# THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1870.

## SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

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

THE NEUTRAL POWERS. From the N. Y. Tribune.

The attitude of the great European powers, with regard to the French-German war, has from the beginning been canvassed with intense interest. During the progress of the war this interest was somewhat eclipsed by the brilliancy of the German victories, but now it revives with the prospect of a speedy peace. As each of the belligerent powers is very cautious to publish, concerning this point, only such facts and rumors as are favorable to its own side, the cable despatches are naturally more adapted to misguide than to enlighten public opinion. We know, however, enough of the disposition of the great neutral powers to ascertain, with a high degree of probability, what course they are likely to pursue. It may be regarded as selfevident that the great victories of the Germans are not calculated to create or to strengthen friendly feelings between Prussia and the Governments of the other European powers. Among the peoples the idea of a settlement of all international feuds, on the basis of a mutual recognition of the nationality principle, may gain ground. The sovereigns are still guided by considerations based on the old views of a balance of power in Europe. No Government would probably have seen with satisfaction the extension of France to the Rhine, though the silence and even the alliance of Austria and Italy might have been purchased by the promise of French aid for the attainment of their own purposes. The other Governments are no less opposed to the aggrandizement of Germany, and the more extraordinary the distinction is which the Germans have won during the present campaign, and by which they have astonished the world, the greater is the jealousy at this new modification of the map of Europe which the other Governments are likely to feel.

The French Government has obviously made the strongest appeals to the well-known sensibilities of the other powers with regard to the balance of power in Europe, to secure their joint interposition or even intervention, in case Germany should insist on the restoration of Alsace and Lorraine, or impose other conditions too revolting to the still unbroken pride of the nation. The special missions of Prince Napoleon to Florence, and Prince Murat to London, have undoubtodly been caused by these views. Of the results of these missions we are but imperfectly informed. A significant declaration is, however, published by the official organ of the Russian Government, which denies that its Government has committed itself to a protest against the dismemberment of France, though it admits that it would not favorably regard any schemes of that kind. The Emperor Alexander is known as a decided partisan of a lasting alliance with Prussia; but he finds it nevertheless necessary to express in advance a dissatisfaction with the growth of Germany at the expense of France. The German pro-vinces of Russia on the Baltic, in which the feeling of the German nationality has of late begun to assert itself in a very marked manner, are a constant irritation of the Slavi against the German nation, and a check to any alliance into which the personal feeling of the present Emperor might lead him to enter. The heir to the throne is reported to be a violent Panslavist, who, with his party, is fully convinced that a great war is inevitable between the Germanic and Slavonic nations for the purpose of consolidating the whole Slavic race into one empire under the rule of Russia; and his party, the Panslavists, are parading in their principal organs the most violent opposition against Prussia. Fortunately for the Germans, the enthusiasm of the Poles for the French strongly counteracts this movement, for the Poles still hope for a restoration of their empire, and would probably not hesitate to wheel around into an alliance with Prussia, in case it afforded a better prospect for the fulfilment of their patriotic yearnings. The Government of Italy does not conceal its wish to be a faithful vassal of France in case the latter power is willing to withdraw her opposition to its annexation of Rome; but the feeling among the educated and liberal classes is so strongly in favor of Germany, that the Government shrinks from taking any decisive step. The English Government studiously conceals any show of feeling for either side; it only insists with great earnestness on the neutrality of Belgium being respected by either bellige-rent, for England wants to prevent, if possible, the sea-coast of Belgium from becoming German or French property. As to Alsace or Lorraine, nothing official has been expressed; such a change of the frontier would probably not find much sympathy: but no one expects that England would ever think of engaging in a continental war on account of a frontier question. The intentions of the court of Austria appear to be very warlike. The heads of the army are burning with the desire to take revenge on Prussia for the year 1866. But they have found this to be impossible, in view of the threatening attitude of the German population, which demands either absolute neutrality or an alliance against the hereditary foe of the German nation. Only a few organs of the ultramontane party and the aristocracy seemed to waver; but now even these have joined the general opinion, and express a hope that the enemy of Germany may be thoroughly punished. A war of Austria against Germany would be suicidal. So strong, indeed, is the current of public opinion among the Germans of Austria that they may be expected to demand soon a long and organic union with the remainder of Germany. We regard it, therefore, as improbable that any of the four great neutral powers will be induced to take hostile steps against Germany. We may have a conference which will cast its combined influence into the scale of France; but we believe that none will be willing to go beyond it; and if France wants an advantageous peace she will have to conquer it herself alone.

war; but this process cannot account for the improvement of the revenue which imme-distely followed the retirement of Andrew Johnson, and has continued since. The sudden and continuous gain to the Treasury has been due to the greater efficiency of the revenue service under President Grant-the great energy imparted to it, and the fidelity with which its working has been watched. More than forty millions of increase in the fiscal year 1867-70, as compared with the receipts of the previous year, is a fact that attests the honesty with which a great duty has been performed.

And there has been honesty in the application of the large surplus which taxation and thrift placed at the disposal of the administration. The expenditures have been kept below the appropriations. Forty mil-lions tell the tale of the first year of Grant's economy in comparison with the outlay which prevailed in the last year of Johnson; and for the current year the saving has been nearly doubled. That is the rate at which the work of retrenchment proceeds. What the full measure of the country's gain has been, a reduction of the debt to an amount exceeding one hundred and sixty millions, since the commencement of the administration, sufficiently proves. A large surplus has been realized, and this has been the manner of its application.

The taxes, too, are all the time being cut down. The reduction effected during the recent session amounts to eighty millions or more, three-fourths of which takes effect in the present fiscal year. The Democrats assail the reform as exceptional, as something not known before, and not likely to be heard of again after the elections. The truth is, however, that the Republican majority in Congress have year after year lightened the people's burdens. They began soon after the restoration of peace, and have steadily continued the work. Contrasting the taxation as it will be when the recent changes come into force, with the taxation as it was when the war ended, we have as the product of Republican effort a total reduction of not less than two hundred and fifty millions. The reduction of eighty millions or more, which has just been effected, is, then, only a well-established feature of the Republican policy. And so the party should proclaim it.

All the signs point to another large surplus in the current year. Several of the taxes which are soon to cease are yet in force, and will swell the amount in the Treasury. The general productiveness of the revenue will leave a handsome margin. The monthly operations of the Secretary in the bond market indicate the possession of large means in excess of the wants of the Government. The party is, therefore, brought to this issue-shall even the reduced rate of taxation be imposed if it yield a surplus of ninety or a hundred millions, or shall a further reduction take place to the extent of sixty or seventy millions? We know Mr. Boutwell's views and the views of the tax-payers, and we know that there is a gulf between them. The party must side with one or the other. To be consistent, to justify its professions, and to satisfy the people, it must decide against the Secretary and in favor of the continued diminution of taxes.

The attempt of the Democrats to show that the relief already afforded benefits some States and some classes more than others, is simply puerile. To make any just comparison of class interests as affected by reform. the five years' work of the Republicans in Congress should be taken into consideration. Two hundred and fifty millions cannot be lifted off the people's shoulders without benefiting the whole country. We may not approve of every detail of the changes made this year, but in regard even to them it is evident that eighty millions reduction is a reform whose benefits will not be confined to any section or any class. The West and South will share with the East the profits of the policy with which the Republican party has been for five years identified.

moved by St. Germain, enlisted as it were in Paris; and a certain Von Wordtke, if not unknown to fame, thus far undiscovered by our radical inquirers into history, who also came under French influence, and died in the early part of '76. This, we regret to say, is all We wish there were more with all our bearts. Vain is further search. Mr. Carlyle and Miss Louisa Muhlbach have been rummaged in vain for some evidence that "Old Fritz," whose figure in colonial days adorned our sign-posts, and after whom towns and taverns were named, in any way befriended us. We know that in June, 1781 the Empress of Russia and Joseph the Second of Austria offered their good offices, but we can find no trace of especial friendliness from the great Frederic. His Majesty had had too many subsidies from Great Britain to dare to quarrel with her; and, although he did not altogether like to let his own people go on foreign service, he grumbled gently, and they went. He scowled on Arthur Lee at Potsdam. and rather enjoyed the joke when Sir Joseph Yorke stole, or caused to be stolen, the rebel archives at Berlin; and it is of him-the Great Frederic-that Washington, a few months before the warrior-tyrant died, wrote to Lafayette, in 1786, a remarkable letter, which has been preserved, in which he says: -"That one man like him should be willing to tyrannize over millions is a deep[shade on his character." There was no strong Prussian sympathy, because there was no love of military sway, in Washington's great heart.

But, say our radical apoligists, what of the past-the remote, mouldy past; look at the present and see what Prussia did in aiding us to suppress "rebellion," extirpate slavery, and maintain the Union, and with what a noble, pure, ethereal impulse her children rallied round our flag and bought our bonds. "The Hessians and Brunswickers of old came because they were sold and bid to come. Not so the Prussian of to-day." Here again are we getting into the tangled field of disputed history, and here again radical New England, in the present as in the past, plays a leading and characteristic part. In the spring of 1778, after the surrender of Burgoyne, with whom was a large German contingent, most of the prisoners were sent to Massachusetts, then, as ever, out of the reach of all danger. James Bowdoin, an able and patriotic man, like all of his name, was Governor, and to him Washington. in bitterness of spirit, wrote these words-and are they not printed by Sparks? "It gives me inexpressible concern to have repeated information from the best authority that the committees of the different towns and districts in your State hire deserters from General Burgoyne's army and employ them as substitutes to excuse the personal service of the inhabitants. I need not enlarge upon the danger of substituting as soldiers men who have given a glaring proof of a treacherous disposition, and who are bound to us by no motives of attachment, instead of citizens in whom the ties of conntry, kindred, and someti nes property, are so many securities for fidelity. General Burgoyne could hardly, if he were consulted, suggest a more effectual plan of plandering us of so much money and reinforcing General Howe than this." Thus for the past. Now for the present. Oa the 14th December, 1865, the acting consul at Boston of Oldenburg and Nassau, not then absorbed in Prussia, revealed to his superior -for a copy of his letter is before us at this -a state of facts alike illustrative of

gradually rise to their true value under any | sible because foreign powers would not allow events that may occur in Europe. If we have been able to accomplish so much in raising money for a gigantic war and in rapidly paying off the debt in the past, what can we not do in the near future when our population will be doubled and the wealth of the country quadrupled ?

### THE PROSPECT OF GERMAN UNITY From the Pall Mall Gazette,

For Germany there is now only one ques tion-that of unity. The unity of Germanythe dream of her wisest, the longing of her most devoted sons, the object of as earnest and disinterested prayers as ever were poured forth for any purpose of this world-is now at hand. It is more than at hand-it is at the door. Difficulties, intrigues, jealousies, have vanished like dreams of the night before the resolution of a people stirred up, happily for itself, by foreign aggression. The great step forward has been taken; and that step cannot be retraced. French victory might retard the mechanical operation of the change, by imposing terms of peace incompatible with political union, but it could not destroy the national union once effected, and the national union, after some further peried of probation, must bring about the political. To those who cherish aspirations like these, controversies about the relative morality of Napoleon and Bismarck, or the meaning of the treaty of Prague, or declamations about Prussian ambition, are really altogether out of place. They are beside the mark-by currents, swallowed up in the mighty flood which is now setting in one direction with concentrated and irresistible energy. We may call this the language of enthusiasts, if we please. But enthusiasts such as these have have shaped the course of European events more than once: in 1789, and again in 1814; and it has been one great misfortune of statesmen-especially, perhaps, of English statesman-that they could rarely comprehend the force of popular enthusiasm, or the control of public affairs by any stronger springs than those of dynastic

intrigues or calculations of expediency. If we British are rendered a little dull in divining the tendencies of things, partly from phlegmatic habits and partly from unreadiness to enter fully into the mind of foreign nations, the judgment of French observers is far more distorted by their own antipathies and prejudices. The spirit of German unity is a thing they cannot understand, because they are determined not to understand it. And the consequence is that their best political writing on the great European question of the day seems antiquated as soon as it is published. They are months, or years, behind the clock. M. Victor Cherbuliez, a "publicist" of repute, has published a series of able articles on "La Prasse et l'Allemagne" in the Revue des Deux Mondes; and this is a point of knowledge at which M. Cherbuliez has arrived (with all a Frenchman's certitude) no longer ago than last April:--

"Europe may be reassured by the fact that the 'nerests of Germany are in accordance with her or n. If the Southern States, in a blind fit of entrainement, had consented to surrender themselves to Prassia without conditions, it was all over with Germany. And, supposing that a majority in Wurtemberg and Bavaria had gone so far as to solicit the accession of these States to the Confederation of the North, the opposing minority would still be so numerous and formidable that Prassla, in order to hold the South, would have to bold it for half a century under dominion of the sabre-a sadresult for Germany, Further, and for Prussia herself, "Would for Europe, and for Prussia herself, Europe really gain so much if a stroke of the pen

ever prevent it; because the geographical obstacles to such unity were insuperable. The first Napoleon, whose penetrating mind per-ceived the futility of the first two reasons, yielded to the force of the third. In a very remarkable chapter of his Remains he explains why Italy, from her configuration and position, cannot become one. But it was not given even to his sagacity to foresee the operation of steam and the telegraph. As soon as the time arrived, the apparently hopeless problem was solved at once. One man of genius set himself to accomplish it force of statesmanship. Two or three dreamers of dreams, anathematized by the ruling classes of society, prepared the way for him by sowing the seed of Italian patriolism far and wide on soil hitherto occupied by the rank growth of provincial passions and intrigues. And the work was achieved, and an Italy created, almost before old-fashioned diplomacy had had time to turn round in its bed and prepare to greet the new phenomenon in official costume. One more chapter in history remains to be completed. German nationality has to be added to English, French, Spanish, Italian. The map of Western Europe will then be filled up. Whether that great union, first announced by German cannon at Weissenburg, is to be proclaimed by the same stern heralds at Paris, or whether its formal accomplishment is again to be delayed by defeat, the event, immediate or not, is on all human calculation certain. And it is equally certain that, whenever it takes place, it will be almost as great a blessing to Europe in general, and to jealous France herself, as to the future Ger-

it; because Italian local jealonsies would for-

#### THE MOTLEY VACANCY. From the N. Y. World.

many.

The Evening Post, true to its instincts, social and literary, continues to mourn over Mr. Motley's recall, and says:

"As a good many contradictory stories have been told in the press about the manner of Mr. Motley's removal, it may be useful to state the facts, which we get from the best sources, that Mr. Motley was asked to resign in a letter from the State Department, which informed him that his resignation would be accepted. This letter he received only the day before the telegraph reported that Mr. Frelinghuy-sen's name had been sent to the Senate. Mr. Moticy telegraphed that his resignation under such circumstances would be equivalent to a dismissal, and de-clined to dismiss himself. Mr. Motley had always, ie maintains, obeyed instructions without any quali cation whatever.'

This is probably true, and a more awkward, ungentlemanlike way of doing the right thing could not have well been devised. The whole thing is simple, perverse gaucherie. Two months ago the President, in a fit of ill-temper and solely because he had a quarrel with somebody else, dismisses Motley and nominates Mr. Frelinghuysen. That gentleman faintly declines by telegram first, and then positively by word of month. The President, for his own personal comfort and that he may have a good time of it, asks that this may be kept a secret, and Mr. Frelinghuysen very weakly acquiesces in the masquerade. "All the world wondered," as at Balaklava, and, as at Balaklava, "some one had blundered." The clientele of Essex county and of a larger circuit did not know what to expect. At last, unable to reconcile his attitude to a gentlemanly instinct and goaded by the World, he rushed to a newspaper office and published "a card." Since that all has been at sea-our English diplomacy has been in commission, Moran, Badeau, at London, and, it may be, Dudley, at Liverpool, administering it, and the incongruous names of Trumbull, Greeley, and Sherman floating around. Many are called, but no one is taken. Now, it occurs to us that if at this juncture Mr., or as gossip (we hope truly, for he deserves all honor) says, Sir Edward 615 Thornton were to present himself at the Department and say:-"'Mr. Secretary, her Majesty's government, out of respect to yours, has always maintained a full mission at Washington, occasionally on emergency varying it by a baron and an earl. We have. therefore, a right to look for similar courtesy from you, and I beg to notify you that we cannot any longer put up with a charge or a consul." If this, or any thing like this, put into diplomatic phrase, were to be said to Mr. Fish, his placid soul would be sorely tried, and his kindly face would wear a look of greater perplexity than ever. And yet this may happen at any moment. Failing all other means, we respectfully suggest to the President to advertise, and, if we may presume, we venture to suggest a form like the following:-"Wanted-A respectable man willing to be Minister to England. He must be over 21 years of age, and smoke. He must be either temperate or a reformed inebriate-the latter preferred-and must never dine out, and if e gives dinners use only American wines. He must not part his hair in the middle, or ever have written a book. A Protestant is preferred, one opposed to the Œcumenical Council and in favor of the Evangelical Alliance. He must have contributed to the savior of the republic either a house, a farm, a cottage, a span of fast horses, or a pair of studs (for the shirt). No Irish nor French need apply. A Prussian, without South German connections, preferred. References exchanged. Apply to anybody but Colonel James Fisk, Jr., Long Branch, Monmouth county, N. J.' WHISKY, WINE, ETQ. CARSTAIRS & McCALL. No. 126 Walnut and 21 Granite Sta. IMPORTERS OF Brandies, Wines, Gin, Olive Oil, Etc., WHOLESALE DEALERS IN PURE RYE WHISKIES. IN BOND AND TAX PAHD. 28 294 WILLIAM ANDERSON & CO., DEALERS IN Fine Whiskles, No. 146 North SECOND Street, SHIPPING. FOR LIVERPOOL AND QUEENS. TOWN,-Inman Line of Royal Mail City of Limerick, Tuesday, August 30, at 2 P. M. City of Paris, Saturday, September 3, at 12 M. City of Cork (via Halifax), Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 1 P. M. City of Cork (via Halifax), Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 1 P. M. City of London, Saturday, Sept. 8, at 1 P. M. City of London, Saturday, Sept. 8, at 1 P. M. City of London, Saturday, Sept. 8, at 1 P. M. City of London, Saturday, Sept. 10, at 2 P. M. and each succeeding Saturday and alternate Tues-day, from pier No. 45 North river. RATES OF PASSAGE SHIP CHANDLERS, RATES OF PASSAGE. 

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THE TAX-PAYERS AND THE REPUBLI-CAN PARTY.

## From the N. Y. Times.

Democratic journals pay a poor compliment to the intelligence of the country when they deny or depreciate the economi-cal excellence of the administration, and the extent to which the Republican party has afforded relief to the tax-payers. Facts constitute a record which the most ingenious Democrat cannot shake.

Whatever its faults, the administration has done its duty in the collection of revenue and the diabaraement of appropriations. Every branch of the fiscal service has exhibited a marked increase. A certain degree of growth we look for as the result of national recuperation from the embarrassment produced by master would not allow to come, but who,

SYMPATHY IN THE PAST AND PRESENT. From the N. Y. World.

One minor good results from the deplorable conflict by which Western Europe is agonized. It has stimulated our radical friends to a minute study of history, especially our own. The record of the "Revolution," once so sacred and so familiar, had become blurred and mouldy, or a sort of palimpsest on which recent rubbish has been stamped, and no one cared about it unless when Bancroft tried to disturb and pollute the calm and once translucent spring. When, however, France and Germany grappled each other in deadly strife, and politicians sought to stir up unreal sympathy, so as to make out of it party capital, some old-fashioned students of the past bethought them of ancient memories, and ventured to refer to days when France and Frenchmen were our friends, and Germany, its ralers and its people, very much the reverse. It was, perhaps, an obsolete thought, a piece of antique sentimentalism, to think or talk of historical sympathies or antipathies. "The times that tried men's souls" were no great things after all. The brave days of old were as nothing to ours-such as, in the District of Columbia, when Stonewall Jackson was supposed to be coming down the valley, a Pope was galloping back to Centreville. What were Washington's anxieties at Valley Forge, or West Point, when told of Arnold's treason, to Lincoln's after Fredericksburg, when our florid friend General Cochrane rushed into his council chamber and told him Burnside could not be trusted? It was a petty, poor business, this of the old Revo-Intion

Still, stale as it was, it would never do for our radical friends to give up the past without a struggle, or to admit our infant country owed gratitude to none but Frenchmen. It has been pretty hard work-so hard that we feel disposed to give our assistance to so desperate a search. The French partisan has relatively little trouble. From the day when Beaumarchais began to write till Gimat led the assaulting column-at Yorktown, the kind words and brave deeds of French sympathizers glisten in every line of our story; and his must be a cold heart indeed who reads without emotion Washington's order of the 6th of May, 1778-the darkest hour before his

his dawn-in which he bids his ragged, starving soldiers "thank the Almighty Ruler of the universe for raising up among the princes and people of the earth a powerful friend to aid them." The French roll of honor in America is a rich and full one. Desirous as we are, if not to aid, at least not to embarrass our friends in their search for Teutonic auxiliaries, we pass by all reference to the aggregation of Hessians and Branswickers arrayed against us, and look for actual friends. We find Poles, like Pulaski and Kosciusko; and Polish Russians, such as the strange adventurer, Bieniwoski, whose claims on Washington, so says his letter, rested on the fact that "he had served against the King of Prussia;" but of Germans or Prussians not one claiming to be such, and but three of any sort. De Kalb, who came at the behest of Choiseul; and Steuben, whom his

Prussian sympathy and of Boston patriotism. He tells of a commercial adventure by which under false pretenc es recruits for the Federal army were to be bought abroad, the profits being the difference between the pittance to be paid to them-one hundred dollars and twelve dollars a month-and the substitute price-five or six hundred dollars. An agent, whose name is given, a sort of Koopmanschoop, was sent to Germany to make the arrangement. They were mere contracts for labor, not for military service, and no one of the poor fellows who signed them dreamed of war or its dangers. More than one ship-load arrived at Boston. The human freight was dumped down in some outlying islands in the bay. The sick were turned off as worthless, and those who passed the sanitary scrutiny were hurried to the front to fight and die. All the details are set forth in the Consul's letter; and if it be true, as we firmly believe it is, then we trust that neither as to the present nor the past shall we hear much of Prussian sympathy. It is an insult to the rightmindedness and intelligence of our large German population to pretend it.

noment.

THE STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES. From the N. Y. Herald.

While the governments of the great European nations can hardly make both ends meet. even in time of peace, this country has an overflowing treasury, and is paying the national debt off at the rate of over a hundred millions of dollars a year. The stupendous sum raised and expended during the four years of our war was unparalleled in the history of the world, and all without a foreign loan or aid from foreign capitalists. There never was a war that cost as much within the same time; for not only were the forces raised enormous, but the pay and equipment of the men and the cost of everything used were much greater than they are in any other country. The cost of the Prussian and French armies in pay, clothing, provisions, arms, and everything else for war purposes is less than a third, probably, of what the same number of men and amount of materials was here. Then look at the enormous bounties paid-from five hundred to a thousand dollars a manan amount that would equip and support a French or German soldier for several years. Besides, the general extravagance and plunder of the treasury were frightful, and would have bankrupted any other nation. No country in the world could raise such suchs as we did. Yet five years after the war not only has all the vast floating debt been discharged but we have paid off several hundred millions of the organized debt. At the present rate of liquidation we could extinguish the whole, which is a little more than two thousand millions, within fifteen years.

It is not surprising, therefore, that our credit remains good during the terrible conflict of arms that is convulsing Europe. At first, of course, United States securities felt the shock, as all others did, from that natural sympathy which the finances of one great civilized country have with those of other countries. But afterwards, when people and capitalists began to reason more clearly the resources of the United States and the superior value and security of our bonds, they clung to them as the best investment they could have. Hence there have been few of our bonds sent home from Europe. Nor is it likely there would be any serious depreciation if even the war should spread over Europe. Our superior and well-paying securities would be held and be sought for by the people no matter what strain there might be upon the Governments and capitalists for money. There is

were to together berg, and Bavaria, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, and Switzerland?" If M. Cherbuliez were to maintain that the

decline af provincial cities and their practical absorption by Paris is an evil, probably some might agree with him. But if, disliking the tendency, he were to deny its existence, he would be looked on as a very paradoxical triffer. And yet the absorption of small States by large ones is as undoubted a tendency of the age as that of small cities and small industries, most of all when these small States are really only such in statistical description, but in truth only fractions of one great community with common language and laws. Local jealousies in Germany were rapidly tending to extinction before the present crisis: the war now commenced will crush out such vitality as they have left, and perhaps more effectually through defeat, should such be the upshot, than through victory. There is no centrifugal cause of any importance at work in Germany except difference of religion, which the Ultramontanes are, of course, endeavoring to make the most of. But even this is of less magnitude than at first sight might appear. Germany, it is commonly said, is divided between Catholics and Protestants in nearly equal numbers. But this calculation includes among Germans all the Slavonic subjects of Austria whose countries formed part of the old German Empire. Of Germans by race a considerable majority are Protestants; and the Catholics are scattered, preponderating in widely distant localities at the extremities of the country-on the Rhine and under the shadow of the Bavarian and Austrian Alps. But, what is more important, religious feeling in Germany is too strongly impregnated with Liberalism to set itself in effective opposition to the general desire for political unity.

There are several lessons which European history very distinctly teaches on this great subject. One is, that a number of small States inhabited by people of the same race and language have never failed of accomplishing consolidation if seriously determined on Another, that the opposition of foreign it. powers has always tended in the long ran to promote, and not to prevent, this consummation. And another, that, notwithstanding all the regrets of an over-refined school of politicians over the suppression of small realms and little dynasties attached to them, union has always promoted the strength and prosperity, not only of the whole, but of the component parts. It was the great object of our Plantaganet sovereigns, for a cen-tury, to prevent the consolidation of the feudal quasi-sovereignties which were then established on French soil. And the popular inscinct of the English people was as adverse to that consolidation as that of the French has been in our time to the unity of Italy and of Germany. But English opposition only roused the French spirit. Creey and Agincourt gave birth to French patriotism. France was not France until England taught her to become so. And the result was the establishment of the most powerful of European monarchies in the place of a dozen quarrelsome principalities. The union of the crowns of Castile and Aragon followed in the next age. In the middle of the fifteenth century Spain was a geographical expression for the aggregate of four or five independent kingdoms. By the middle of the sixteenth, as Mr. Buckle points out with great force, united Spain was bidding high for absolute mastery over the west of Europe Our own times have seen the latest, and in some respects the most remarkable, of these examples of the erection of large powers out of the extinction of small ones. No axiom was more universally received among European statesmen than that the no reason, indeed, why our bonds should not unity of Italy was impossible. It was impos-

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