

in his life time, had dealt such stalwart blows against the superstitious of both Catholics and Protestants that if he had not been burned by the Catholics at Rome, he stood a good chance to have been burned by the Protestants at Geneva. Accordingly, when the Pope issued his last allocution there was more or less sympathy expressed and just a little pressure brought to bear on Signor Crispi and the Italian government in favor of his Holiness. An elaborate report of the privileges, revenues and expenditure of the Vatican establishment has lately been published in many of the leading journals of Europe. It has been shown by unimpeachable authority that the Obolo di San Pietro, or Peter's pence as he would call it amounts to more than nine millions of francs, annually, while the interest derived from past accumulations which are invested in foreign countries amounts to more than three million francs more. Then the jubilee revenue last year amounted to more than twelve million francs, making a round total of nearly twenty-five million francs equal to five million dollars. Deducting from the Pope's expenses which are less than eight million francs including the salaries of the Cardinals, and we find still a revenue of seventeen million francs. One would think this would be a sufficient sum to make the old gentleman comfortable especially as his vast amount of correspondence has the privilege of being carried separate and sealed, at the expense of the Italian government. Whenever the Pope travels he has the privilege of a guard of soldiers as far as the Italian frontier. The cardinals too do not seem to be in a state of destitution, for each has a salary of \$5500 annually, and in most cases they have dioceses over which they preside and where they receive another income.

The Spanish government has put its foot down on the question of the Pope fixing his residence in Spain in the event of his leaving Italy. A few weeks ago the mayor of Seville thought proper to address a petition to the Pope, praying his holiness to take up his permanent residence at Seville. Whereupon the government declared that the mayor had exceeded his powers and dismissed him from office. In order to prevent other mayors from imitating the mayor of Seville and making too free with Spanish hospitality, the minister of the interior has instructed the prefects of departments to notify mayors and others, that the government will in no case sanction conduct similar to that of the mayor of Seville. When Spain, the most Catholic country in Europe refuses to receive the Pope, there is nothing for him but to remain in Rome, no other lodging being available.

King Milan has returned to Belgrade, and is behaving in a manner very strange for a dethroned sovereign. He has forbidden his son—or rather the regents, who, in the name of the young prince, rule the country—to receive Queen Natalie in Serbia. King Milan also insists upon

being appointed commander-in-chief of the army, which would virtually place the young king, the regents, ministers, constitution and the entire nation at his mercy. This extraordinary ex-sovereign says: "Unless my demands are instantly complied with, I will go off to Paris and see the Exhibition." At this appalling threat the regents and ministers have become suddenly ill and have had to send for the court physician. There is no doubt that King Milan thought that his abdication a few months ago would be the signal for an awful row, and he is somewhat disappointed that the regents have maintained order.

The arrival in Constantinople of a large number of Armenian women, who have been ill-used by the Kurds, has awakened interest in Armenian affairs. There is no doubt that Armenia is terribly mis-governed by the Porte, which refrains from repressing the outrages of the Kurds, because these semi-barbarians are ever ready to defend the frontier against invasion, while on the other hand the Armenians are not only an unwarlike race, but are likewise suspected of carrying on intrigues with Russian frontier officials. It is apparent that the Sultan cannot deal out even-handed justice to his Armenian subjects. It might do so if it were as strong a Government as in former days, but in its present position of decrepitude it seems inevitable that its provinces, whether European or Asiatic, must fall away one by one, until nothing is left of the Turkish Empire but Constantinople and a small territory around it.

EUROPE, August 12, 1889.

To the curious, the year 1889 seems to have something remarkable about it. It was in 1889 that the great Servian empire was dismembered at the battle of Kossovo. Just one hundred years later (1489) the victories of Waldmann placed the Swiss confederation on a sure footing. Two hundred years ago the British Islands were passing through an important crisis in their history; and in 1789 occurred some very important events both in America and France, which have been deemed worthy of national celebrations. But this is not all. Throughout Northern Italy, but more especially in Turin on the 24th and 25th of August, 1889, will take place a bi-centennial of more than ordinary interest.

As is well known the valleys of the Alps along the northern boundaries of Lombardy and Savoy have been for many centuries the home of that remarkable people the Waldenses, or as they are called in Italian *Valdesi* or valesmen. This people would seem to be a remnant of a purer religion which once prevailed throughout all northern Italy, as well as in eastern France, Switzerland, Germany and elsewhere in Europe, previous to the enslavement of men through corrupt Christianity, fostered by the growth of the papal power and the merging of politics and religion in every government on the continent.

The bloody persecutions which

this people suffered from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century, forced them to confine themselves to three valleys between Mont Cenis and Monte Viso, a region indeed beautiful and picturesque in summer but bleak and dreary in winter. During the rule of Cromwell in England, there was such a terrible persecution of these people that Oliver rose in his wrath and sent word to the Pope and to the Duke of Savoy by his faithful and stalwart Minister Sir Samuel Moreland, that if those persecutions did not cease immediately, he would thunder down upon Italy with his Ironsides. Oliver's message was effective and for more than twenty years this people had rest. It was on this persecution that Milton wrote his finest sonnet in which occurs these words

Arise O God, avenge thy slaughtered Saints—
Whose bones lie on the Alpine mountains cold.

Cromwell also aided the Waldenses in a practical way. He had collections taken up in the churches of England, and a portion of the funds were sent as immediate help to the inhabitants of the valleys, for the purchase of food and medicine and seed to replant their fields. Although no more than two hundred thousand dollars were raised, according to Lord Macauley it had at that time more purchasing power than three million dollars would have at the present time. When Charles II. came to the throne, he seized the remainder of this money and bestowed it on his infamous mistresses.

One of the most outrageous of the many persecutions of the Waldenses was at the instigation of Louis XIV of France. He was not content with his persecution of the Huguenots, but wanted likewise to control the religions of other lands. He sent messenger after messenger to the government of Savoy calling upon it to extirpate heresy from the valleys of Piedmont. At length through the influence of the Pope and Louis XIV an army of extermination was sent against the poor mountaineers. In a short time the Waldenses were driven from their homes. Thousands of them perished either in prison or by exposure. Other thousands crossed over the Alps to Geneva, and there found friends and shelter.

But though kindly received in Geneva, still they pined for their native land, and at length in August, 1689, a few hundred of them started for their native valleys. In twelve days these poorly equipped men marched over a space now accomplished in a railway carriage in ten hours. Near the village of Salabertand, on the Italian side of Mont Cenis, they encountered an army of 2500 men under the French Marshal Leroy; yet wonderful to relate, under the direction of Providence the Waldesian preacher Arnaud employed such tactics that the French army was seized with a panic, and in the darkness of the night fell upon each other. On the 24th of August the Waldenses arrived in their principal valley, and the next day came the news that the Duke of Savoy had broken