galley slaves. Nothing durable or beneficial was to be expected from such a commencement. It was characterized accordingly throughout by impassioned conception and ephemeral existence; violent change, disregard of former usage, inattention to national character, oblivion of the *general* national interests. Designed and carried into execution by an active and energetic, but limited and special class of the people, it exhibited, in all the countries where it was established, the well known features of class legislation; and by the establishment of class legislation of the very worst kind—universal suffrage—it insured at no distant period its own downfall."

Influenced by such views as the above, Russia, Austria, and Prussia sent their armies to extinguish the rising flame of liberty in Italy. Instructed by the tremendous energy with which France, emancipated from feudalism, had struggled against combined Europe, the allies sent forces strong enough to crush the Italian patriots at a blow. Russia put in immediate motion an army of one hundred thousand men. Nearly the whole military strength of Austria was, by forced marches, crowding down through the defiles of the Tyrol upon the plains of doomed Italy. A division of the Austrian army, amounting to fifty thousand men, speedily crossed the Po; and they were followed by solid battalions of Russian, Prus-

sian, and Austrian troops, extending back, in apparently interminable lines, even to the heart of Russia. The storm first fell upon Naples. It was resistless as the avalanche—desolating as the tornado. King Ferdinand had joined the allies in their congress at Laybach, and returned to Naples behind the guns of their resistless battalions. The banners of liberty were trampled in the dust—the constitution torn into shreds—the patriots shot, hanged, and sent to the galleys. England and the Bourbons of France, notwithstanding their assumed neutrality, sent fleets to the harbor of Naples, to protect the Bourbon monarch there, should he need their aid. Ferdinand I. issued a decree to all the friends of the old regime to rally in aid of the allies.

A few bloody and despairing conflicts terminated the strife. The same soldiers, who with their bayonets had replaced the Bourbons on the throne of France, now replaced another branch of the Bourbons on the throne of Naples, and re-established as execrable a despotism, as that under which any nation has ever groaned. On the twelfth of May the king entered his capital, surrounded by Austrian troops, who garrisoned the city and silenced every murmur of the people. A court martial was immediately established for the execution of military law upon all the known friends of a representative government. For months the court was busy in its sanguinary toil. Multitudes suffered the most cruel and ignominious punishments. Many of the purest spirits of Italy fled to other lands, and with loss of property wandered in exile and penury, until death came to their relief.

The revolution being thus repressed by Austrian bayonets, for the work was already accomplished before the Russian or Prussian troops had crossed the frontiers, vigorous measures were adopted to prevent the possibility of another effort for popular liberty. A general disarmament of the Neapolitans was ordered, and the fortresses were placed in the hands of the Austrian troops; a vigorous censorship of the press was

established, and all the books in circulation were carefully examined; a loan of five million dollars was raised; the taxes greatly increased, and an army of between fifty and sixty thousand Austrians, including seven thousand cavalry, remained in occupation of the Neapolitan kingdom to hold the people in subjection. The whole expense of this Austrian army was borne by the Neapolitans.

The Austrians now turned, with accumulated strength, toward the plains of Piedmont. They were so strong in numbers that they sent word to the Russian troops that they might halt where they were, as their coöperation probably would not be needed. The tempest of war burst terribly upon the little realm. The Austrians, in overpowering numbers, took possession of all the fortresses, and entered Turin in triumph. The new king, Felix, had joined the Austrians at Novara, and at the head of their columns, guided the attacks upon the Piedmont fortresses, and made his public entrance into Turin. The popular cause was crushed as effectually as in Naples, and the old, absolute, royal authority reëstablished. Confiscations and executions followed. Detachments of Austrians, amounting to twelve thousand men, were placed in possession of the four most important fortresses of the kingdom. The Piedmontese were compelled to support these foreign troops, at an expense in money of one hundred thousand dollars a month, and of thirteen thousand rations daily.

The silence and repose of the dungeon continued unbroken in Italy for several years. The taxes were everywhere so enormous, that the people were generally in a state of extreme misery. On the fifth of May, 1825, Ferdinand I., of Naples died, and his son, Francis I., ascended the throne. He reigned for five years, in perfect obedience to the emperor of Austria, who with Austrian troops held possession of his kingdom. He died the eighth of November 1830, being succeeded by his son Ferdinand II.

The revolution in France in 1830, by which the elder branch of the house of Bourbon was driven from the throne, and the scepter placed in the hands of Louis Philippe, convulsed Italy, from the Alps to the extremities of Calabria. But the Italians were bound hand and foot; their fortresses were in the hands of the Austrians, and the whole power of the Austrian empire was ready, at a day's warning, to march and quell any popular rising. There were a few desperate outbreaks, but the vigilance of the police, and the presence everywhere of an overpowering Austrian force, enabled the rulers to repress with rigor every movement of reform.

For a few years after the fall of Napoleon, at Waterloo, the French people had submitted in entire exhaustion and despair, to the *old regime* of the Bourbons, imposed upon them by allied Europe. But in the year 1830, they again rose and drove the Bourbons again from the throne. The remains of the great emperor were then mouldering beneath the sod at St. Helena. His only son, the duke of Reichstadt, had pined away and died in the palaces of Austria. All the members of the Napoleonic family had been banished from France. There was no one of the name with whom the French people were acquainted, or to whom they could appeal.

Under these circumstances they reluctantly consented to place upon the throne Louis Philippe, the duke of Orleans, a member of the house of Bourbon. Though it was known that his sympathies would be mainly with the nobles, it was deemed, that, on the whole, the appointment of Louis Philippe to the sovereignty, was the best arrangement which could then be made. Eight years passed away, while discontent rapidly increased as the government was becoming less and less favorable to popular liberty. Again the masses were roused. Louis Philippe was driven across the channel. Louis Napoleon presented himself in the streets of Paris. To the people he was a stranger. But he was the grandson of

Josephine, and his name was Bonaparte. He was the legitimate heir of that throne of the empire, which the popular voice had reared, and pronounced hereditary in the line of Napoleon.

Openly and earnestly Louis Napoleon avowed his adherence to those principles of popular sovereignty, and of equal rights, which had been the glory and the strength of the empire. Cautiously he was received, for he was a stranger, with no credentials, in the form of deeds achieved, to present an attestation of his worth or ability. He was first made a legislator, then president, then emperor. This astonishing revolution in France, shook every throne in Europe. The people everywhere were roused anew to shake off the detested yoke of aristocratic despotism. In every state of Italy there were strong indications of tumult, and of a general and desperate insurrection against the established powers. The pope, Pius IX., in his alarm, hoping to conciliate the people, adopted the unprecedented reform of establishing a new cabinet, composed of *ten laymen*, and but *three ecclesiastics*. He also promised the people a constitution, and permission to organize a national guard.

In Venice the agitation was intense and universal. The people all over the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom rose in such strength, that the Austrian garrisons did not venture to attack them. The Austrian force, at that time in Lombardy, amounted to eighty thousand, and yet General Zichy, who was in command, wrote to Vienna, that he should need, at least seventy thousand more to enable him to make headway against the people. The renowned Austrian general, Joseph Radetsky, was then commander-in-chief of all the Austrian forces in Italy.

In Milan, Radetsky first brought the Italian troops, eighteen thousand in number, to assail the Italian patriots, or *rebels*, as he deemed them. For six days the ferocious conflict raged, almost without intermission, through the streets

of the city. The women even, joined their husbands and fathers, in the fight against the detested Austrians. In every city in the vicinity, the flame of insurrection was blazing forth. At length the Austrians in Milan, discomfited, were compelled to retreat to Crema. All Italy raised a shout of exultation.

Charles Albert, who was then the king of Sardinia, thought this a favorable opportunity to deliver his kingdom from Austrian domination, and nobly resolved to espouse the popular cause, and to confer upon his subjects the blessings of a free constitution. He was in command of an army highly disciplined, amounting to seventy-five thousand men, and was thus prepared to assume the position of leader of the liberal party in Italy. He drew his sword against Austria, and throwing away the scabbard, marched to join the patriots at Milan.

The state of affairs throughout the whole Neapolitan kingdom was essentially the same as in Piedmont, Lombardy, and Venice. Ferdinand II. despatched nine ships-of-war to bombard Palermo, and forty-eight hours the horrible storm of ruin and death fell upon the city. The king, at length appalled by the vigor of the defense, and by the insurrections bursting out in every important town of his kingdom, professed to yield to the demands of his people. He withdrew his soldiers from the conflict and promised his subjects the constitution of 1812. The announcement was placarded in the streets of Naples, exciting the citizens to the highest transports of joy. But it was soon found that the constitution the king was disposed to grant was very different from that which the people expected. As the basis of the new constitution the king proposed, first, that the Roman Catholic religion should be the religion of the state, and that *no other should be tolerated!* The civil war was speedily renewed; the Sicilians struggling to obtain entire release from Naples, and to establish the independence of their island. In Naples bar-

ricades were thrown up, and for eight hours a sanguinary conflict raged between the royal troops and the citizens. Eight thousand of the Neapolitans were slain, and the victory of the king was complete. Martial law was established, and the most unrelenting despotism reigned.

In Sicily, however, the constitutionalists were triumphant. A parliament was summoned; the king was declared dethroned; Charles Albert, second son of the king of Sardinia, was elected king of Sicily; and the infant kingdom joined the Italian league for the independence of Italy. Ferdinand II. sent fourteen thousand troops, with a powerful train of artillery, to reconquer the island. On the third of September, 1848, the bombardment of Messina commenced. For several days the horrible storm of shot and shells fell upon the city. The gutters ran with blood, and the streets were filled with the mangled bodies of the slain. A large part of the city was in ruins, and the ammunition of the citizens had failed. It was no longer a battle, but a massacre. Messina fell in one loud wail of woe, and the banners of Ferdinand II., of Naples, again floated over the smoldering walls.

CHAPTER XXX.

AUSTRIAN TRIUMPHS AND DISCOMFITURE.

FROM A. D. 1848 TO A. D. 1860.

CONFLICT BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND SARDINIA.—AUSTRIA TRIUMPHANT.—CONCENTRATION OF THE PATRIOTS IN ROME.—RUIN OF THE POPULAR PARTY IN PIEDMONT.—HEROISM OF GARIBALDI.—RENEWAL OF THE WAR BETWEEN SARDINIA AND AUSTRIA.—INTERVENTION OF FRANCE.—PROCLAMATIONS.—BATTLES OF MONTEBELLO, PALESTRO, AND MAGENTA.—SARDINIA AND LOMBARDY REGAINED.—PRESENT STATE OF ITALY.

ALL Italy, now, from the Tyrolese Alps to the southern shores of Sicily, was in a blaze of insurrection. Venice and Lombardy were in arms. The king of Sardinia, leading the hosts of freedom, was strongly intrenched on the banks of the Mincio. A large body of volunteers, from the papal states, asking no permission of the pope, marched and joined them. The tumult in Rome was fearful, the populace surrounding the palace, and demanding that war should be declared by the papal government against Austria, and in favor of Italian independence. This sentiment was so universal, with the soldiers as well as the civilians, that the pope was compelled to yield. The grand duke of Tuscany followed in the same line, issuing a proclamation in which he promised his subjects representative institutions.

The Austrian army was concentrated upon the Adige, about twenty-five miles east of the Mincio. From all parts of Italy volunteers were crowding to the banners of Charles Albert. From all the fortresses of Austria, the veteran legions of the emperor were hastening down to swell the imperial ranks marshaled beneath the walls of Verona. It would be uninteresting to follow the incidents of the campaign