

leage all competition. We may gather some idea of the vast amount of beer consumed from the fact that it averages seventy-six gallons each inhabitant annually, males and total abstainers included.

What is Boulangerism is a question that has been asked countless times during the past six months by many in all of the world's great capitals. Innumerable articles have been written on this subject, yet many of these explanations have been written from a partisan view, and have left the reader still worse confounded. The truth is, that no one can understand this question without some idea of the history of France during the last hundred years. During that time there has been in France three monarchies, three republics and two empires. The result has been that the form of government has been overturned on an average once every twelve years. The majority of living Frenchmen have personally witnessed two upheavals of the political system, while others have seen three of these national eruptions.

The consequence is that among a very large proportion of the voting population of France there is no deep interest, no abiding enthusiasm for any particular party, such as we perceive in Great Britain, Hungary, Prussia, or even in Russia where the great majority of the peasantry have unbounded faith in one who is to them a semi-divine Czar. In France there are a great number of individuals, who live by politics just as the blacksmith lives by his hammer or the shoemaker by his last. Hence we see staunch Imperialists and monarchists changed in a day to republicans and *vice versa*. As every one knows the last upheaval took place about nineteen years ago; and after the terrible scene through which France had passed, the third republic was voted by the National Assembly by a majority of only one. Thus from the very outset the republic has had one-half the nation arrayed against it, and as a consequence the republicans have never been able to adopt a truly republican constitution. Here we find one great cause of French discontent. One half the nation chafes at the rule of the other half.

Under the Imperial regime, military glory united France for a period. Since the advent of the Republic, no party has held forth any great all-absorbing idea equal to that aroused by the passion for military glory. Many warlike spirits in France love the idea of a Republic, yet deplore the fact that the present Government give them less opportunity to distinguish themselves in their favorite pursuit. Hence they look to Gen. Boulanger as one who will harmonize a Republican Government with a fair share of military glory.

Let us imagine, that in the course of one hundred years, there had occurred in the United States eight changes in the form of Government, and that the Constitution had been completely transformed by incessant amendments. It is quite possible that under the circumstances

Americans would be as discontented as Frenchmen are reputed to be. Ministerial instability is another great cause of Boulangerism, which, so far as it has any meaning at all, signifies the grouping, around the name of a popular General, of every kind of discontent, no matter from what quarter it springs.

The last week of Mr. Gladstone's stay in Italy was truly one continuous ovation, and his journey from Naples to the north of Italy was in some respects a triumphal march. When he arrived in Rome he was met at the station by Signor Crispi, the Italian premier, who saluted the Grand Old Man in the name of King Humbert and the Italian government. The remarks between the two statesmen were most cordial. For an hour they held converse together, and many Romans heard with astonishment the Great Commoner conversing in their own language and speaking enthusiastically of Italy.

From Rome he journeyed northward. The weather was stormy but it did not prevent him from ascending the heights of Ravello in the cathedral of which Nicholas Breakspere, the only Pope of English birth (Adrian IV.) once addressed six hundred Knights of St. John, on their way to join the Crusaders in Palestine.

Mr. Gladstone was entertained here at the home of Mr. Nevill Reid who has for many years inhabited the old castle or palace of the Counts of Rufo. This is in the same castle where dwelt Nicholas Breakspere (Adrian IV.) and likewise some of the famous kings of the Angevine dynasty in medieval times. The height on which it stands is one thousand two hundred feet above the sea. "There beneath you lies the blue Salernian Bay," as Longfellow calls it, while on the other hand, can be seen the distant peaks of the Apennines, which so often form a background for the paintings of Stansfield, Salvator Rosa, and Claude Lorrain. This ancient castle of the Rufo family, though the tower is somewhat in ruins, is imposing in size and a fine specimen of Saracenic gothic, having been built in the palmy days of the great Mohammedan Empire. Not far distant from the castle are the famous vineyards of Ravello where the famous wine is made which bears the name of Episcopo, probably because the episcopacy or higher clergy love so well to drink it. From Ravello Mr. Gladstone returns to his native land. May he long live to battle for the right.

During the past two weeks Rome has witnessed a demonstration which has not happened lately in the ancient city. With all its ambition to be a first-class power, Italy cannot do everything, and there are many laborers in Rome who cannot today find bread for their dependant ones. The result has been a popular uprising and a destruction of the property of many innocent shopkeepers. The government, which had been repeatedly warned, actually delayed all action until the riotous assembly had had three hours of liberty. The result is that the track

of their procession is a scene of devastation, principally of plate glass windows and their contents. The animosity of the insurgents seemed principally directed against coffee houses, which are frequented by a class who toil not, neither do they spin, but live on the toil of others. Quiet has now been entirely restored.

J. H. WARD.

EUROPE, March 4, 1889.

It has for some time been rumored that the death of the present King of Holland, which may happen at any moment, will lead to grave complications.

Germany, it is said, is not satisfied with the arrangements made for the King of Holland's succession, and is desirous of incorporating Holland in the German Confederation. Prince Bismarck has at different times declared that the annexation of Holland would be a desirable thing and that it would round off Germany's frontier in a wonderful manner, besides giving Germany fleets, commerce and colonies.

It is one of the great Chancellor's peculiarities to state plainly what he wants and what he is driving at, and then to trust to time and diplomacy for securing the coveted prize. The annexation of Holland to Germany is, no doubt, at this precise moment something like a wild dream; but so was the unification of Germany at a period not beyond living memory. There are, however, obstacles in the way of annexation which are even more difficult to overcome than those which stood in the way of German unity. Holland, for example, has made desperate endeavors in times past to preserve her independence, and it is quite possible that she may do so again, if it is absolutely necessary. The Spain of Phillip II. and the France of Louis XIV. were quite as formidable in their day as Prince Bismarck's Germany is now, and yet Holland held her own against these formidable empires and issued victorious from the struggle. Holland could, if she desired to do so, break down her dykes and restore Holland to the sea, as she did in her contest with the "Grand Monarche." Nor would she be alone in her defense. On the other hand, she would have numerous allies. The next obstacle is that in the public mind of Europe there is so much jealousy. Any further extension of the German Empire would be sure to raise a host of enemies on all sides. Military empires have collapsed before now and may do so again; and it must not be forgotten that the armies of the first Napoleon were, in their time, thought to be quite as formidable as Germany today. We may therefore feel assured that nothing will be done by violence or in haste. There may, however, be a series of diplomatic intrigues tending to annexation, and against these Holland seems to be fully aware. Queen Emma of Holland may turn out to be just as vigilant a guardian of her child's interests as is the Queen of Spain in similar circumstances. It is said by