**Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals** upon Current Topics-Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

THE NEW LEADER OF EUROPE.

From the N. Y. Times. Whatever immediate results the great struggle in Europe may have, whether France shall make a desperate effort and throw back the invaders, or Napoleon be hurled from his throne and a provisional government erected, or Prussia be induced to make peace, holding the old Alsatian provinces as security for indemnification of the war expenses-whether these or still more marvelous effects follow this brilliant campaign of the German forces -one event shines forth clear in the dim future, crowded as it will be with grand achievements and the changing destinies of empires. It is that from this, the momentous year for many decades, and perhaps centuries to come, a new great power leads European

The leadership of Europe has been held in succession, or has been shared, by many of its chief nations. In the time of Henry VIII and Elizabeth, the controlling power of the civilized world was unquestionably Spain, or the Germanic Empire of which it was the head. For a period succeeding, Holland held the van of commercial progress, and controlled the ocean, followed by England. But the struggle for the continental leadership lay in general between Germany, always broken and at war with itself, and France, which made up for inferior numbers and power by the martial qualities of its people. This struggle continued with varying fortunes for centuries, Teutonic firmness, for the most part, repelling and quenching French ardor. The same battle-grounds which appear in this war have been stained, century after century, with German and French blood, and have been made glorious by the heroism and generalship of the great commanders of both races. Through all these years of contest, however, it can never be said that Germany, as a unit, was pitted against France.

At length the democratic uprising of France, guided by the genius of the greatest military commander of modern times, gave that country the victory in the century-long struggle, and put Germany under her feet. France was now at the head of Europe. After Napoleon's fall, England may be said for certain period to have been the controlling European power, until the vast population of Russia and the increasing respect for her military force placed her at length in the front rank of the great powers. During the last fifty years, however, England has gradually sunk from her position; Crimean war and her internal difficulties have displaced Russia; and, until the victory of Sadowa, the increasing wealth and power of France, with her central position and the audacity of her military chiefs, had given her the pre-eminence in Europe. During the sixteen years before 1866 France was unquestionably the leading power of the civilized world. And however we may admire French genius and capacity for organization, all must admit that the great influence of this brilliant people was thrown on the side of the worst evils of civilization-of standing armies, of fettered presses, personal government and Casarism. as the best form of political administration. Wherever France should control, whether in Italy, or Algiers, or Mexico, or Spain, there would prevail "Napoleonic ideas," government by one for the sake of one, military glory, a universal suffrage of the ignorant supporting a military chief, and all the oppression of free thought by an Imperialist rule. Her leadership in Europe has been a

hindrance to true progress and civilization. The victory of Sadowa showed a new and formidable rival arising into supremacy. Since 1812-14 Germany had hardly been known as a power on the Continent. For a brief period then, the great German masses seemed to unite, and, despite all divisions of government and religion, to hurl themselves as one power on the invaders. The fruits of this great popular uprising, instead of cementing union, seemed only to increase separation and strengthen despotism in the fatherland. Through all succeeding changes the one cry and passion of the German peo-ple has been for "unity." But even revolu-tion did not give them that, and it was reserved for an arbitrary statesman and an absolute sovereign to win for Germany what her people could not gain, a popular unity. The natural results of the brilliant campaign of 1866 were to sweep away all the petty barriers of government and ceremonial which had so long separated German communities. and to make Germany, from the Baltic to the Maine, one nation, and the rival of France in European leadership. The campaign of 1870 will do more. It welds Germany into one compact mass from the North Sea to the Bavarian Alps, and places this vast community at the head of European civilization. No such grand and momentous event has happened since the overthrow of France in 1814. A Teutonic instead of a Latin race leads Europe, and nationalism in place of Casarism, parlia. mentary institutions instead of personal government, peaceful development under constitutional forms, rather than military glory and Imperial rule, will now be the models presented to the world. Teutonic seriousness, Teutonic love of liberty in Church State, and the Teuton's disposition for peace, (unless he feels his rights trampled on,) will be the qualities of the ruling race. The Latin races have done their part-and not always an inglorious one-in the world's history. Now more earnest and moral and free races must guide the helm of progress. Protestantism and parliamentary government must lead European advancement. By a marked coincidence the Pope ceases from his temporal power with the fall of Casarism. A new European era opens, with a vast Germanic State-controlled by parliaments and without standing armies-marching at the head of civilization and progress.

INCOMPETENT DOCTORS.

From the N. Y. Tribune. The public felt a slight shiver of distrust tast winter when it was shown during the examination of a person in Philadelphia, charged with furnishing fraudulent diplomas of medical colleges to persons who wished to start in business as doctors of medicine without previous study, that the diplomas were genuine, and the accused divided the proceeds of the sale of the parchments with the colleges that issued them. In short, he was a broker for the institutions; he procured the customers at prices agreed upon for their diplomas; the colleges themselves filled in the names, which he furnished, upon the honorary sheepskins; and the "graduates" were thus duly constituted, having authority to practice without a particle of medical study or knowledge.

But the proceedings of medical colleges, it may be inferred from the statements of one

of their number, of which an abstract is given | elsewhere, scarcely indicate a much higher standard of scholarship as a requisite for graduation, in many instances, than would be obtained by selling diplomas outright. A student may walk through their course of lectures for ten dollars, and graduate on just about ten dollars' worth of knowledge. The depreciation of instruction keeps pace with declining fees, "poor pay, poor preach" applying to teachers of medicine as well as to ministers of the gospel For more than twenty years the American Medical Association has struggled to prevent the progressive decline in the standard of education required for graduation in many medical colleges, and has at length resigned the effort in despair. A competition between these institutions as to which shall have the greater number of students has resulted in lowering at once the fees and the scholarship required. This brings in a class of students who have scarcely acquired beforehand more than the rudiments of an ordinary education; they attend the lectures not to acquire knowledge, but to obtain a diploma; they ultimately "practice" not so much the healing art for others as the moneymaking art for themselves.

Some day these evils will work their own cure. The public, warned by shocking cases of malpractice, will inform itself respecting the character of the education conferred by different colleges, and be guided accordingly in extending its patrouage to practitioners. It may be that diplomas and collegiate honors will altogether fall into disrepute, the best being dragged down with the worst, so that the family physician will hereafter be selected not like a servant girl upon a "recommendation," but like a business agent upon what can be ascertained of his merit and capacity. Or it may happen that the extended facilities for manufacturing doctors will increase their number and diminish the cost of their services. Then fathers may begin to doubt the value of the profession as a means of advancement for their sons, and the budding sawbones may be sent to the farm or the workshop. In the last case there could be but little question of the benefit to the community, both by the increase of productive workmen and the decrease of youthful experimenters on vital processes.

THE "RELIGIOUS" PRESS ON THE WAR

From the Baltimore Sun, We find collated in some of the New York papers extracts showing the light in which some of the denominational journals of the country look upon the terrible tragedy now enacting in Europe. It is surprising and deplorable to see such events treated from a sectarian standpoint. It is to be hoped that even among men who do not profess to be governed by religious principle few would fail to look at the suffering millions of Germany and France through the medium of humanity, and to exemplify practically the true spirit of Christianity by remembering that the masses on both sides who are fighting, suffering, and dying are alike our fellow-men, and entitled as such to our benevolent sympathies without reference to their nationality or religion. Yet some of the class of journals referred to seem to treat this as a

religious war, in which Roman Catholics are arrayed on one side and Protestants on the other, and shout lustily for whichever party they assume to uphold their own Church, and exult almost insanely in its triumph. Some of them even go so far as to justify wars, and to rejoice in them, as necessary to human progress. However consistent this might be in the journals of Europe, where Church and State are united, and politics and religion are mixed up in men's minds everywhere, it is altogether contrary to the American sense of propriety. It would be reasonable to suppose that enough had been lately seen of war in this country to disgust every one with it, though it is un fortunately true that many so-called religious newspapers never threw oil at any time upon the waters of our internal discord, nor have seemed to appreciate aught but the poetry of battle, which, however, may have arisen, like most ignorance of the true character of war, from a persistent failure to ascertain its character by personal observation. It is surprising to see any of the socalled religious press taking sides with the European combatants on party grounds, as if either party represented anything truly re-'From whence come wars and ligious. fightings among you," says the volume which they profess to be the rule of their actions. "Come they not hence even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ve kill, and desire to

have." That is the true source of most wars,

and of none more than the present, which

some of the religious newspapers persist in looking at through denominational spectacles,

being unable to see the great wrong which

our common humanity is suffering, as it has always suffered, from the ambition and greed of rival aspirants for supremacy, most of whom, from the earliest ages of the world, would be perfectly willing to swop off their religion, if they had it, for the consolidation of their power or perpetuation of their dynasty. These denominational zealots have no eyes for the tens of thousands of poor artisans and peasants torn from the beneficent pursuits of creative industry, and having no personal quarrel, yet forced to rend and tear each other, for the behoof of ambitious men, lying around the once peaceful field, with arms and legs shot off, or bowels pierced by bullets, writhing in agony like trampled worms, or praying for water to cool their burning thirst, or for death to come and end their sufferings. This is quite a minor feature of the contest in comparison with its bearings upon the denominational ideas and aspirations of journals which, notwithstanding their frequent predictions of the millennium, are using what influence they possess to defer it as long as possible, and who are given to quoting from the Book of Revelations, in the true spirit of the "apocalyptic ignoramuses" of Dr. Scott's time, to show that either Bismarck or Napoleon is prefigured in prophecy. When those who claim to be leaders and teachers of the people look at things from such lights, it is no wonder that the masses are so often misled, and sometimes misled to their utter

WHY WENT HE FORTH?

From the N. Y. World. The Rev. Dr. J. P. Newman has evidently put himself in a very ridiculous position. It is his claim that he was challenged by Brigham Young to a discussion on polygamy in its social and theological bearings, and, to beat down the mystery of iniquity and the abomi-nation of desolation in its very seat, departed for Salt Lake City. Arriving there and waiting on Brigham to arrange the terms of the polemic duel, he is informed that the Mormon prophet has never issued him any challenge and will not enter on the proposed discussion, though if he (Dr. Newman) so wishes the Tabernacle is open to him to preach against polygamy and Mormonism to his heart's content, and also that ten thousand Mormons will assemble to listen to his argument. On receiving this notification,

the Doctor puts himself in marching order and tramps off home, to bewall, of course, as his auditors in Washington will doubtless find to their sorrow for many a Sabbath day, the wofal blindness which permits Wisdom to cry out in the streets of Salt Lake City with no man regarding her. Already, in fact, the first whispers of this wail are upon us; but the question arises, What is its justice? What did Dr. Newman go to Salt Lake for? If out of a mere lust of victory, and to show how far superior he, the learned doctor of divinity, the gentleman and scholar, was to a mere shrewd impostor and fanatic like the Mormon prophet, then, on being refused an opportunity to win those foreordained laurels, it accords with the fitness of things he should have left the field. But if his purpose was, from a sincere conviction of Mormon error and a hearty desire to wean some of its victims from its influence, to let the truth be known to Utah as far as he could spread it, why did he not accept the use of the Tabernacle, and there, in the very sanctuary of a false creed, demonstrate to ten thousand of its followers the wrong and folly of their ways? It cannot be said that the learned dector feared for his reception, since the very occasion of his visit was to appear before a Mormon audience. That he would combat error with Brigham to defend it, but would not combat error solus, leads to the inference, therefore, that the vainglory, the advertisement, the trumpeting through the papers, the theatrical coup of a hand-to-hand battle with the great Brigham, was Dr. Newman's sole animating call. If so, the fury with which he rushed forth to Utah without ever learning authentically that Brigham had issued him a challenge-and it appears the Mormon never authorized one-and the haste with which he comes racing back to mourn Mormon deadness, are equally absurd and fantastical. Brigham or no Brigham, if the truth stirred in him, why not preach it in the Tabernacle thrown open to his use? And if the truth stirred not in him, why did he stir

THE IMPENDING MOVEMENT IN ITALY. From the N. Y. Herald.

Our latest advices announce the imminence of a popular movement in the democratic sense throughout the Italian peninsula, and add the significant expression that the procla-mation of a republic there is awaited from day to day. This news chimes in singularly with the more detailed intelligence just received from the same quarter by mail. The journals of Florence, Milan, and Naples, mention the revival of agitation both North and South. In Lombardy the Mazzinians, led on by Menotti Garibaldi, are vigorously at work, and depots of arms and ammunition concealed by them have been discovered by the police in every district of the city of Milan. In Rome, so soon as the telegram announcing the with-drawal of the French garrison was made public, masses of Romans were seen shaking hands with each other and interchanging salutations in a suppressed voice. The Holy Father himself, in conversation with a foreign diplomat, is said to have remarked that only a second Mentana could recommend him to the forbearance of the Italian troops, and that was out of the question, since it would require a third French intervention-a thing clearly impossible. Meanwhile, twenty thousand Italian regulars, under General La Marmora, have been thrown forward toward Viterbo, preliminary to a friendly occupation of the Roman States, and the Papal Government is concentrating all its troops in the city and hastily repairing its fortifications, while every effort is made to supply the places of the many French and German officers who are withdrawing from the immediate service of his Holiness in order to take part

in the struggle at home. The convention between France and Italy for the evacuation of Rome, recently devised by the French Emperor on the one side and Generals Menabrea and Nigra on the other, and conveyed to Florence by Count Vimercati, explicitly contemplates an offensive and defensive alliance between the two powers; the restoration of the convention of September 15, 1864, to all its force and bearing; the protection of the Papal See against every species of insurrection and violence, and the granting of a loan by France to Italy. These specifications have, of course, awakened the ire of the Italian radicals, and their organs throughout the country are in full cry against the royal government. The comic papers, which are widely circulated and wield influence in Italy, represent the latter in the form of a beautiful female asleep, while the hands of Napoleon III and Victor Emanuel are seen joining in the distance. A man of the people calls on her to awake. This appeal to popular passion, sustained, as it is, by the entire radical press, has not passed unheeded, and violent demonstrations are in progress against any movement on the part of Italy to interfere in the German-French

Nevertheless, the Turin papers state that orders have been issued to all the railway authorities of Northern Italy to hasten their arrangements for the transportation of the new contingents of men just called out for army service, and in all the chief cities of the realm bids are requested for heavy military supplies. These preparations, in view of the peculiar financial and social condition of Italy, are not made without an eye to business. The hour is undoubtedly close at hand when the gentleman king will be forced along with the popular tide to make Rome the civic capital of Italy. or to suppress, if he can, the uprising of the radicals with the red right hand. In either case, should Napoleon fall, the spirit of the old S. P. Q. R .- the Senate and people of Rome combined in a republican commonwealth-will be hovering near. Whether Pontifical exorcism will be directed, or even be required against it, is a question not difficult to answer in republican America.

THE FRENCH ARMY.

From the Boston Traveller. It is just one year since the French were engaged in celebrating the Centenary of Napoleon the First, the hundredth anniversary of whose birth fell on the 15th of August, 1869. Could some power have unrolled the scroll of fate before their eyes, and so have showed them what a year would bring forth, it is possible that they would have been astonished, but their astonishment would have been caused by the apparent impudence of the power that should have afforded them a look into that shadowy and mysterious future which lies all unexplored before men. Not a Frenchman would have placed any faith in the prophet, who would have been more fortunate than wise prophets often are had he escaped Stephen's fate, which was death through the disagreeable process of lapidation. And all the world would have said the French were right in not believing him, for the military character of France stood high at that time, and with reason. No better proof is wanted of this than the general surprise created by the result of the righting that took place week before last, a surprise quite as marked among Prussian sympathizers as it

worthy of the name. This seems plausible enough at the first blush, but it will not stand examination for one moment. We know that the French army did good things in the Russian war, and that some of the very men who now speak contemptuously of it were never tired of comparing it with the British force it acted with, and always to the disadvantage of the latter. The men and the commanders who fought with brilliant success against the Russians, then held to be the first of military races, must have been good soldiers; and the effect of that war was greatly to increase the spirit and audacity of the French service. We know that the French army behaved splendidly in the Italian war, and that it defeated the Austrians, though not without hard fighting and great exertions, in two great pitched battles, and on lesser fields; and that at the same time that so large a part of it was employed in Italy, another part of it, said to have been 200,000 strong, was so massed as to be ready to make head against the Germans, who were anxious to prevent the overthrow of German rule in the Italian Peninsulathis last force being commanded by Marshal Pellisier, who had his headquarters at Nancy. the very place which is now of so frequent mention in the daily history of the Prussian war. We know that for some years past the attention of the French Government has been closely directed to military subjects, and that it has had the service recast, as it were, so as to make all the able-bodied men of the Empire available for the work of war, while it has provided a new infantry weapon of excellent killing qualities. Such being the facts, the idea that the French had not an effective force on foot when the war began must be given up. France had such a force, and one abundantly capable of doing all that soldiers can be expected to do. Why, then, did it fail? Because it was badly led. "Better an army of deer with a lion at their head than an army of lions with a deer at their head," is a saying that all military history justifies. Napoleon III is no common man, but he does not possess the military faculty; and hence, instead of adding to his army by heading it, he paralyzed it by his presence. He lost days, when he should have saved hours; and this made his men all the more unfit for action, for soldiers are sharp in estimating the character of a commander, and the feebleness of the head was felt throughout all the limbs of the great force that had been assembled so promptly to do-nothing; for it does not appear that anything had been resolved upon down to the 4th of August, when the Prussians advanced; and had they not advanced, there would, it is probable have been no fighting down to the present moment. The Emperor was averse to putting everything on one throw of the bloody dice, and for this he scarcely can be blamed: but it was a monstrous exhibition of human folly when he left his men in positions that enabled the enemy to cut them to pieces in detail. There is a wide difference between the prudence that prevents an army from advancing against a power-ful enemy, and the sluttishness that leaves an army exposed to such an enemy's advance upon it. Had the French army been so posted as to have been able properly to receive the most powerful assaults the Prussians could have made upon it, the Emperor's prudence in not invading Germany would have been praised, for then the Prussians would have been repulsed, and their rashness, and not his slowness. would have been censured by all men, and particularly by the friends of what then would have been the beaten cause. The Emperor was guilty of two gross blunders the one involved in the loss of time, and the other in the bad arrangement of his forces. For the first it may be possible to find something that will serve for an excuse; but the other never can be excused, for it involved a disregard of the very primary elements of military business, and did more than half the enemy's work to his hand, and made his victory a matter of necessity as well as of certainty.

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